

24 NOVEMBER 2008

MEMBER ORGANISATION CIRCULAR NO. 162/08.

To all Member Organisations

WORLD AIDS DAY: 01 DECEMBER 2008

Please be advised that the South African National Aids Council (SANAC) is coordinating a national event to mark World Aids Day under the theme “**Leadership, Unity and Action**”, which will be projected as a joint initiative between NEDLAC and SANAC.

SANAC proposed that all South Africans observe a moment of silence at 12 midday followed by 15 minutes of focus on HIV and AIDS in all workplaces in South Africa on 01 December 2008, World Aids Day. This will be preceded by organised provincial activities in the build up to World Aids Day and beyond.

All parties agreed in principle to the call to observe a moment of silence and the proposed 15 minutes focus and discussions on HIV and AIDS in the workplace. Business did however place on record that it may not be possible to bind all businesses. It was further reiterated that not all businesses may be in the position to carry out the initiative at the proposed time of 12 midday; hence a measure of flexibility on the proposed time, allowing workplaces to negotiate mutually agreeable times in accordance with their operational requirements was stipulated.

Business is urged to consider the above joint initiative and to develop programmes in the workplace for the 01 December 2008. To this extent, please find attached hereto, a copy of a document detailing “key messages for the launch of the red ribbon month and world Aids Day, 01 December 2008” for your perusal. The information contained herein will certainly be useful in developing appropriate programmes for the workplace focus for 01 December 2008.

Business is hereby called upon to strengthen its commitment in the fight against HIV and AIDS. It is zero tolerance to new infections, HIV related deaths, mother to child transmission and discrimination and stigma.

REGARDS

V HARBHAJAN
DIRECTOR: SOCIAL POLICY

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