



Food and Allied Workers Union (FAWU)

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OFFICE OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY

SOUTH AFRICAN BREWERIES CUTTING JOBS FOR PAYING LOYALTY TO USA

03rd APRIL 2024

The Food and Allied Workers' Union (FAWU) has been approached by South African Breweries to dismiss its over 400 for purposes of aligning itself with the global framework. SAB employs about 5 400 employees.

The larger part of the reasons why jobs are cut in South Africa is that SAB is aligning itself with the global structure which is an alignment with the American framework.

FAWU is vehemently opposed to this retrenchment. We do not agree for a company operating in South Africa appeasing imperialist forces so that our country becomes the face of America and in the process, workers lose jobs.

It does not make sense that a South African base company should take instructions from international communities to run its entity by contributing to unemployment.

SAB must appreciate the fact that it operates within South Africa where the country has Labour Laws that by their existence are designed to avoid job losses. SAB has never invited FAWU when a decision was made by USA to restructure SAB for purposes of bilateral engagement processes to exchange minds in order to avoid dismissals. We believe we have brains that can be shared than SAB subjecting us into a process that leads to jobs losses.

SAB has also never had any interest to have followed any other initiatives of avoiding job losses. This again is expected to be followed by any South African company before contemplating to retrench workers.

What is extremely disturbing, is that SAB dismiss workers ever year, as far back as 2020, they have been approaching FAWU for restructuring while claiming to be following the

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global framework. This global framework is changing almost every year, and no one has information of its ultimate structure. This gives a clear indication that this is not about restructuring but it is about collapsing decent jobs.

SAB is not only taking decision of dismissing workers but also exploiting workers by subjecting them into another process of transferring existing jobs from SAB to other companies that offer way less than what SAB offers, the purpose is to get rid of members because as they are a cost which is an approach of maximising profit at the expense of labour. The member transferred are working within the same SAB premises yet reporting to a different employer.

Currently, South Africa is the face of poverty and unemployment of over 11,7 million people while SAB is not anywhere near being careful about these catastrophic crises in its relations with the workers by following means to avoid further unemployment.

FAWU demands SAB to do the following.

1. Insource workers who are facing transfer to less paying companies.
2. Withdraw retrenchment.
3. Meaningfully hold bilateral engagement process with FAWU excluding the process of retrenching workers on restructuring issues to avoid job losses.

For more information, please contact the General Secretary, Mayoyo Mngomezulu on 082 440 4039 or at mngomezulu.mayoyo@fawu.org.za or the Deputy General Secretary, Vuka Chonco on 082 499 5854 or vuka.chonco@fawu.org.za

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