



MEDIA STATEMENT

15 November 2012

LEGALITY OF LICENSES AND OTHER OPERATIONAL TRANSACTIONS ISSUED AND/OR MADE BY THE SACAA

Media statement
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For immediate release

Midrand – The South African Civil Aviation Authority is a government agency tasked with regulating the civil aviation industry in this country. According to the Civil Aviation Act No. 13 of 2009 which came into effect in March 2010, certain powers, functions and duties are entrusted to the SACAA. The area of responsibility of the SACAA, amongst others, is primarily in relation to civil aviation safety and security. In terms of the Act, the duty to appoint the head of the regulator resides with the Minister of Transport.

The SACAA was previously and is currently under the leadership of an officially appointed Acting Director as dictated by the Act and as far as we are aware, all business conducted by the current and previous Acting Directors was done so on the strength of such appointments and is, therefore, legal. It is for this reason that we dispute claims that imply or question the validity of the licences issued by the SACAA from January 2012 until 29 October 2012. The SACAA, therefore, confirms that all aviation personnel licences that were issued during this period and currently in circulation are valid based on the fact they have been issued and approved by a lawfully appointed acting Director of Civil Aviation.

Aviation safety and security remains the priority of the regulator and we will continue to carry out this mandate with the dignity and integrity that is required.

-ENDS-

About the SACAA:

The South African Civil Aviation Authority (“SACAA”) is a juristic body established in terms of the Civil Aviation Act, 2009 (Act No. 13 of 2009) (“the Act”). SACAA is governed and controlled by the Civil Aviation Authority Board (“the Board”). In terms of mandate, the SACAA is tasked with promoting and maintaining a safe, secure and sustainable civil aviation environment, by regulating and overseeing the functioning and development of the industry in an efficient, cost-effective, and customer-friendly manner according to international standards.

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