



FOR PSA MEMBERS: **PUBLIC SERVICE COORDINATING BARGAINING COUNCIL (PSCBC)**

03-03-2026

GEMS Board requests extension until 13 March 2026 to respond to labour's demands: Fight against GEMS tyranny and monopoly continues

Members will recall that the PSA and other Fedusa-affiliated unions embarked on a Day of Action on Saturday, 21 February 2026 against the deviation by the Government Employees Medical Scheme (GEMS) from its founding principle of access to affordable medical cover for public servants. The PSA, under the auspices of Fedusa, handed a memorandum to GEMS outlining the following demands:

1. Immediate withdrawal of 9.5% increase
2. Full financial disclosures
3. Independent forensic audit
4. Review of outsourcing and administrative cost drivers
5. Review of GEMS funding model
6. Governance reforms
7. Structured engagement with organised labour
8. Immediate reversal of unilateral changes to the *Tanzanite One* option
9. Removal of the Principal Officer and Executives who failed to ensure that GEMS fulfills its mandate

Accordingly, GEMS was given seven days to respond. The GEMS Board, however issued correspondence, dated 27 February 2026, requesting an extension to respond to the demands by 13 March 2026. The request was attributed to the complexity and breadth of the issues raised, as well as the need to follow internal governance structures, verify supporting information, and consultation with the relevant legislative bodies. The request was granted with a proposed due date of **6 MARCH 2026** as unions believe in fairness but have not given in - the fight against GEMS tyranny and monopoly continues.

Engagement with lawyers is still underway as members are urged to be patient as the battle continues.

Employees who want to join the PSA can visit the PSA's website or contact PSA Provincial Offices.

Reuben Maleka
GENERAL MANAGER