



**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA
GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES PENSION FUND**

1 September 2011

Dear valued pensioner,

Replacing Life Certificates with an Auto-Life Verification (ALV) system from 1 October 2011

The Government Employees Pension Fund's (GEPF) Board of Trustees has endorsed the replacement of the manual issuing of Life Certificates to pensioners residing in South Africa with an automatic update of the life status with effect from 1 October 2011. This is in line with the GEPF's mission of ensuring timely and efficient delivery of benefits.

The new system will be called Auto-Life Verification and will validate a pensioner's life status in conjunction with the South African Department of Home Affairs (DHA). Pensioners who are in possession of a valid South African identity document and who also reside within South Africa on a full time basis will no longer receive a Life Certificate from the GEPF. This means that these pensioners will not be required to physically visit a Commissioner of Oaths to confirm their life status in order to continue receiving their monthly annuity.

Pensioners residing outside of the borders of South Africa, as well as those whose status cannot be verified with the Department of Home Affairs will receive the new paper-based Life Verification form which still needs to be completed and certified by a Commissioner of Oaths as per the current Life Certificate process. All pensioners/annuitants receiving the new Life Verification form will only receive one form per annum, regardless of the number of benefits they receive.

All Life Certificates issued and received by pensioners before 1 October 2011 (prior to the introduction of the new ALV system) must still be returned to the GEPF for activation and continuation of annuity payments before the date specified on each Life Certificate. Failure to do so may result in annuity payments being suspended.

For any queries, please contact the GEPF's toll free Call Centre on 0800 117 669 or visit your nearest GEPF office.

Yours sincerely,

Phineas Tjie
Chief Executive Officer
Government Pensions Administration Agency (GPAA)
(Administering pensions on behalf of the GEPF)