



Association wants labour broking regulated
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The Confederation of Associations in the Private Employment Sector (CAPES) says it wants to talk to government and organised labour about regulating the labour broking industry. A consultant for CAPES, John Botha, says there are 'bad eggs' in the sector, but they're willing to be regulated so that these labour brokers can be ousted.

He says the concept of labour broking is accepted internationally when looking at the International Labour Organisation (ILO), which is who they are accountable to.

Botha says the ILO has dealt with the issue but has not taken a stance of banning the practice of labour brokers. Later on this month in Geneva a conference will be held where talks will centre on how labour brokers can do public/private partnerships to further enhance the socio-economic conditions. He says if a reputable organization such as the ILO, which is the ultimate institution in respect of labour rights, doesn't want to ban labour brokers, how could others institution be calling for something different.

Meanwhile, Labour Minister Membathisi Mdladlana, has re-iterated his position that there's no legal basis for labour brokers to exist in the country's laws. Mdladlana was reacting to a joint call by the Democratic Alliance (DA) and the Congress of the People (COPE) for the regulation of labour brokers rather than a total ban of the sector. Mdladlana says this call is a clear indication that the parties do not have a clue of what labour broking is all about and the extent to which workers are abused because of the practice. He's described the system as a form of human trafficking.

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