

ZIMBABWE CONGRESS OF TRADE UNIONS (ZCTU)

All correspondence should be
addressed to the Secretary General

Email: info@zctu.co.zw
Fax: (263) - 4 - 749256
Tel: 793093/794742/794702/749253



Ref:

No: 7 Jason Moyo Avenue
2nd & 3rd Floor, Gorton House
P.O. Box 3549
HARARE

PRESS RELEASE

RE: Tripartite Negotiation Forum outcomes

The Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions (ZCTU) wishes to advise workers that the Tripartite Negotiation Forum (TNF) met on Monday 16 March, 2020 to get a feedback from the Minister of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare on the recommendations that were forwarded to Cabinet following the TNF meeting of 5 February 2020.

The TNF meeting of 16 March 2020 was informed by the Minister that the Cabinet had endorsed all the recommendations save for the issue related to the erosion of wages and salaries that the cabinet referred back to the technical committee. The following was endorsed by the Cabinet:

1. Monetary, Fiscal and Inflation Reductions

- 1.1. Government to operate within its projected budget deficit
- 1.2. Elimination of all quasi-fiscal activities of the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe and the channeling of all subsidies and other quasi-fiscal expenditures through treasury.
- 1.3. Government should desist from using borrowing facilities at the Central Bank
- 1.4. Government should strive to maintain a stable exchange rate

2. Foreign Exchange Mobilisation and Management

- 2.1. Over and above measures to ensure availability of foreign currency in a transparent and market driven system and the promotion of local content. It was agreed that measures should be put in place to fight corruption and cartels operating within the economy and put in place measures to curb illicit financial outflows.

3. Institutional reforms

- 3.1. Expedite agreed public sector and parastatal reforms, including implementation of the National code on Corporate Governance.

4. Production and Productivity

- 4.1. Promote productivity through operationalization of the National Productivity Institute and expediting the Ease of doing business reforms to promote both foreign and local investors
- 4.2. Expedite the legislative reforms focusing on the Labour Act and Public Service Act, Health services Act, National productivity institute and National Occupational Health and Safety act
- 4.3. Adopt and implement a formalization strategy for the informal sector

5. Social Services Delivery

- 5.1. The social partners agreed to revamp the social service delivery system, focusing on education, health, shelter and food security including the establishment of the National Health insurance scheme

On the meeting of 16 March 2020, however, the labour refused to refer the issue of the erosion of wages and salaries to the TNF technical committee and wanted government to issue a Statutory Instrument (SI) to set a minimum wage. This was refused by business who want negotiations to take place at various the National Employment Councils (NECs). Business also rejected the proposed interim relief minimum wage of \$3 800 while the government work on stabilizing the economy.

6. Erosion of Wages and Salaries

6.1. Following the deadlock on 16 March the Minister of Labour convened a TNF Principals meeting to unlock the deadlock and advised that in the event of a negative outcome from social partners he would invoke the Labour Act and legislate and gazette the minimum wages.

6.2. The ZCTU advised the Minister that it was in the process of mobilising for collective action in the event of a negative outcome.



JAPHET MOYO
SECRETARY GENERAL