

# NATIONAL TEXTILE BARGAINING COUNCIL

Tel: (031) 307 1860 / 1925  
Fax: (031) 305 8447  
Email: [secretary@ntbc.org.za](mailto:secretary@ntbc.org.za)

*All correspondence to be addressed to:*  
P O BOX 18414  
DALBRIDGE, 4014  
[www.ntbc.org.za](http://www.ntbc.org.za)

3<sup>rd</sup> FLOOR JAMES BOLTON HALL, 127 MAGWAZA MAPHALALA STREET (GALE STREET), UMBILO, 4001

## **CIRCULAR 10/2020 COVID-19 UIF**

27 April 2020

**ATTENTION: ALL TEXTILE COMPANIES  
ALL COVID-19 SUB-CLAUSE 2.3 COMPANIES**

### **INDUSTRY CIRCULAR: UPDATE ON UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE FUND (UIF) DEVELOPMENTS AND GUIDANCE TO COMPANIES**

This industry circular provides an update to the industry of developments relating to the implementation of the textile bargaining council's COVID-19 Lockdown Collective agreement, since our last circular 08/2020, dated 25 April 2020.

#### **Unemployment Insurance Fund (UIF) COVID-19 claims**

On Saturday 25 April 2020, the National Textile Bargaining Council NTBC received some funds from the UIF, via the clothing bargaining council's dedicated bank account.

These funds were deposited into the NTBC's dedicated COVID-19 Lockdown Collective Agreement bank account, which bank account had been duly activated on 24 April 2020, as per the provision of sub-clause 3.3 of the mentioned collective agreement.

The clothing bargaining council had received an amount of R4.6m on Friday 24 April 2020, part of which was for textile workers.

The amount received by the NTBC was a total of R3 087 558.99, for the textile bargaining council component of our UIF claim. A total of R99 420.40 of that amount are for 2 clothing sector companies and farming operations, and which had been incorrectly transferred to us, as the clothing bargaining council had assumed that it was textile operations.

From this amount of R3 087 558.99, a total amount of R2 988 137.84 was distributed to 22 textile and sub-clause 2.3 companies, covering 1 623 employees, on the same day that it had been received from the clothing bargaining council (i.e., on Saturday 25 April 2020).

The list of textile companies to which the NTBC had distributed the funds, are as follows:

- 1 ASTRO LINEN
- 2 BEIER DRAWTEX HEALTHCARE
- 3 BEIER-ALBANY & CO WAGES
- 4 BKB LTD
- 5 CONSUMER MOTIVATION
- 6 DA GAMA TEXTILES

- 7 FIBERTEX SA
- 8 GELVENOR CONSOLIDATED FABRIKS PTY LTD
- 9 MAYTEX CARDING
- 10 MOZIMAX PTY LTD
- 11 NARROWTEX
- 12 PAPILOW
- 13 PRILLA 2000
- 14 QUILTING INNOVATIONS
- 15 SEN LI DA CHEMICAL FIBRE
- 16 SPEED METAL ZIPPER
- 17 SPILO TECHNICAL TEXTILES
- 18 STAPOPS TRADING
- 19 STRETCHTENTS INTERNATIONAL
- 20 WEBBING PRODUCTS
- 21 WINELANDS TEXTILES PTY LTD
- 22 ALNET PTY LTD

In addition to the funds which we had distributed to the above companies, we have also sent them the actual schedules with names of workers and the amounts due to them, as had been received from the UIF

The funds which were distributed to the 22 companies on Saturday 25 April 2020, must accordingly be paid over to employees as soon as possible, if your company has not yet done so.

Despite all the difficulties which we are currently experiencing with the UIF, we note that the textile industry is the second full industry after the clothing industry which has to date received any UIF claim payments.

Since Saturday 25 April 2020, we have received no further funds from the UIF.

We continue to engage with the UIF regarding this matter.

However, we remind companies to keep a clear and verifiable record of all UIF income and disbursements, as the Agreement with the UIF requires that we need to conduct a proper audit within a few weeks after the lockdown period had ended.

### **Employees not registered with the UIF**

We advise that the UIF has reported to us that there are some employees for whom we had submitted UIF COVID-19 TERS claims, but who are not registered with the UIF.

This is unfortunately a significant part of the cause of the delays in the processing by government of our COVID-19 TERS UIF claims.

We remind all companies that it is the employer's responsibility to ensure that their employees are registered with the UIF.

We request that employers take such steps as may be necessary to ensure that all their employees are registered with the UIF.

This will be a significant step forward to help resolve the delays in the processing of our UIF claims.

Our bargaining council staff will be in touch with those companies for which we have received a report from the UIF that indicates which employees are not registered with the UIF.

### **Payment for public holidays**

We have received some queries from employees and some employers about how the payment of public holiday's which fall during the lockdown period should be treated.

For the sake of absolute clarity, we confirm that the following public holidays have already occurred during the current COVID-19 lockdown period:

Friday, 10 April 2020 (Easter Friday), and  
Monday 13 April 2020 (Easter Monday), and  
Monday 27 April 2020 (Freedom Day).

However, we clarify that employers were required to pay for the Easter public holidays already.

We trust that employers have already paid their employees for Easter Friday and Easter Monday.

However, if there are still employers who have not yet paid their employees for the Easter Friday and Easter Monday public holidays, we urge you to do so as soon as possible.

On receipt of any further funds from UIF into the bargaining council's COVID-19 dedicated bank account which has been opened as per sub-clause 3.3 of our COVID-19 Lockdown Agreement, such funds will immediately be transmitted to qualifying companies which, in turn, are required to transmit it to the employees via the normal salary payment system, as soon as possible after receipt.

### **Other**

We shall continue to issue regular information circulars to the industry in order to provide you with the latest updated information, as developments unfold.

We request the trade union- and employer parties to keep their constituencies regularly briefed and updated.

Once again, the signatory parties to the bargaining council's COVID-19 Lockdown Agreement extend their appreciation for your kind support and understanding during this very difficult period in our industry and in our country.

We recognise that our COVID-19 Lockdown Collective Agreement is historically and globally unique (i.e., it is the only the second one of its kind in the whole world, after the clothing industry's similar such collective agreement).

This means that it is not perfect, and there will of course in consequence be some practical implementation hitches from time to time.

We remain determined and resolute to resolve the implementation hitches as we proceed in the period ahead.

Yours Sincerely  
National Textile Bargaining Council

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Hans Brouwer', written in a cursive style.

Hans Brouwer  
Chairperson

(sent electronically)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Alvan Pillay', written in a cursive style.

Alvan Pillay  
Secretary