

NEWSLETTER

UNITED NATIONAL TRANSPORT UNION

Pride

Unity

Trust

LABOUR NEWS

VOL 7

JUNE 2026

UNTU NEWSLETTER

NEWS ALERT

Pride. Unity. Trust
Phambili

THE FUTURE BELONGS TO THOSE WHO ORGANISE



“One thing is clear- unionism is not optional, it is essential. The absence of strong unions creates space for exploitation to flourish”

UNTU General Secretary: Cobus van Vuuren



In an era of rapid economic change, job insecurity and widening inequality, the role of trade unions has never been more important. Workers across sectors are facing restructuring, technological shifts, outsourcing, and cheap labour, compounded by a widening unemployment rate. Privatisation, clothed as a private-sector partnerships, has been pushed as the solution, with labour laws being quietly weakened in the name of flexibility. One thing is clear- unionism is not optional- it is essential. The absence of strong unions creates space for exploitation to flourish.

Unionism must go back to basics, to its founding principles, not based on political popularity but simply on representing the best interests of workers in a working world that is regressing. Amid this, UNTU remains apolitical, with our drive focused on representing the working class, whether in the boardroom or on the streets.

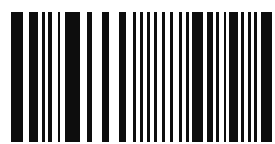
As we expand into new industries, we do so to organise where exploitation is growing, to protect workers before conditions deteriorate further, and to strengthen collective power across the economy. The unionism resistance from the private sector must not deter us, but motivate us to push for recognition in these industries where exploitation driven by profits for executives at the expense of employees is relevant.

Our Rails and Ports industries face the biggest challenges, with reforms at the forefront of the Government’s agenda. The question and priority is for UNTU, how do we protect the livelihoods of our members amid the private sector stronghold pushed by our Government. The world is changing, global instability has become more prevalent, and unionism must be stronger than ever if the working class wants to survive this economic storm.

READ MORE >>

PAGE 1





NEWSLETTER

UNITED NATIONAL TRANSPORT UNION

Pride

Unity

Trust

LABOUR NEWS

VOL 7

JUNE 2026

WHY JOIN UNTU?

Pride. Unity. Trust.

UNTU provides workplace **protection**, trusted **representation** and real **benefits** for members

MEMBER BENEFITS

Collective Bargaining

Representation in collective bargaining and dispute resolution processes, including representation at the Labour Court, subject to the merits and prospects of the case. This is subject to the approval of the Management Committee

Holiday Discounts

10% on holiday bookings made on Gomelo.co.za subject to availability. T&Cs apply. Discounted holiday prices at The Palms Voetplaat Park(formerly UNTU Palms)

Death Benefit & Funeral Cover

UNTU pays out R1 000 to R10 000 to a member's nominee, spouse or estate. This benefit covers a member's spouse, children and stillborn babies. UNTU offers members an extended voluntary funeral cover at discounted rates

Maternity Benefit

UNTU female members receive R1 800 once-off after the birth of their child. (After 12 months' membership) Members have 12 months to claim after the birth of a child. A member may claim once for this benefit

Collective Bargaining



Tertiary Assistance



Holiday Discounts*



Discretionary Fund



Death Benefit & Funeral Cover



Insurance



Maternity Benefit



Excellent discounts



Tyre Related Service Discounts

Get Discounts at Tiger Wheels & Tyre and Tyres & More. Preferential discounts on all products, 20% off all service related products e.g wheel balancing. 2.5% off entire purchase. This is a nation-wide benefit.

Tertiary Assistance

Education assistance based on merit available **ONLY** for members' children for studies at Tertiary institutions. 2026 matriculants qualify

Discretionary Fund

This fund pays out R3 000 to members who go on statutory retirement. This fund is applicable to members who have been with the union for five or more continuous years

Discount on Insurance

Insurance Discounts and Medical Coverage
Enjoy discounts on short-term, long-term, and life insurance through our service provider, offering up to ****50% off**** with Metropolitan (terms and conditions apply). UNTU has collaborated with Old Mutual to present our members with comprehensive long-term insurance options.
Medical Insurance: UNTU members can access medical insurance on a voluntary basis. This benefit is known as MyHealth Plus, which includes Combined Accident and Day-to-Day coverage.

CONTACT US:



ENQUIRIES@UNTU.CO.ZA

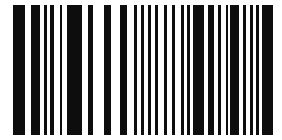


WHATSAPP LINE: 077 606 9705

Canvassing Fee:

A canvassing fee of **R100.00** is paid for every new permanent employee(member) enrolled. An additional **R200.00 bonus** is paid for every ten (10) new members enrolled. **R50.00** is paid for every fixed-term contractor enrolled





NEWSLETTER

UNITED NATIONAL TRANSPORT UNION

Pride

Unity

Trust

LABOUR NEWS

VOL 7

JUNE 2026

UNTU NEWSLETTER

NEWS ALERT

LABOUR CANNOT BE SILENT AMID PSP REFORMS



Picture: General Secretary, Cobus van Vuuren, Vice President Luvuyo Mdyogolo and President Wielligh Meyer

UNTU continues engagements with Transport Minister Barbara Crecy and the Department of Transport on Government's PSP reforms affecting SOEs like Transnet and PRASA. This Government-driven initiative is clearly showing no signs of slowing down. While UNTU remains firmly opposed to privatisation, it is clear that labour cannot afford to be absent from these processes, because if workers are not at the table, they will be on the menu.

UNTU continuously engages with the Government to ensure that it fully understands the impact of these reforms on workers' job security, and the sustainability of our SOEs.

SOEs exist to drive the country's development, create employment and deliver affordable services. SOEs were never intended to be profit-driven. We reject the claim that private-sector-partnerships improves service delivery and that competition improves the affordability of basic services. We have warned that international experiences often show that PSPs weaken accountability, threaten sustainable job creation and often leads to a private sector monopoly. UNTU will continue to engage decisively to ensure the voice of workers is heard and defended in all decisions shaping the future of Transnet and PRASA.

-End

UNTU BEREVAEMENT:



The UNTU family deeply grieves the passing of our late staff member Comrade Dorcas Makgale. Comrade Makgale passed away on 20 April 2026. She served diligently in our Membership Department for the-

past 30 years, and her passing leaves a profound void within the UNTU family. She will be dearly and immensely missed by all who had the privilege of working alongside her.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to all comrades who have recently lost loved ones. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your families during this difficult and painful period. May the Lord grant you comfort, strength and peace as you navigate this time of loss and mourning.

"The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit." — Psalm 34:18



Retirement planning is so much more than catering for your financial circumstances. It requires a plan for your financial portfolio and your life portfolio.

There is no one-size-fits-all solution when it comes to planning adequately for your retirement income; you need a tailored, sustainable plan that takes into account all likely life and financial scenarios.

A sustainable retirement plan may require the combination of retirement income solutions to help you optimise your retirement years.

We partner with Glacier by Sanlam, a leading investment platform that offers an extensive range of options to suit different client requirements. With Glacier, you can access the widest range of leading local and offshore funds for pre and post-retirement investing, all in one place, to customise your investments.

Contact us at **Aquila Wealth BlueStar** to explore the various options available to you to create a personalised retirement income solution that offers the greatest level of flexibility, the required level of security, and that matches your retirement planning needs.



Leon Abrahams

Financial Planner

021 947 5001

082 445 0909

leonabrahams@sanlam4u.co.za



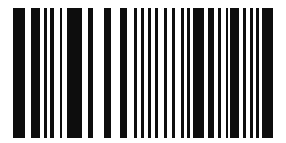
Madlé AbrahamsBcomm (Stell)

InvestmentSpecialist

021 9475001

082 4768359

madle@sanlam4u.co.za



NEWSLETTER

UNITED NATIONAL TRANSPORT UNION

Pride

Unity

Trust

LABOUR NEWS

VOL 7

JUNE 2026

UNTU NEWSLETTER

NEWS ALERT

DOUW DREYER'S 24 YEARS OF SERVICE ON UNTU'S EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

"A leader must be humble, listen carefully, lead by example and never allow themselves to be intimidated,"



Picture: (Right) UNTU President Wielligh Meyer and Executive Councillor Douw Dreyer(Left)

Comrade Douw Dreyer recently celebrated 24 years of service on UNTU's Executive Council, marking a significant milestone in his long commitment to serving Transnet workers. His experience and tact are seen in the steady and considered approach he brings to the Transnet salary/wage negotiation table.

Over the years, he has become a trusted figure during these tough processes. The UNTU negotiation team always seeks his guidance in the most challenging moments. For UNTU that *"Experience is the father of wisdom,"*

Comrade Dreyer's unionism journey began in 1991 when he served as a Trade Union Representative (TUR) at Spoornet, now known as Transnet Freight Rail (TFR), in Kroonstad. In 1992, he was elected as the Branch Secretary, a nod to his leadership capabilities.

He later served as Branch Chairperson in 1998 before moving to Transnet Pipelines. In 1999, he was appointed as a full-time union representative (FTUR) in Transnet Pipelines. His commitment and consistency led to his election to the Executive Council, where he has now served five terms.



Picture: (left) Douw Dreyer and DGS Yandiswa Menziwa in the Transnet 2025 salary/wage negotiations

He attributes his continued motivation through the years to his deep passion for representing and winning cases on behalf of our members. Negotiating a better livable salary for employees also ranks up high on his list.

Among the many moments in his tenure, he notes the 2025 Transnet salary/wage negotiations as a highlight.

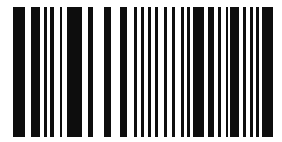
Despite his many years of service, Comrade Dreyer has remained grounded in his approach, consistently placing the interests of members first. This focus has shaped both his leadership style and the impact he has had within the union.

"I would like to be remembered for always putting the members' interests first and always trying to get the best for them," Comrade Dreyer,"

-End

[READ MORE](#)





NEWSLETTER

UNITED NATIONAL TRANSPORT UNION

Pride

Unity

Trust

LABOUR NEWS

VOL 7

JUNE 2026

UNTU NEWSLETTER



SUCCESS STORIES

NEWS ALERT

Pride. Unit. Trust.
Phambili

UNTU: DISPUTE RESOLUTION



2026

UNTU member awarded R740 991.70 by TBC

UNTU VICTORY AT TRANSNET BARGAINING COUNCIL.
An UNTU Executive Councillor represented a member in an Arbitration at the Transnet Bargaining Council (TBC). UNTU successfully represented our member, and the TBC found that the respondent, Transnet (SOC) Ltd, must pay the applicant an amount of R740 991.70 (R74099.17 x 10 months = R740 991.70), less applicable statutory deductions, not later than 01 April 2026. While Transnet is reviewing this, UNTU is committed to challenging this review and coming out victorious.
Phambili UNTU



MEMBER PRIMARY BENEFIT:

Did you know that joining UNTU offers some incredible benefits? One of the top advantages is Collective Bargaining, which involves negotiations between employers and a group of employees to reach agreements on things like salaries, working conditions, and benefits. In addition, Labour Unions are known for representing workers in legal cases, disciplinary hearings, arbitration, and conciliation proceedings. UNTU is an expert in this area, with a team of dedicated officials including Executive Councillors, Deputy General Secretaries, FTURs, and TURs. Thanks to their efforts, UNTU has successfully secured numerous victories on behalf of our members.



2025

UNTU member awarded R879 274.20 by TBC

UNTU VICTORY AT THE TRANSNET BARGAINING COUNCIL
An UNTU Executive Councillor successfully represented a member employed by Transnet at the Transnet Bargaining Council (TBC). The TBC ruled that the dismissal was both substantively and procedurally unfair. As a result, Transnet Freight Rail was ordered to compensate the member R879,274.20 and reinstate them. **PHAMBILI UNTU!**



2025

UNTU member awarded R 347 423.64 in back payment

UNTU VICTORY AT THE TRANSNET BARGAINING COUNCIL
The Transnet Bargaining Council (TBC) ruled that an UNTU member was substantively unfairly dismissed by Transnet Freight Rail. The member was reinstated, and the employer was ordered to pay backpay amounting to R347,423.64, subject to lawful deductions.
PHAMBILI UNTU!



JOIN NOW



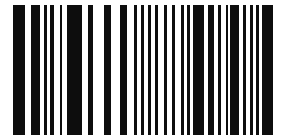
2025

UNTU member awarded R50 833 00 by TBC

UNTU VICTORY AT THE TRANSNET BARGAINING COUNCIL
The Transnet Bargaining Council (TBC) ruled in favour of an UNTU member, finding that although the dismissal was substantively fair, it was procedurally unfair. As a result, the member was reinstated, and Transnet was ordered to pay R50,833.00 within 21 days of receiving the award.
PHAMBILI UNTU!

CONTACT US
Email: enquiries@untu.co.za
WhatsApp Line: 077 606 9705
Tel: 011 728 0120





NEWSLETTER

UNITED NATIONAL TRANSPORT UNION

Pride

Unity

Trust

LABOUR NEWS

VOL 7

JUNE 2026

UNTU NEWSLETTER

NEWS ALERT



THE LATE DORCAS MAKGALE CELEBRATES 30 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE



Picture: (Left) UNTU President, Wielligh Meyer, Staff Dorcas Makgale and Vice President, Luvuyo Mdyogolo

UNTU LONG SERVICE AWARDS

UNTU celebrated the long-service award of our late staff member, Dorcas Makgale. Comrade Makgale, who served in the UNTU Membership Department, has reached an incredible milestone of 30 years of dedicated and outstanding service to our constituency.

Her long-service award was conferred by UNTU President Wielligh Meyer and Vice President Luvuyo Mdyogolo during a ceremony attended by her fellow colleagues at our Head Office. Comrade Dorcas passed away in April 2026. May her soul rest in eternal peace,

UNTU LONG SERVICE AWARDS

UNTU celebrated the long-service award of our Deputy General Secretary, John Pereira, in recognition of an incredible 15 years of dedicated service to our constituency.

The award was presented by UNTU President Wielligh Meyer and Vice President Luvuyo Mdyogolo during a special ceremony held at our Head Office, attended by fellow colleagues.

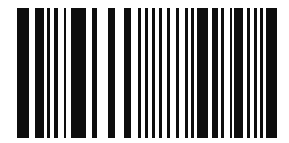
Congratulations, Comrade John

[READ MORE](#)



Picture: (left) President Wielligh Meyer, Deputy General Secretary, John Pereira and Vice President, Luvuyo Mdyogolo





NEWSLETTER

UNITED NATIONAL TRANSPORT UNION

Pride

Unity

Trust

LABOUR NEWS

VOL 7

JUNE 2026

UNTU NEWSLETTER

NEWS ALERT

JOHN PEREIRA CELEBRATES 15 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE

"I knew that once I joined UNTU, there was no way back. It is difficult to think that I would be able to do anything else."

Deputy General Secretary John Pereira's journey began 15 years ago, and to this day, he says he still cannot imagine doing anything else, a reflection of the zeal and passion he continues to bring to his role. Comrade Pereira says he counts himself fortunate to have learnt from some of the best and most experienced unionists.

"I was lucky enough to be trained by some of the best unionists that I have ever known. People like Louis Brockett, Steve Harris, Chris de Vos (Snr) and even Neels Haasbroek. I will forever be grateful for the knowledge and experiences they shared with me," he said.

Known for his sense of humour, Comrade Pereira joked that his pension has helped keep him motivated for over a decade. However, at the heart of it all is the difference he is able to make in the lives and working environment of UNTU members. While every job comes with both highs and lows, Comrade Pereira says the Bible verses that resonate with him when facing challenges are Philippians 4:13, *"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me,"* and Proverbs 26:4, *"Do not answer a fool according to his folly, or you yourself will be just like him."*

He says one of the most difficult parts of his job is accepting defeat, especially when representing a member in a case.

"Any representative will know that feeling that I am referring to, and if you do not accept that you were defeated, it will eat you from the inside out as you will be trying to understand where it went wrong. You will be thinking of that case day and night. You need to overcome those feelings and look forward to the new challenge. You cannot win them all," he added.



Picture: Deputy General Secretary, John Pereira and our late Staff member, Dorcas Makgale

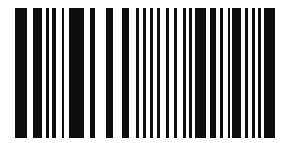
However, he recognises that this forms part of the job and believes that good leadership is rooted in honesty, reflecting UNTU's values of Pride. Unity. Trust.

"In the labour movement, honesty is everything. Always be honest in your response to members. Once you have betrayed that trust, members will never respect you. I have done this throughout my career and truly believe that it has stood me in good stead over the years," he added.

Comrade Pereira is showing no signs of slowing down and remains committed to seeing UNTU become the only union within Transnet and PRASA.

-END

READ MORE >>



NEWSLETTER

UNITED NATIONAL TRANSPORT UNION

Pride

Unity

Trust

LABOUR NEWS

VOL 7

JUNE 2026

UNTU NEWSLETTER

NEWS ALERT

GET TO KNOW: UNTU DEPUTY GENERAL SECRETARY: ADV MANDISA MBATHA

“I always lean towards transformative leadership.”

The United National Transport Union welcomed Deputy General Secretary: Legal, Advocate Mandisa Mbatha, this year. Her appointment forms part of our strategy to ensure functional and effective legal services.

Deputy General Secretary, Advocate Mandisa Mbatha, was born and bred in the culturally vibrant KwaZulu-Natal before she decided to relocate to Gauteng- the economic hub of the country. Growing up in a large but close-knit family shaped her love for community and the way she communicates with the world.

She lives by what she calls the three Q's in isiZulu: *“Qala, Qhubeka, Qeda,”* loosely translated as *“start, continue and complete what you have started,”*. These three Q's will come in handy in the labour space, which values movement, progress and, most importantly, finishing what has been started. While Advocate Mbatha has spent some time as an entrepreneur she says that the labour space has always been her first love.



“Labour has always been my first love. Having the opportunity to contribute on a wider scale towards accessibility within the labour space is a dream come true. In a country like South Africa, many people find themselves on the fringes of the legal system, unable to access assistance when the need arises,” she said.

Advocate Mbatha added that her holistic experience in arbitration, negotiations, mediation and overall Legal services will bring value to UNTU through an all-rounded approach to dispute resolution.

She says strengthening legal capacity lies in building a foundational legal strategy that creates a supportive and conducive environment for members.

“I endeavour to gain an in-depth knowledge and understanding of the challenges faced by our members in order to always ensure that the legal strategy speaks to addressing our members' challenges in the workplace,” she added.

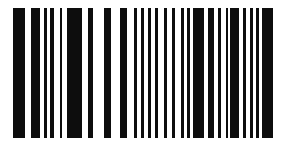
Focusing on UNTU's strength in legal matters, Advocate Mbatha said:

“In addition to this, it is my goal to strengthen the precedent footprint of UNTU in the resolution of disputes,” she added.

Comrade Mbatha's passions also lie in conflict resolution, a tool she believes is underutilised in resolving legal disputes.

“In so much as litigation has its advantages, it is not always the best step. Conflict resolution processes allow parties to retain ownership of the dispute, the decision and how it affects them,” she added.

-END



NEWSLETTER

UNITED NATIONAL TRANSPORT UNION

Pride

Unity

Trust

LABOUR NEWS

VOL 7

JUNE 2026

UNTU NEWSLETTER

NEWS ALERT

GET TO KNOW: UNTU DEPUTY GENERAL SECRETARY: NKOSINATHI BENCE

“My passion for unionism is rooted in my deep love for people and my commitment to social justice”

The United National Transport Union welcomed Deputy General Secretary Nkosinathi Bence back to the UNTU family this year, bringing with him a deep passion for people, justice and service. Born and raised in Idutywa in the Eastern Cape, Comrade Bence says his upbringing played a defining role in shaping the values that continue to guide him today.

“My upbringing played a significant role in shaping my values of discipline, resilience, and service to others,” he said.

His passion for leadership and service began early. While still at school, he was elected Chairperson of the Student Representative Council (SRC) and was also one of the founding members of the Student Christian Movement, where he mobilised and guided learners towards faith-based-values and positive living.

His activism, deeply rooted in faith has continued beyond his schooling years.



“After completing high school in 1997, I continued my leadership path when I was elected as Branch Chairperson of SANCO in Makhaza Khayelitsha (Sec 41) where I further developed my union and leadership skills,” he added.

For Comrade Bence, unionism is deeply rooted in his love for people and his commitment to social justice.

“I believe strongly in uplifting others and ensuring that no individual suffers injustice or neglect,” he added.

That sense of service also extends beyond labour spaces. In addition to his union work, Comrade Bence is an ordained Apostle and leads a church in Cape Town known as Jesus Christ Community Ministries for South Africa.

Many UNTU members will recall Comrade Bence from his previous tenure as the union’s organiser in Cape Town. He says his experience within the union has equipped him with valuable knowledge and practical skills, giving him confidence in his new role.

“Over the years, I have actively participated in various bargaining forums across different sectors, which has strengthened my ability to negotiate effectively on behalf of our members. He said.

Additionally, Comrade Bence said the training he received through UTATU will come in handy as he navigates this new role.

“UTATU training has contributed to my growth as a leader and a unionist,” he added.

-END