

# Taking COSATU Today Forward

*'Whoever sides with the revolutionary people in deed as well as in word is a revolutionary in the full sense'-*

Mao



## Our side of the story 30 August 2023

***“Build Working Class Unity  
for Economic Liberation  
towards Socialism”***

***Organize at every workplace and demand  
Personal Protective Equipment Now!***

***Defend Jobs Now!***

***Join COSATU NOW!***

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**Workers'**

**Parliament-**

**Back2Basics**

# **COSATU scheduled to hold a post ordinary Central Executive Committee (CEC) meeting media briefing tomorrow**

**Matthew Parks, COSATU Acting National Spokesperson & Parliamentary Coordinator, 29 August 2023**

The Congress of South African Trade Unions is currently convening its ordinary three-day Central Executive Committee (CEC) meeting from the 28th to the 30th of August 2023, to discuss organisational, political, and socio-economic issues affecting workers and the working class in general.

The meeting will be followed by the usual media briefing to communicate the meeting outcomes.

The details of the media briefing are as follows:

- **Date** : **Thursday, 31 August 2023**
- **Time** : **11h00**
- **Venue** : **COSATU House, 110 Jorissen Street, Braamfontein.**

All members of the media are invited to the briefing.

## **Issued by COSATU**

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# **South Africa**

# President Cyril Ramaphosa meets Chairpersons and Chief Executives of State-Owned Enterprises

29 Aug 2023

President Ramaphosa meets with chairpersons and chief executives of state-owned enterprises

President Cyril Ramaphosa today, 29 August 2023, met with the chairpersons and chief executives of strategic state-owned enterprises (SOEs) at the Union Buildings to discuss the implementation of measures to stabilize their financial and operational performance and harness their economic potential.

Government has, since 2018, embarked on a process of reform to address the legacy of state capture in SOEs, including through the appointment of capable leadership, the recovery of stolen assets and the pursuit of those responsible for perpetrating acts of corruption. In addition, as part of Operation Vulindlela, fundamental reforms are being implemented in the energy, logistics and water sectors to address structural challenges and reposition SOEs for the future.

President Ramaphosa called on the management and boards of SOEs to accelerate this reform agenda and fulfil their developmental mandate. He emphasized the importance of SOEs, as strategic national assets, in driving inclusive growth, investing in infrastructure, and creating jobs.

The meeting received a report from the Presidential State Owned Enterprises Council (PSEC), which was appointed by the President in 2020 to advise government on the revitalisation and repurposing of strategic SOEs.

Since its establishment, the Council has undertaken in-depth analyses at 21 SOEs to inform its recommendations. It has proposed changes to the governance framework and shareholder ownership model to enhance oversight, separate the ownership, policy and regulatory functions of the state, and leverage the combined balance sheet of SOEs.

In addition, the National Treasury provided an update on its review of the procurement system to implement the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry into State Capture while enabling SOEs to operate in an efficient and competitive manner. Legislative and regulatory reforms are underway to strike an effective balance between preventing corruption and abuse and allowing innovation, agility and responsiveness in procurement.

President Ramaphosa said: “It is quite clear that the success of our economic recovery relies on the effective functioning of state-owned entities. We are implementing reforms to ensure that SOEs are able to adapt to new economic conditions, including rapid developments in technology, their respective operating

environments and changing global trends, and to serve the country well into the future.”

President Ramaphosa will continue to prioritise the turnaround of South Africa’s SOEs in order to drive economic growth and transformation.

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Issued by: [The Presidency](#)

# International- Solidarity

## HTS Union in Uganda receives UNI Global Union’s Breaking Through Award

**28 AUGUST 2023**

HTS Union in Uganda has been awarded the Breaking Through Award by UNI Global Union, recognizing its successful organizing at French retailing giant Carrefour. Upon receiving the award on behalf of HTS, **union leader Jane Katsube** said:

*“There were several challenges during this process like resistance from management; delay to get feedback from decision makers who are based in Dubai; and intimidation of workers; among others, but each one of them has only strengthened us and made us a strong union today in Uganda and Africa. “Winning this award would not have been possible without the support of UNI, who have supported us through organizing trainings, negotiation skills and financial support through its Solidarity Project Fund. This has helped us organize members and achieve a collective bargaining agreement with Carrefour.”*

The Carrefour organizing campaign was also supported by the FNV Handel of the Netherlands. Since Carrefour’s launch in Uganda in December 2019, it has expanded to seven stores and employs over 500 people. HTS Union has organized 300 of these workers and, in April 2023, signed a collective bargaining agreement that improves terms of employment. “HTS’s success shows how innovative organizing and perseverance can build on a global agreement to improve conditions for workers,” said **Christy Hoffman, General Secretary of UNI Global Union**. “The

union is proof that workers can win even in difficult circumstances, and we are honoured to give this inspiring union the Breaking Through Award.” The union’s efforts were helped by a global agreement between Carrefour and UNI Global Union, which promotes workers’ rights to form unions. UNI Global Union’s Breaking Through Award is given annually to unions and worker groups for excellence in organizing. Other recipients this year include Jobs with Justice (USA), UNIPHIN (Nepal), and Finnish unions.

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**Norman Mampane** (Shopsteward Editor)

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