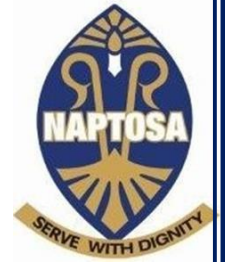


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## RESPONSE ON EARLY RETIREMENT WITHOUT PENALTIES

NAPTOSA has had a few enquiries from members regarding the possibility of early retirement without penalties. This topic has gained widespread attention following the minister's recent remarks during his Medium-Term Budget Policy Statement Speech. We understand that this issue is of some interest to some educators and public service employees, particularly given the challenges of some working conditions.

While we recognise the urgency and importance of this matter, NAPTOSA must clarify that we are not yet in a position to offer any specific guidance or comment. To date, there has been no formal engagement between labour (unions) and the Department of Public Service and Administration or relevant authorities on the details or implementation of such a measure. Any program or policy related to early retirement would require comprehensive consultation to ensure that the rights and interests of workers are fully protected.

NAPTOSA remains committed to advocating for members' needs and priorities, including fair options for those considering early retirement as well as those remaining behind. We encourage members to exercise patience as we await further information from Government. NAPTOSA will continue to monitor developments closely, and we are prepared to engage in discussions on this topic as soon as an official proposal is presented.

We assure members that any updates or changes will be communicated as it becomes available, through our official channels.

**Mr BL Manuel**

**Executive Director**