

Wes-Kaapse Provinsiale Parlement Western Cape Provincial Parliament IPalamente yePhondo IeNtshona Koloni

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES AND TOURISM

Wednesday, 11 August 2021 (08:00) Virtual Meeting via MS Teams

ATTENDANCE

Members:

Democratic Alliance

Baartman, D (Chairperson) Maseko, M Van der Westhuizen, A

African National Congress

Nkondlo, N

Apology

Makamba-Botya, N (EFF)

The following persons were in attendance:

Unemployment Insurance Fund

Adv. M Yawa, Acting Commissioner Mr M Ntamo, Chief Director: Western Cape Mr A Ragavaloo, Director: Provincial Support Ms S Qasana, Director Mr D Esau, Chief Inspector: Western Cape

Western Cape Provincial Parliament:

Ms Z Adams, Procedural Officer Ms L Cloete, Senior Procedural Officer Ms M Motsapi, Committee Assistant

1. Welcome and attendance

The Chairperson welcomed the Members, and noted the apology from Member N Makamba-Botya (EFF).

The Chairperson reminded the Committee and members of the public that the document that would be screened would not contain the private details of the claimants, such as their names, contact details and ID numbers.

The Chairperson noted the Rules of Engagement for virtual meetings and proceeded with the agenda items below.

2. Response from the UIF on the submissions/claims made in respect of the Temporary Employer/Employee Relief Scheme process as well as the other UIF-related claims

Mr Ragavaloo updated the Committee on the 123 claims submitted in terms of the Temporary Employer/Employee Relief Scheme (TERS) process as well as the non-TERS but UIF related claims.

The Committee proceeded with the discussion on the claims as well as other related TERS and non-TERS but UIF related matters.

3. Consideration and Adoption of the Draft Committee Minutes of 9 June 2021

The Committee considered and adopted the draft Committee Minutes of 9 June 2021, with one amendment.

4. Resolutions/Actions

- 4.1 The Committee ACKNOWLEDGED the following:
- 4.1.1 The level of frustration experienced by employers and employees with the delays and other administrative problems experienced with the TERS process;
- 4.1.2 The difficulty that the public service experiences in respect to adjusting to new challenges such as the COVID-19 pandemic and the TERS. Special managerial skills and resources were needed to allow for quick adaptation to the service delivery that was required in these circumstances;
- 4.1.3 Public service was disrupted because of the pandemic and many government offices were closed because they were not declared as essential services. In the future, government should acknowledge that certain public services are essential and should continue despite disruptions; and
- 4.1.4 A number of members of the public, who used the service provided by the Western Cape Provincial Parliament during the TERS public participation process, were able to have their cases/claims resolved, or were able to receive proper feedback on why their claims have not been able to be addressed.
- 4.2 The Committee RESOLVED the following:
- 4.2.1 That the administration draft a report on the work done for the TERS public participation process, which would include the successes and challenges experienced;

- 4.2.2 To visit labour centres in the Western Cape, in the Metro and non-Metro areas;
- 4.2.3 To write to the Provincial Department of Labour to ask if they have engaged Provincial Minister Maynier and the different sectors to request assistance with non-compliant employers, and to request that they engage with the various sectors to determine what the relationship is like with the UIF and to encourage compliance with UIF-related matters;
- 4.2.4 To request briefings from various provincial departments on outdated IT systems within the provincial government and to tackle other archaic systems in government in general;
- 4.2.5 To write to the Office of the Speaker and the Secretary of Western Cape Provincial Parliament to create a policy that allows Committees to utilise paid social media and other online media platforms for matters within the Committees' mandate such as legislation and public participation.
- 4.3 The Committee REQUESTED the following:
- 4.3.1 The UIF should follow-up with the claimants whose TERS and non-TERS but UIF related claims were unresolved, and report back to the Committee by 25 August 2021;
- 4.3.2 The record of outgoing calls made from the UIF to the claimants, which they indicated they could not reach; and
- 4.3.3 Monthly reports from the UIF on the resolution of claims submitted in respect of TERS and non-TERS but UIF related claims, which are submitted directly to the UIF. These reports should be submitted monthly until the conclusion of the lockdown regulations, and should include the reasons that cases were not closed.

The meeting adjourned at 11:07.

ADV. D BAARTMAN, MPP CHAIRPERSON: STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES AND TOURISM DATE: 8 Sontombor 2021

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