

Media Releases 2009

SARS Responding to industrial action

Pretoria, 6 September 2009 – SARS met with the negotiating teams from the National Health and Allied Workers Union (Nehawu) and the Public Service Association (PSA) at the National Bargaining Forum (NBF) on Saturday and Sunday and tabled a revised wage offer.

The new, revised offer proposes salary increases on a sliding scale of between 9% and 11% for the respective grades in SARS. Both Nehawu and the PSA will seek a mandate from their members on the new wage offer and will revert back to SARS on Tuesday and it is hoped that the negotiations will be concluded by Thursday.

SARS believes the revised offer is in line with developments in the broader public sector wage negotiations.

On Friday SARS received confirmation from Nehawu that they have suspended their intention to strike. For reasons unknown to SARS, Nehawu today reinstated their notice to embark on strike action on Monday 7 September 2009. Accordingly SARS did not include Nehawu in the application for the court injunction.

SARS and the PSA are also awaiting judgment from the Labour Court on Monday morning after SARS approached the Court with an application to obtain an urgent interdict to set aside the strike. As Nehawu withdrew its intention to strike on Friday, Nehawu was not enjoined in the application.

SARS management has met tonight to co-ordinate the implementation of contingency plans at branch offices and at the biggest border posts in the event that some SARS officials will stay away from the workplace. In such instances the no-work-no-pay rule will be applied.

SARS would want to encourage taxpayers who are registered for eFiling to use the internet as a means to submit returns and payments that will be due for Pay-As-You-Earn.

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