

Office
Pretoria

Enquiries
osc@sars.gov.za

Date
2022/05/24

EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDERS

Pretoria Head Office
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Dear Customs and Excise Client

SARS WAGE NEGOTIATIONS DISPUTE AND DECLARED INDUSTRIAL ACTION

This letter serves to inform you that SARS and its recognised trade unions, i.e. National Education Health and Allied Workers Union (NEHAWU) and the Public Servants Association of South Africa (PSA), are in dispute on its 2022/23 wage negotiations process.

The stalemate has led to the CCMA issuing Picketing Rules and the SARS trade unions have issued a notice of industrial action.

It is now confirmed that they will be embarking on strike action from Wednesday, 25 May 2022. It is anticipated that this strike action will include picketing at locations designated in the Picketing Rules. The high impact for traders and travellers will likely be felt at the following ports:

No.	Province	High Impact Expected At
1	Limpopo	Beit Bridge
2		Grobblers Bridge
3	Mpumalanga	Lebombo
4		Oshoek
5	Free State	Maseru
6	Northern Cape	Violsdrift
7	North West	Kopfontein
8	KwaZulu Natal	Golela

SARS has put in place contingency measures to ensure uninterrupted rendering of Customs services, and the protection of infrastructure, officers, and clients. We will ensure that the following capabilities remain available throughout the duration of the anticipated industrial action:

- The processing of declarations will proceed as normal;
- Physical inspections of goods will continue as normal;
- Border operations will proceed as normal with the available staff supported by senior officials deployed from Head Office and the regions. Clients are encouraged to make use of alternative ports should a need arise.

In an endeavour to ensure business continuity, please visit the SARS website regularly for updates. Additional resources have been allocated to the OSC@sars.gov.za mailbox to attend to urgent queries and escalations. The turnaround time (TAT) for OSC escalations will be six hours.

As always, thank you for your support.

Sincerely,



BEYERS THERON

**DIRECTOR: CUSTOMS BORDER OPERATIONS, PORTS OF ENTRY &
CUSTOMS COMPLIANCE**

DATE: 24 MAY 2022