

Feedback: Departmental Bargaining Chamber meeting – 7 October 2022

Determination of vote weights

The vote weights were presented and noted as follows:

- PSA – 1 245 members (51.86%)
- Nehawu – 1 210 members (47.86%)
- Popcru – 7 members (0.28%)

The PSA remains the majority Union and shop stewards are appreciated and called upon to continue with selfless service to members.

Elections

- Chairperson: Parties through consensus agreed to retain Joseph Malahlela as Chairperson.
- Vice-Chairperson: Employer: The employer was not ready to pronounce and is to submit a name before the next DBC meeting
- Vice-Chairperson: Labour: Ben Bosch was elected.

COVID-19 and OHS reports

The employer failed to submit a written report as the same was not endorsed by the OHS committee prior to the meeting. The employer attributed this failure to non-availability of committee members. The employer is to convene committee meeting soonest and will request special DBC meetings, if necessary. Labour noted the report albeit with concerns that the committee was not able to convene a meeting to address the matter.

Computer Price Index Project (CPI)

A verbal report was rejected as the employer was also reminded that it was resolved that bilateral meeting will be convened to provide a report before the DBC meeting. Labour also raised concerns regarding the disrespect of DBC decisions and demanded the establishment of a task team to deal with the project. Employer representatives requested time to seek a mandate regarding labour's proposal.

Review: Stats SA policies

Members are aware that the employer tabled eleven policies for review, which were referred to the Departmental Task Team (DTT). However, labour was not happy with the conduct of some managers in DTT meetings and requested to meet the Statistics General. He delegated the DDG to meet with labour who unfortunately was not able to meet with labour owing to pressing needs and ill-health. A meeting is scheduled for 14 October 2022 with the DDG.

Shop steward recognition in Stats SA

The employer raised concerns that unions fail to provide the employer with shop steward lists after conducting their elections, which creates problems of recognition and leave administration. Further, the employer urged unions to conduct elections in line with their constitutions and prevailing resolutions. The DBC Chairperson mentioned that parties are allowed two representatives with one alternate. Labour agreed to have a discussion outside the Chamber and will report back on the outcome of their discussions at the next DBC.

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