

FOR PSA MEMBERS: **GENERAL PUBLIC SERVICE SECTORAL BARGAINING COUNCIL (GPSSBC)**

08-11-2022

Feedback: Special GPSSBC meeting – 7 November 2022

Transfer: Agricultural Colleges to National Department of Agriculture

Members are aware that Agricultural Colleges will be moving to the National Department of Agriculture. It was previously reported that the employer was ready to commence with the visits of Colleges, however, labour requested an opportunity to engage with members before the visit by task team members.

In the meeting of 7 November 2022, labour reported that upon engagement with members, it became clear that the schedule as approved by the task team will not be feasible. The reason for this is that examinations are underway and it will not be proper to consult members. Further, labour raised concerns with the parallel process as the DARLLD is continuing with the consultation process whilst the Council is still dealing with the matter. Labour requested that the General Secretary drafts a Collective Agreement, which will include the following elements:

- Job security of employees. It is critical that there is assurance that no one will lose employment as a result of this transfer.
- Commitment and confirmation that conditions and benefits of the employees will not be changed below what they are enjoying within their current employment.
- Legislative framework applicable to this transfer process.

Labour also indicated that there is a private College of Agriculture, Fort Cox, which nothing much being said relating to its employment conditions and benefits that might not be aligned with public service conditions. The employer indicated that whilst it is not opposed to the drafting of the Collective Agreement, it needed at least two weeks to consult with its principals before commenting on labour's submission. It was therefore resolved that the General Secretary will write to the departmental Chambers, directing them to keep the consultation process in abeyance pending the employer consultation with their principals. The employer was reminded that labour cannot be hurried into finalising this process. Members will be informed of developments.

Employees who want to join the PSA can visit the PSA's website (www.psa.co.za), send an email to ask@psa.co.za, or contact PSA Provincial Offices.

GENERAL MANAGER