



**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE AND ADMINISTRATION
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

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**TO ALL HEADS OF NATIONAL AND PROVINCIAL DEPARTMENTS AND
ORGANISATIONAL COMPONENTS**

INTERRUPTION OF MATERNITY LEAVE

1. Emanating from various requests received from departments with regard to the interruption of maternity leave, the Minister for the Public Service and Administration has made a determination that, Heads of Departments may consider the interruption of maternity leave, on the following conditions -
 - 1.1 Maternity leave may be interrupted if -
 - (a) the baby is born prematurely and is hospitalised during maternity leave.
 - (b) the baby becomes ill and is hospitalised for a period longer than a month during the maternity leave.
 - 1.2 The employee may in terms of paragraph 13.2 of the Directive on Leave of Absence in the Public Service, for at least six weeks after the birth, not commence with normal official duty unless an attending practitioner certifies that she is fit to do so.
 - 1.3 If an employee referred to in paragraph 1.1 above, choose to interrupt her maternity leave and fail to return to work after six weeks, such a period must be covered with annual leave or unpaid leave if she does not have enough annual leave available.


DIRECTOR-GENERAL

AIDS is a deadly reality. We are individually responsible to prevent the spread of AIDS

