## NPSWU STATEMENT ON NURSES DAY

National Public Service Workers Union want to Salute all Nurses in South Africa for their commitment in serving our people despite difficult conditions they find themselves in. Nurses were and still are first line of defence against illness of all kind, in the recent past we saw Nurses standing bravery Saving the life of South African against COVID 19. In serving the life, some lost theirs ,despite of this , nurses stood firmly and never retreated until we defeat this pandemic. In the midst of all this ,nurses are oppressed daily from heartless and brutally Employer who enjoy exploiting servants our people. Despite putting themselves at risk ,trying to save life's, The Employer including Government of the day never appreciated the effort their put . Until now there is no token of appreciation, if any the government came with Austerity budget which continues to put pressure on the same Nurses who are first line of defence.

As if that is not enough, Nurses suffer abuse daily from politicians like MECs who always shift blame of their failure on poor nurses. They always use Nurses as scapegoat of government failure to supply medications and other related needs , failure of operational 24 hour clinics. Most clinics Today don't have backup generators , despite the ongoing load shading, when and if anything goes wrong due to lack of electricity and sometimes providing nursing services in the dark, the same nurses will be blame. Like that is not enough We witness Communities Physical Assaulting nurses in areas like Relela Clinic in limpopo, because communities believe lack of medication is caused by nurses. What is even more shocking is South African council silence on the matter , Department of Health silence is also loud on this matter.

This is the reason National Public Service Workers Union, call for the token of appreciation for nurses who the only thing their own in this country is Debts. NPSWU refuse a notion that Nurses are called essential Workers without Essential Salary. Where the Employer knows their essential when the is work to be done but not essential on a dinner table.

NPSWU call on all Nurses to join it ranks ,because we remain committed to the betterment of their living and working conditions. It's only NPSWU that truly hold aspirations of Nurses. We say We Salute all Nurses, never bow down. One day we shall overcome

Salute