

**MEDIA STATEMENT**

**01 November 2016**

**SA Civil Aviation Authority adds two awards to its bulging trophy cabinet**

*[Johannesburg]* The South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA) continues to add silverware to its already bulging trophy cabinet.

For the third consecutive year, the SA Civil Aviation Authority has been named the Best Performing Institution in Transport. The announcement was made on Saturday, 29 October 2016, during the Annual Transport Awards held in Mthatha, Eastern Cape.

This means that in 2014, 2015, and 2016, the SA Civil Aviation Authority outperformed all provincial and municipal departments of transport as well as other State entities responsible for various modes of transport.

The Best Performing Institution Award is in recognition of the SACAA's continued excellent performance, which rose consistently over the last five years; from 74% during the 2011/12 financial year to 84% in the 2012/13 fiscal year, and then from 94% during the 2013/14 financial year to 100% during the 2014/15 and 2015/16 financial years.

**Fourth Auditor-General Award in the bag**

The Best Performing Institution Award comes just a week after the SACAA received the Auditor-General's Clean Audit Award for the fourth year in a row.

This means that the Civil Aviation Authority has consistently produced clean audits during the 2012/13, 2013/14, 2014/15, and 2015/16 financial years.

The Clean Audit Award serves as evidence of the Auditor-General's satisfaction and unqualified audit opinion regarding the financial and operational management of the SACAA. It also attests to the presence of effective internal controls and good governance processes at the SACAA as well as the entity's compliance with applicable legislation on financial management.

“To some these awards may mean little; but to us as the regulator they are of significance considering the huge responsibility we have, which is to assist licence-holders to uphold unquestionable levels of aviation safety and security. Acknowledgement of the good governance and exceptional performance rendered by the SACAA gives comfort to those that use air transport, and also mean that the regulator is more than capable of discharging its mandate. Our performance is intertwined with the country’s levels of aviation safety and security, and it mirrors how we discharge our mandate. It is thus important that we excel in all aspects of our business,” explained Ms Poppy Khoza, who heads the SACAA as Director of Civil Aviation.

Khoza added that in discharging its mandate, which includes auditing operators, the SACAA endeavours to always do things right and often applies the same precision used by those that audit the regulator.

“We always strive to follow due processes and apply the same meticulous approach that is often carried out on the SACAA and South Africa, for instance, by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) as well as other international civil aviation bodies,” she elaborated.

### **ICAO due to audit South Africa in 2017**

Following an audit conducted in 2013 by ICAO, South Africa’s level of compliance with mandatory ICAO prescripts is currently rated at 84%, which is significantly higher than the world average of 60%. The rating does not include one element that was not reviewed by ICAO during the 2013 audit, which is the aircraft accident and incident investigation function. Had this element been audited, the rating could possibly have been higher than 84%.

“We are excited that South Africa’s ICAO Corrective Action Plan has progressed very well; and this has prompted ICAO to confirm its next audit, which is earmarked for May 2017. A scrutiny of statistics indicates that out of 191 ICAO Member States, South Africa is at position number 38 globally and second in Africa in terms of ICAO’s Effective Implementation rating. These ratings are not static and change consistently in line with ICAO’s continual auditing exercises. South Africa therefore needs to perform well during the 2017 ICAO audit in order to improve its ranking,” said Khoza.

The Best Performing Institution as well as the Clean Audit Award are two additions to the SACAA’s already bulging trophy cabinet, which include, among many others:

- The Best Chief Executive Officer in Transport Award;
- Top Performing Public Service Award; and

- Top Empowered Public Service Leader of the Year Award.

The SACAA is the only entity to have won the Best Performing Institution Award since the National Transport Awards were introduced by the Minister of Transport three years ago. In addition, only one entity has won more successive Clean Audit Awards than the SACAA.

“The awards are a motivation that will ensure that the SACAA’s Board, management, and staff continue to work hard to ensure that the regulator promotes and maintains a safe, secure, sustainable, and world-class civil aviation environment in South Africa,” said Khoza.

**-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”). The SACAA is self-funded and reports to the Department of Transport. It 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.

**For more information contact:**

Kabelo Ledwaba  
Cell: 083 451 2616  
Email: [ledwabak@caa.co.za](mailto:ledwabak@caa.co.za)

**Or**

Mpume Motaung  
Cell: 083 451 2657  
Email: [motaungm@caa.co.za](mailto:motaungm@caa.co.za)

Website: [www.caa.co.za](http://www.caa.co.za)