



LABOUR & NEWS REPORT

1st Edition

OCTOBER

2010

To all our esteemed SAPTU membership:

It gives me great pleasure to extend our gratitude on behalf of SAPTU on your continued commitment and loyalty to our Union. The current turmoil in the SA labour market reflects the continued need to redress workplace inequalities and injustices which we will constantly fight with management for the betterment of our membership. This is our first newsletter for 2010 and we have used the opportunity to give feedback on our participation in national structures where we made valuable inputs on behalf of our members. As it is our intention to provide our members with a regular update on activities of the Union and our branches. We shall be grateful to receive inputs and suggestions as to the format and in particular which information should be included in our Newsletter. Please contact the General Secretary in this regard.



Mr Henry Mushonga : PRESIDENT

NATIONAL STRUCTURES:

PUBLIC SERVICE CO-ORDINATING BARGAINING COUNCIL (PSCBC)

SAPTU is now a member of the Independent Labour Caucus in the Public Service Co-ordinating Bargaining Council (PSCBC) which represents more than 460 000 union members. Together with other unions, we were part of the bargaining process and supported unions in their strike action and other forms of industrial action to fight for a living wage and improvement of conditions of employment for public servants as well as employees of **Legal Aid-SA**.

We believe that once agreement is being reached of a 7.5 % salary adjustment and R800.00 housing allowance between Trade Unions and Government, it will empower **SAPTU** to negotiate with the Management of Legal Aid SA on various other issues, such as:-

- (i) membership of GEMS (Government Medical Scheme);
- (ii) implementation of a sustainable home ownership scheme.



Picketing by Legal Aid in PE during wage negotiations 2010

TERTIARY SECTOR

SAPTU is a major role player in the tertiary sector and is regularly participating in appointed task teams. SAPTU already had various appointments with the Minister of Higher Education and Training in order to share views on various issues facing the higher education sector.



FEDUSA

SAPTU is affiliated to FEDUSA (The Federation of Unions of South Africa). FEDUSA is the second largest trade union federation in South Africa.

The main advantage of affiliation to FEDUSA is that **SAPTU** can utilise the collective knowledge of FEDUSA which contributes to greater participation and strength. **SAPTU** can influence legislation through FEDUSA as FEDUSA is represented on various national bodies, including NEDLAC. **SAPTU** is also in the unique position that through FEDUSA it can bring sensitive issues that affects the sectors in which it operates to the NEDLAC table for negotiations. Our president, **Mr H Mushonga**, is also a member of the Management Committee of FEDUSA.

FEDUSA TRAINING & EDUCATION COMMITTEE (TEC)

SAPTU is represented on this Committee by **Prof Pierre van Niekerk**, our Deputy President. He is also Deputy Chairperson of the TEC Committee. The main function of the TEC is the discussion and application of training, education and development which could affect members and affiliates of FEDUSA.



DITSELA

Prof van Niekerk, our Deputy President, serves on the Board of DITSELA.

The DITSELA Workers' Education Institute is a Section 21 not-for-profit joint venture established in 1996 by COSATU and FEDUSA and supported by the Department of Labour's Strengthening Civil Society Fund.

DITSELA aims to put resources into increasing the pool of union educators, researchers, activists and organisers, and especially those who have been disadvantaged by race, gender, class and disability. DITSELA endeavours to ensure the participation of a high proportion of women in all its programmes.

NATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND LABOUR COUNCIL – NEDLAC

Through FEDUSA (The Federation of South African Unions) SAPTU is participating in Nedlac activities where it can make important inputs on the impact in the work environment of our members.

Nedlac is the seat of National social dialogue in South Africa and it is, in many respects a uniquely South African model. The Nedlac constituencies, Business, Labour, Government and the Nedlac Community constituency are working together to address the economic and development challenges which our country faces. Our President, Mr H Mushonga, is a member of the Development Chamber which, inter alia, deals with key focus areas such as Sustainable Development and Social Justice in the Workplace, and Adv Ben van der Walt of the Labour Market Chamber (key focus areas e.g. changing nature of work, labour broking).



WORLD COMPANY REGISTER
<http://www.worldcompanyregister.com/>

SAPTU and its activities are also listed in the database of the World Company Register. Other companies and institutions in the countries below can now link to our website and contact us direct if they wish to establish links with **SAPTU**:
Africa / Asia / Australasia / Oceania / Europe / Middle East / North & Central America / South America

GLOBAL NEWS

World Campaign for Decent Work gathering Strength

On 7 October, World Day for Decent Work, have again seen millions of workers around the world taking a variety of actions to press home their call.

Since it was launched three years ago by the International Trade Union Confederation, World Day for Decent Work has involved millions of unionists across the world in campaign actions; last year there were 472 actions in 111 countries.

This year, the focus of the event were in three demands: for growth and decent jobs instead of austerity to beat the financial crisis and end poverty; for quality public services, which are essential for a decent life, and for the financial sector to pay for the damage it has caused and to serve the real economy and real human needs.

Sharan Burrow, ITUC general secretary, commented: "Working people are still paying a heavy price for the world economic crisis, as the banking and finance sector returns to business as usual. Governments pledged major reforms to the global economy at the G20 in 2008 and 2009, but have failed to follow through.

"The jobs crisis, especially for young people, is getting worse, economic stimulus has been withdrawn too early in several major economies, and vital public services as well as development aid are being cut back in the name of fiscal consolidation.

World Day for Decent Work's actions will definitely reflect deep anger felt by people around the world."

Global unions are currently working together to draw up a charter for a global agenda for quality public services, which will be launched at a conference in Geneva, Switzerland, next month.

FEDUSA is a major role player in South Africa with regard to the goal of Decent Work for a Better Life for All.

Concern over Impact of Financial Crisis on Women

"One of our key tasks ahead focuses on fighting the effects of the Economic crisis on women across the globe," Alison McGarry, ITF Women's co-ordinator, told delegates to the Federation's International's Women's Conference.

She went on to highlight the importance of protecting women's jobs, many of which were precarious; their positions were likely to be among the first to go as cutbacks were implemented.

During the session, McGarry outlined the approach presented in the ITF document 'Making a Difference' which prioritises a number of areas, including the fight against the impact of the crisis on women.

She said that the ITF would continue to ensure that it challenged the negative effects of the global crisis on women by working with global unions and the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) so promote alternative economic and political strategies.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE OF SAPTU

The Management Structures of SAPTU consist of:

(i) The Management Committee

Chairperson – Mr Henry Mushonga with Portfolio Recruitment, Marketing and Head Office;

Deputy President – Prof Pierre van Niekerk with Portfolio Logistics, Stellenbosch, Western and Eastern Cape

Prof Edward Green (Medunsa) with Portfolio Health

Ms Esther Roman – Asset Management, Media, Communication and co-opted in Marketing

Mr Joe Ngwenya (NHLS) with Portfolio Risk Management

General Secretary – Adv Ben van der Walt

(ii) Executive Committee

Chairperson – Mr Henry Mushonga

Deputy President – Prof Pierre van Niekerk

General Secretary – Adv Ben van der Walt

SAPTU BRANCHES

Stellenbosch

Acting Executive Officer : Lucas Phacwana – Tel: (021) 8872081

George

SAPTU Organiser : Clarence Mtyenele – Tel: (044) 8801164

Parastatals:

- Legal Aid SA – Riaan du Plessis – Tel: (011) 814 5159
- SA Bureau of Standards – Sharon Peach – Tel: (012) 428 7077
- Productivity SA – Phomolo Mokoena – Tel: (011) 848 5300
- Council for GeoScience – Dr Johann Neveling - Tel: (012) 841 1388
- Northern Flagship Institute (Museum) -Mauritz Naude – Tel: (012) 324 6082
- NHLS – Louise Blake – Tel: (011) 555 0399
- HESA – Radley Eckersley – Tel: (012) 484 1132

Universities

- University of North West – Nadia Linde – Tel: (018) 299 4227/4070
- University of Johannesburg – Prof Johan Sonnekus – Tel: (011) 559 2130
- University of Stellenbosch - Lucas Phacwana – Tel: (021) 8872081
- MEDUNSA/Limpopo – Prof Eddie Green – Tel: (012) 521 4430

