8. Early access to retirement savings

The Minister of Finance and National Treasury earlier in the year indicated that discussions are underway on allowing early access to retirement savings. The Minister of Finance in his Medium Term Budget Policy Statement Speech on 11 November 2021 said the following in this regard:

"On retirement reforms, we are proposing measures to boost household savings by increasing preservation before retirement and to increase flexibility through partial access to retirement funds through a "two-pot" system. In terms of this system, individuals would be able to access contributions to the one pot, while contributions to the other pot would be saved until retirement.

These measures would require legislative changes and further consultation. Limited withdrawals would also depend on affordability and liquidity of funds. National Treasury will shortly publish a discussion document on the details of this proposal to obtain inputs before further announcements are made in the 2022 Budget."

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