



THE OUTCOMES OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT SECTORAL BARGAINING COUNCIL

DECEMBER 2021

The PHSDSBC held its special council meeting on the 22nd December 2021 to discuss two issues:

- a) The circulating advice of the Ministerial Advisory Committee (MAC) on stopping quarantine
- b) The implementation of the PHSDSBC Resolution 3 of 2019

On the matter of the PHSDSBC Resolution 3 of 2019 it came to the attention of the union that the Eastern Cape and Limpopo Provinces did not deduct the annual fees of the South African Nursing Council (SANC) from the nurses in the two provinces and as such SANC has advised nurses that should they not receive the money by the 31st December 2021 all those nurses who has not paid will be deregistered and they will need to pay restoration fee.

This situation has led to nurses travelling all the way to SANC offices in Pretoria and even sleeping outside the offices of SANC just because some officials in two provinces have failed to do the right thing.

After deliberations and side caucuses in the special council meeting, parties agreed as follows:

- Just as per the resolution the employer must carry the costs for deregistration of the nurses and pay the restoration fee.
- Eastern Cape province agreed to make payment by the 23rd December 2021 and will be liable for any matter arises from none deductions and payment to SANC.
- Nurses are discouraged from travelling to Pretoria and the two provinces will ensure that payments are done.

On the matter to stop quarantining workers, it came to our attention that the advice was meant for the attention of the Minister of Health from the Ministerial Advise Committee (MAC) which was circulated by various provinces and in other institutions for implementation. This was done to address staff shortage in health institutions and workers who are in contact with those contracted COVID-19 be discouraged from 10 days quarantine. The union raised concerns to the Chief Negotiator of the DPSA and PHSDSBC by indicating that the matter of quarantine is regulated by the DPSA on circular 7 of 2020 and as such it cannot be correct that



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an advice is applied to prevent employees from going to the correct determined quarantine period.

In the council meeting the employer indicated that the advice was not supposed to have been circulated because it was only meant for the Minister. The parties in the council agreed as following:

- That the employer will issue a circular to all provinces clarifying the matter but also advising provinces not to implement the advice
- Workers are still expected to quarantine as and when they have been in contact with those who has tested positive.

The union is urging its members in all departments to disregard the advice and follow what is contained in the DPSA circular 7 of 2020. This means that in an event that an employee or a member is in contact with the colleague who has tested positive, that employee is expected to quarantine for 10 days. On the other hand, nurses are advised that as per the PHSDSBC Resolution 3 of 2019, the employer must deduct the SANC fees every year between July and November and in the event they fail to do so, they will take responsibility for any problems that emanate from their failure. As a union, we will continue to monitor the implementation to avoid what has transpired in the two provinces.

END

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