



PRESS STATEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 7, 2022

NIB Aims to Resolve Industrial Agreement with PMU

The Board of Directors and Executive Management of The National Insurance Board (NIB) have taken due note of the press release issued by the Public Managers Union (PMU) relative to the outstanding Industrial Agreement between the NIB and the PMU.

While it is not the intention or the desire of NIB to engage in a public quarrel with the PMU, NIB, in so far as it relates to the outstanding Industrial Agreement, feels compelled to respond to the release by the PMU only because it misrepresents NIB's resolve to have the outstanding Industrial Agreement concluded and to address the many organizational inefficiencies at NIB.

The Industrial Agreement which is under negotiation between NIB and the PMU expired December 31st 2019.

Negotiations for a replacement Agreement began in June 2020, with the latest round of discussions between NIB and the PMU held on Tuesday March 1st 2022.

Unfortunately, NIB and the PMU remain at an impasse due to the failure to arrive at an agreed position on two outstanding articles which relate to salary increases and the payment of bonuses to eligible staff members and whether or not the payment of a bonus to staff ought to be linked to an objective and measurable corporate performance metric.

NIB is principally of the view that the payment of bonus ought to be linked to the financial performance of NIB. PMU, on the other hand, is not fully receptive to this view.

Save for these two issues, all other terms and provisions in the Industrial Agreement have been agreed upon.

While NIB and the PMU are at odds over these two issues, NIB is committed to concluding these negotiations in the shortest time possible so as to devote its full attention to addressing the many customer service and operational inefficiencies which have plagued NIB for far too long.

While some of these inefficiencies and delays are in large part due to the inadequacy of its computer system, we are confident that with the continued upgrade of our staff along with the infusion of added talents, we will enhance the processes and operations at NIB and efficiently provide the service and benefits NIB was statutorily established to provide.

Additionally, NIB is seeking to provide more expansive customer service training to improve its overall service delivery to the public and become the benchmark organization in this regard. To bring about the desired improvements, NIB, to the extent that these individuals are resident within, is committed to fully recognizing and utilizing these individuals and will only seek the assistance of qualified and experienced individuals externally when it is absolutely necessary.

NIB is fully committed to completing the outstanding Industrial Agreement and addressing the many inefficiencies which impedes NIB in fulfilling its mandate, and looks forward to the full cooperation and participation of the PMU in these efforts so that we can collectively provide excellent service to the public.

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