



# UPDATE BULLETIN - IMPLEMENTATION OF SUSTAINABLE MODEL FOR PROFESSIONALISATION OF FORENSIC PATHOLOGY SERVICES

## OCTOBER 2023

Comrades, this bulletin serves to update members about the implementation of the sustainable model for professionalisation of Forensic Pathology Services as espoused in clause 4.5.2 of PHSDSBC Resolution 4 of 2017.

In our previous communication, the union indicated that our legal team had applied for contempt of court seeking compliance with the arbitration award which has already been made a court order. The union has been engaged in a protracted struggle with the Department of Health over the implementation of model for professionalisation of Forensic Pathology Services. The department decided to conduct itself in an unbecoming manner by refusing to implement the sustainable model for FPOs as part of its broader austerity agenda imposed on workers.

Our legal team approached the Labour Court to hold the Department of Health in contempt of court. The matter was heard today, Thursday the 26th October 2023, wherein the Labour Court awarded an interim order in favour of the national union. The Labour Court found the Minister of Health and the Department in contempt of court for failing to table a sustainable model with salary levels and notches for our members who are Forensic Pathology Officers.

The national union welcomes the order awarded by the Labour Court in support of our contention that the Department of Health is in contempt of court by refusing to implement the model for professionalisation of Forensic Pathology Services. We are aware that this matter has been dragging for far too long and it is frustrating members on the ground, that is why the union shall do everything in its power to ensure the implementation of model for professionalisation of FPOs.

Following the order granted by the Labour Court, the union implores the department to adhere to the order by implementing the sustainable model for professionalisation of Forensic Pathology Services as espoused in clause 4.5.2 of PHSDSBC Resolution 4 of 2017. Lastly, the union will continue to keep members updated on developments pertaining the implementation of the model.

END

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