



FOR PSA MEMBERS: **GENERAL 3/2025**

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Workers' Day: PSA calls for solidarity and continued protection of public servants

On Workers' Day 2025, the PSA joins millions of workers in South Africa and worldwide in commemorating the hard-won victories of the labour movement with a renewed call for dignity, fairness, and justice in the workplace.

Workers' Day is a powerful reminder of the sacrifices made to secure the rights workers enjoy and the continued battles. It echoes the voices of generations who stood against exploitation, inequality, and injustice. In 2025, with the theme "*Working Together to Create Jobs and Fight Poverty*", the relevance of this Day could not be more urgent. With South Africa's unemployment rate projected to be around 33.2% and the world economy facing instability, government needs to adopt policies that will invite investment.

Many workers are still exposed to job insecurity, inadequate wages, unsafe working environments, and under-resourced public institutions. Decent work is not a privilege – it is a right. Job creation must go along with job security, quality public services, and economic policies that put people before profit. Since its founding in 1920, the PSA has stood as a pillar of strength for public servants. For 105 years, the Union of Choice has remained resolute in defending labour rights and improving conditions for workers across the public sector. The Union's ongoing efforts include protecting and strengthening collective bargaining, opposing austerity measures that undermine public service, demanding permanent employment and job security for vulnerable and contract workers, advocating for gender equality, inclusive leadership, the eradication of workplace discrimination, campaigning for safe, healthy, and dignified working conditions, and pushing for investment in public infrastructure and services to improve service delivery to citizens.

Workers' rights are human rights. The PSA is firm in its commitment to link the pursuit of living wages, decent work, and workplace safety to broader movements for social, economic, gender, and climate justice. On Workers' Day 2025, the PSA salutes all public servants who continue to serve with dedication and integrity, even in the face of adversity. The PSA will celebrate Workers' Day 2025 with members in Middelburg, Mpumalanga, with the pledge to protect those entrusted with the country's future.

Reuben Maleka
GENERAL MANAGER