
GENERAL NOTICES ALGEMENE KENNISGEWINGS

NOTICE 660 OF 2014

INTRODUCTION

1. The Defence Force Service Commission makes recommendations to the Minister on policies in respect of conditions of service in terms of section 62B(1)(b) of the Defence Act, 2002 as amended. These recommendations are published in the Gazette in accordance with section 62H(4) of the Defence Act, 2002, as amended

Policy on Awarding of Death Benefits to Beneficiaries of Members/Employees Who Pass Away while Deployed in Internal or External Operations for which no International Compensation is paid.

2. On 8 November 2013 the Defence Force Service Commission was briefed by the Director Human Resource Service Systems on the Interim Implementation Instruction on Death Benefits to Beneficiaries of Members/Employees Who Pass Away while Deployed in Internal or External Operations for which no International Compensation is paid. The Defence Force Service Commission submitted its first Report on the matter to the Honourable Minister on 20 December 2013, also indicating that it will work with the Department to have the final Policy approved by the end of Financial Year 2014/15, as required by the Department.
3. The providing of inputs into a policy being developed by the Department to provide death benefits to the beneficiaries of South African National Defence Force members who pass on during active service, whilst being deployed internally or externally. The Honourable Minister referred to the vast discrepancies in death benefits being paid by the United Nations to United Nations deployed members, compared to what was currently being paid by the South African National Defence Force and the challenges created after South African National Defence Force members fell in action in the Central African Republic. The Honourable Minister ordered the payment of a lump sum of R 200 000 to the beneficiaries of each of the fallen deployed members, having consulted with National Treasury. The Honourable Minister added that the African Union was seized with establishing a rapid deployment force and, hence, the matter of this policy must be finalised before the end of the current calendar year.