



Join the National Protected Strike Action on 7th October 2015

COSATU is joining millions of workers around the World on 07 October 2015, which is World Day for Decent Work. Our National Action, which will take the form of marches and demonstrations in the City Centers and Locals of our Provinces throughout the country, is legal and protected as per the Labour Relations Act. This follows a deadlock on our demand for SCRAPPING of the E-tolls and provisions for a safe, reliable, affordable, integrated and accessible Public Transport system. This action is open to all workers and members of Civil Society.

Public Transport:

- COSATU has for many years now been calling for a safe, reliable, affordable, integrated and accessible public transport system.
- South Africa has a multi-faceted public transport system; but it is not well coordinated.
- The funding model used in the South African transport system is another major challenge.
- COSATU reiterates its rejection of the e-tolling system which privatises our public roads.

At the same time as we protest against E-tolls and provision for a Public Transport system, we are campaigning for;

Value Added Tax (VAT) Increase:

- We demand that Treasury should reject the Davis Tax Commission (DTC) proposals to increase Value Added Tax (VAT) and the consideration of additional items for VAT zero-rating.
- Workers cannot afford a further burden of tax increase after an increase of Personal Income Tax (PIT).

Job losses / Unemployment Crisis:

- There is about 8 Million unemployed workers, who majority are young people. This is a crisis and it poses a political instability for democracy, needing urgent attention. As if this is not enough, workers demands for wage increases, is met with notices of retrenchments of thousands of workers affecting their families and in particular their childrens future.
- These retrenchments are happening in all sectors of the economy, be it the mining, manufacturing, services, communications, transport etc. These are not matters of company level engagements but demanding a national response as we did in 2009 (SA Response to the Global Crisis).
- While all the stakeholders including business, government and labour are looking for solutions, employers must put a moratorium on retrenchments.

Electricity Crisis:

- The ongoing electricity crisis remains one of the major constraints in achieving economic growth and creation of decent jobs.
- We demand an electricity security supply both for economic growth, job creation and household at affordable price for our communities.
- We further demand that government should suspend the nuclear energy procurement until further engagement at NEDLAC to ensure poen, transparent and participatory processes.
- We reject any suggestion of the Privatisation of ESKOM.

Public Health Sector:

- COSATU is deeply concerned about the state of the public health sector.
- We demand the release of the White Paper on the National Health Insurance (NHI) and an urgent attention to the problems in the public health care system.
- While noting that the issues relating to the Compensation for Occupational Injuries and Diseases Act do not fall under the ambit of public health, the challenges in the Compensation Fund affect health conditions of workers.

A National Minimum Wage

- Many unscrupulous employers exploit workers and pay them as they please, because there are no minimum wage rates set for all workers.
- Trade Unions have been demanding a LIVING WAGE for many years, but we have not come close to achieving this yet. By demanding that a minimum wage is set, workers are at least guaranteed not to be exploited and this takes us one step closer to achieving a Living Wage.

National Legal Strike means no worker can be victimized for participating

The Youth Employment Tax Incentive

- The employment incentive tax was introduced in January 2014 amid fierce objections from organised labour and community constituencies at Nedlac.
- As of January 2015 to date R2.09 billion has been spent on this expensive scheme, with allegations that 274 000 jobs had been created.
- Organised labour and civil society organizations are still waiting for evidence from National treasury and from South African Revenue Services in substantiation of their allegations.

Free Market Foundation attack on Extension of Collective Agreements

- On March 2013, the Free Market Foundation (FMF) filed a case with the Gauteng High Court challenging the principle and practice of extending bargaining councils agreements in South Africa to non parties.
- This principle of extending agreements -but not rights- to non parties is provided for in Section 32 of the Labour Relations Act 1995. Since the 1995 LRA, centralisation and extension of agreements has been standard practice, where collective agreements exist, until the FMF launched its first attack after COSATU had called for the intensification of its organising and bargaining campaigns in the 2013 conference.
- Further, the Free Market Foundation (FMF) threatened to challenge the constitutionality of such agreements, citing that 'centralised bargaining is no equivalence of collective bargaining, the two are semantically and operationally not the same.'

JOIN A MARCH ON 07 OCTOBER 2015 IN YOUR PROVINCE AT 9H00

PROVINCE	ACTIVITIES	PLACE	CONTACT
Mpumalanga	Provincial marches <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emalahleni • Mbombela 	Gather at Lynville Stadium and march to DOL. Gather at Alroe Park and march to Nelspruit Police Station.	Fidel Malombo 079 511 0947 Thabo Mokoena 073 750 2041
KwaZulu Natal	Provincial march - Durban Local marches	Gather at King Dinizulu (Bothas Park) & march to City Hall. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manguzi, • Kokstad, • Newcastle/Dundee, • Dumbe, • Phongola • Mzimkhulu 	Edwin Mkhize 076 522 8839 Khaliphile Cotoza 082 339 5760
Western Cape	Provincial march - Cape Town Local Marches	Cape Town City, gather at Keizergracht and march to Parliament at 11h00. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vredendal • Worcester • Pietburg • Matsikane • Saldanha Bay 	Tony Ehrenreich 082 773 3194
North West	Provincial march - Rustenburg	Gather at Rustenburg taxi Rank and march to DOL.	Solly Phetoe 082 304 4055 Kopane Konope 082 339 5836
Northern Cape	Provincial march - Kimberly Local mini marches	Premier's office - Kimberly <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upington • Springbok • Khartum • De Aar 	Anele Gxoyiya 082 401 6598 Manne Thebe 082 339 5907
Limpopo	Provincial march - Polokwane	Gather at SABC Park and march to Eskom, Premiers Office and SARS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Premiers Office • Eskom 	Gerald Twala 071 587 2872 Louisa Nxumalo 082 339 6004
Eastern Cape	To confirm	To confirm	Mkhawuleli Maleki 082 339 5482
Gauteng	Provincial march - Johannesburg City Centre	Gather at Mary Fitzgerald Square and march to Premiers office, Telkom and Chamber of Business.	Dumisane Dakile 082 727 1422 Matserani Mapena 082 339 5692
Free State	Provincial march - Bloemfontein	Gather at Batho Police Station and march to Bophelo House.	Monyatso Mahlatsi 076 115 9923 Abel Thlole Pitso

An Injury to One is an Injury to All