



Food & Allied Workers Union (FAWU)

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MEDIA RELEASE

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FAWU APPALLED BY HORROR EXPLOSION AT NOVA FEEDS IN MALMESBURY

The Food and Allied Workers' Union (F.A.W.U.) is abhorred by the horrific explosion at Nova Feeds factory yesterday afternoon in Malmesbury that caused the death of one of its employees and hospitalised two others. FAWU sends its condolences and heartfelt sympathy to the victim's family, friends and colleagues and wishes a speedy recovery to those still in hospital.

We urge the Department of Labour to speedily and thoroughly investigate the fatal incident. The explosion is incomprehensible according to the contents of the notice sent out by the company. While we note the company called upon an independent person to investigate the incident it is imperative that the Department of Labour should do its own investigation. We hope that the relevant Health and Safety regulations were strictly adhered to because our members' safety are our utmost concern. This horrible explosion just serves to highlight the importance of health and safety committees at workplaces to prevent similar accidents and the loss of lives.

FAWU organises the majority of employees at this particular Malmesbury factory as well as at other plants across the country. We call upon the company to offer counselling to fellow employees who have been affected by the unexpected loss of life and injuries to others. We fervently await the outcome of the investigation to reveal the cause of the incident.

Please call General Secretary Mayoyo Mngomezulu – 082 440 4039, Deputy General Secretary Vuka Chonco - 082 499 5854 or alternatively the Western Cape Provincial Secretary Zolani Mbanjwa on 082 494 7940.