



RESPONSE BY
HONOURABLE IPUMBU SHIIMI, MINISTER OF FINANCE AND
PUBLIC ENTERPRISES,
ON QUESTIONS RAISED BY HON. ELMA J. DIENDA OF PDM.

19 October 2023

Honourable Speaker,

Honourable Members,

I rise to address the question raised by Honourable Elma J. Dienda concerning the re-registration process for public servants and retirees within the ambit of the Public Service Employees Medical Aid Scheme (PSEMAS).

As has been brought to your attention, the PSEMAS is currently undergoing a process of structural reform with the overarching goal of ensuring the sustainability of the Scheme. As part of its administrative purview, the Ministry of Finance and Public Enterprises is diligently executing a series of Short and Medium-Term Reforms. These reforms have been initiated to address the risks identified during internal audits conducted throughout the financial years 2018/2019 and 2019/2020. Notably, among the short-term measures is the re-registration of scheme members and their respective dependents.

The objective of this re-registration initiative is twofold: firstly, it endeavours to tackle the inherent challenges associated with membership management, and secondly, it aims to streamline the overall membership management system of the PSEMAS. It is indeed accurate, as mentioned by the honourable member, that the re-registration process is currently in progress.

Honourable Speaker,

Regarding the query raised about the request for payslips, the underlying rationale is to ensure income verification for spouses. This process is vital in upholding accuracy and transparency when assessing their financial contributions. Furthermore, this request is aligned with a well-established regulation that governs the medical aid membership system. It necessitates the inclusion of the spouse's annual remuneration during the process of registration or designation as a dependent within the system. This harmonization ensures that the system functions in strict adherence to established guidelines and maintains a comprehensive record of each member's financial status. Difference in salary more the N\$ 50 000 p/ly will disqualify the spouse as a dependent.

In closing, I wish to express my gratitude to Honourable Dienda for her very important questions, which serve to further our collective understanding of this crucial matter.

I thank you all for your attention.