



**MEDIA STATEMENT - for immediate release**

**11 July 2016**

## **SACAA notified of a false hi-jack alert involving an SA Airlink flight**

*[Johannesburg]* On Monday, 11 July 2016, the South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA) was notified of a false hi-jack alert, which involved SA Airlink's Flight 8678 traveling from Cape Town International Airport to Wonderboom Airport in Pretoria.

SA Airlink Flight 8678, which was carrying 72 passengers and four crew members, departed Cape Town International Airport at around 10:00 and was destined to land at Wonderboom Airport at around 12:15. It is reported that roughly 10 minutes before landing, a hi-jack alert was set-off. SA Airlink Flight 8678 eventually landed safely as per its schedule.

Notwithstanding the false hi-jack alert, which lasted a few seconds, the mandatory hijack response procedures were activated. When the aircraft landed at Wonderboom Airport, the police's hijack response team conducted the necessary checks to ascertain that indeed the aircraft was not hijacked.

The SACAA is satisfied that despite this being a false alarm, the stipulated procedures for dealing with a similar incident were correctly followed. This demonstrates the state of readiness of the various South African civil aviation and other State agencies when faced with a potential threat. The SACAA thus commend all officials who immediately activated their emergency procedures upon learning of the alert.

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

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