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FOR PSA MEMBERS: **DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND COOPERATION (DIRCO)**

26-11-2024

Feedback: DIRCO Departmental Bargaining Chamber (DBC) meeting

International Medical Claims and Related Expenses Policy

At the DBC meeting on 12 June 2024, the employer indicated that there was a policy on international medical claims and related expenses, which was still with the Anchor Manager. The employer further reported that the policy was undergoing consultation through all relevant structures, including the Director-General Forum (DGF), and when ready, it would be tabled at the Chamber and a policy task team would be convened to discuss the policy. The policy task team meeting took place on 25 October 2024 and the policy was thoroughly discussed. Concerns related to the matter of benefits and cost differences between services in South Africa compared to various countries around the world were also considered. The other main point of contention was around the Department's handling of rejections of claims by GEMS. Both these matters were resolved in that the CFO and officials in the Financial Management section confirmed that an exhaustion of benefits owing to cost differences would not become recoverable from the official but would be covered by DIRCO. The Department has committed to an improvement in its standard operating procedures for claims as laid out in the policy.

Departmental Revenue Policy

On 13 August 2024, the employer tabled the Departmental Revenue Policy at the Chamber for discussions at the policy task team. The due date for members to submit inputs was 23 August 2024, but members did not submit inputs. The policy task team meeting took place on 27 September 2024 and the Departmental Revenue Policy was thoroughly discussed.

The employer moved for adoption of the two policies on 25 November 2024 and the PSA noted the policies.

Employees who want to join the PSA can visit the PSA's website, send an email to ask@psa.co.za, or contact PSA Provincial Offices.

Reuben Maleka
GENERAL MANAGER