

NUPSAW

THE NATIONAL UNION OF PUBLIC SERVICE AND ALLIED WORKERS

HEAD QUARTERS

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NEWSFLASH

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Feedback on the meeting between NUPSAW and Minister Aaron Motsoaledi

The National Union of Public Service and Allied Workers (NUPSAW) yesterday had a fruitful meeting with the Minister of National Department of Health, Dr Aaron Motsoaledi. The meeting was a follow-up on his commitment to permanently employ 27000 Community Health Workers (CHWs) and to also discuss critical issues such as the EPWPs working under Gauteng Department of Health..

The Minister reiterated his commitment to permanently employ the 27000 CHWs as mentioned in his budget speech recently, this is inclusive of the Western Cape CHWs and we will monitor Western Cape closely to ensure they fully comply. Although we welcome this commitment by the Minister and believe that this is a major breakthrough for thousands of CHWs who have been marginalized over the years, we however demand that ALL CHWs be permanently employed, irrespective of their qualifications. No CHW should be left out citing lack of qualifications.

We will continue to monitor the implementation of this commitment across all provinces to ensure that no CHW is left behind. Furthermore, we will embark on a process to look into the qualifications of all CHWs across provinces and ensure a clear qualification pathway, while we are waiting for this matter to be formally presented before the Council for finalization.

❑ EPWPs in the Gauteng Department of Health:

Minister Motsoaledi agrees that the issue of the EPWPs working under the Gauteng Department of Health has been a sore one for a while now. These workers have been marginalized when it comes to filing of posts and vacancies. They have been working for the Department for quite some time, like the CHWs, however there is no solution with regards to their employment.

He will therefore schedule a meeting between NUPSAW and the Gauteng Department of Health to find an amicable solution. This should include the exclusion of uncontracted CHWs while verification of attendance register will be embarked on between NUPSAW, Gauteng Department of Health and National Department of Health. This verification is as result of Gauteng disputing attendance register submitted to them. National Department will therefore facilitate the process to ensure fairness.

❑ Commuted Overtime for Medical Practitioners:

Doctors in Gauteng signed commuted overtime contracts in line with National and Provincial policies that stipulate that contracts should be signed annually from the beginning of the Financial year.

However, the Gauteng Department of Health (GDoH) changed commuted contracts from 12 months to 3 months without any consultation. This prompted us to engage with the Department to seek clarity and pave a workable way forward. Unfortunately GDoH made no effort to rectify the matter, which we then escalated to the Minister.

The Minister had to this regard promised to intervene and ensure that GDoH adhere to policies and build a fair working system.

NUPSAW remains steadfast on its fight for workers' rights and will consistently be advocating better working conditions for all workers.

Yours in the worker's struggle



Solly Malema
GENERAL SECRETARY