

FOR PSA MEMBERS: **DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN, YOUTH, AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES (DWYPD)**

23-05-2022

Update: Departmental Bargaining Chamber (DBC)

A Departmental Bargaining Chamber was held on 20 May 2022 and the following matters were discussed:

Policies

The employer reported that about 16 policies were tabled in the Chamber and were deferred to the Task Team for further consultation with labour. Three policies of the 16 were finalised at Task-Team level, however, the employer is still awaiting endorsement from its principals. It reported that the delay to finalise other policies was owing to unavailability of another union in the Task-Team Meetings. It further reported that the functioning of the Task Team depends on the availability of parties. Labour noted the report.

OHS compliance and COVID-19 regulations

The employer reported that there are no challenges identified in the Department relating to COVID-19. All systems are in order. The National Steering Committee meets bi-monthly to deal with issues relating to COVID-19 and OHS. The PSA raised a concern about the employer's constant oral report without providing parties with a written report. As a result, the employer was ordered to circulate a written COVID-19 statistics report so that parties can interrogate it accordingly. The employer committed to circulate the report to all parties by 27 May 2022.

Review of organisational structure

The employer reported that the review of the organisational structure is still work in progress. It further reported that it had a meeting with management around March 2022, whereby the executive authority supported the organisational design and submitted it to the Minister for approval. It reported that any changes to the organisational structure need the approval of the Minister and concurrence from the Minister of the Public Service and Administration. Therefore, it pleaded patience from labour. The PSA noted the report but emphasized that this whole process should not leave any employee displaced.

Members will be informed of developments.

The PSA wants to take this opportunity to wish all employees who are unwell owing to COVID-19 a safe and speedy recovery.

GENERAL MANAGER