



Motor Transport Workers Union of South Africa

UNLESS IT'S ACHIEVED, THE STRUGGLE FOR BETTER
EMPLOYMENT CONDITIONS WILL CONTINUE
FROM ONE GENERATION TO ANOTHER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA STATEMENT

MTWU SA REACHES DEADLOCK WITH EMPLOYERS ASSOCIATIONS DURING 2026 WAGE NEGOTIATIONS

The **Motor Transport Workers Union (MTWU)**, the majority union in the transport sector that represents workers in the **Cash-in-Transit (CIT)** and truck drivers, wishes to provide its members, workers and the public at large with an update on the status of the 2026 industry wage negotiations.

The 2026 wage negotiations commenced in May 2026 and have continued through June, with the parties engaging in extensive discussions on the key economic and workplace issues affecting workers across the industry.

Following the most recent engagements, including the two dispute-resolution meetings held under the auspices of the appointed Commissioner, in accordance with the prescripts of the Bargaining Council Constitution, the parties remain unable to reach consensus on a number of critical outstanding matters.

At this stage, one final engagement is scheduled to take place before 20 August 2026, during which the parties will once again attempt to resolve the outstanding issues and reach an acceptable settlement.

One of the major areas of disagreement remains the **ATB increments**. Employers continue to table increases that are significantly lower than the demands put forward by organised labour. The Union remains of the view that the proposed increases do not adequately address the economic realities facing workers, including the rising cost of living, and therefore cannot accept an offer that fails to meaningfully improve workers' livelihoods.

The **minimum ATB, allowances**, and issues relating to the **grading of EBU employees and employees within the trucking industry** also remain unresolved.

Another critical matter is the issue of the **Third Man** in the Cash-in-Transit sector.

General Secretary: M.E. Mabaso



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MTWU has consistently raised serious concerns regarding the current practice of employers subcontracting escort services from the guarding division. We believe that the sensitive and high-risk nature of Cash-in-Transit operations requires properly trained, suitably employed and adequately protected workers who are directly employed within the industry and remunerated in accordance with the applicable industry wage structure.

The subcontracting of such critical functions creates significant concerns around training, accountability, worker protection and the overall security of the CIT industry. The safety of workers, the public and the cash-in-transit system cannot be compromised.

MTWU is therefore calling for employers to employ and properly train additional guards who can perform the Third Man function and ensure that these workers receive wages and conditions aligned with the industry standards.

The union remains committed to meaningful negotiations and will continue to participate constructively in the final engagement scheduled before 20 August.

However, we will not accept an agreement that compromises the economic wellbeing, safety, dignity and security of workers.

Should the parties fail to reach an acceptable agreement, the MTWU will communicate the picketing rules and any further lawful industrial action, to our members.

MTWU wishes to make it clear that our preference remains to resolve these matters through negotiations. However, our members' patience must not be mistaken for weakness.

If employers continue to refuse to meet workers' legitimate demands, MTWU will be prepared to exercise all lawful avenues available to it in pursuit of a fair settlement.

The Cash-in-Transit industry and truck drivers plays a critical role in the functioning of the South African economy. Any industrial action that follows the failure to reach an agreement may have significant consequences for the movement and delivery of cash across the country. The responsibility for avoiding such an outcome rest with all parties at the negotiating table.

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MTWU will continue to keep its members and the public informed of developments as the negotiations progress.

“Unless it’s achieved, the struggle for better employment conditions will continue from one generation to another”

~END~

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