May 21, 2013

PRESS RELEASE

1. Position on Taxation

PUSETU-K is concerned that the Public Servants of this nation are the most taxed in this continent. First and foremost the public servants pay PAYE on their monthly income. Thereafter the same servants are required to pay VAT on every other item they purchase from the shops.

This position contrasts with that of the military personnel who are exempted from paying VAT because they make their purchases from the Armed Forces Canteen Organization (AFCO) shops which are VAT EXEMPT. Our position is that this is a discriminatory administrative action by the government. There is no good reason that other workers should have extra tax burden.

The public sector workers are therefore demanding that:-

1. That the government should immediately remove tax on all their allowances; including but not limited to; house; commuter allowance, extraneous duty allowance, non practice allowance, travelling and accommodation allowance / per diem etc.

2. That taxation should be based on basic pay only.

3. The government should raise the current tax relief from kshs 12,000/= to kshs 30,000/= with immediate effect.

This will ease the tax burden on the low income earners in this country.

2. Recognition By The Industrial Court

PUSETU-K takes this opportunity to thank the Industrial Court for formally recognizing the PUSETU-K. The PUSETU-K National Governing council has discussed the invitation to the federation to nominate a member to the court users committee. The council is in the process of appointing a member and will
communicate the name of the appointee to the relevant authorities in due course.

3. Representation in the National Industrial Training Authority Board.

We have information, that the public servants of this nation do not have appropriate representation in the National Industrial Training Authority Board (NITAB). We wish to state that PUSETU-K is not short of proper nominees and we invite the Director of Industrial Training to immediately engage PUSETU-K for a nominee.

4. The Labor Centre is demanding immediate representation in the following bodies;
1. Salaries & Remuneration Commission (SRC) in accordance Article 230 of the Constitution Of Kenya, which states that the SRC shall consist of the following persons appointed by the president as per section (2c)(i) “one person each nominated by an umbrella body representing trade unions”
2. National Hospital Insurance Funds (NHIF)
3. National Social Security Fund (NSSF)
4. National Labour Board (NLB)
5. Public Service Commission (PSC)
6. Universities Council
7. Kenya National Examination Council (KNEC)

THANK YOU

[Signature]

DR. CHARLES MUKHWAYA,
ACTING GENERAL SECRETARY,
PUSETU-K.