



**Physical Address:**  
Ikhaya Lokundiza  
Treur Close  
Waterfall Park  
Bekker Street  
Midrand

**Postal Address:**  
Private Bag X 73  
Halfway House  
1685

**Telephone Number:**  
+27 11 545 1000

**Fax Number:**  
+27 11 545 1465

**E-mail Address:**  
mail@caa.co.za

**Website Address:**  
www.caa.co.za

**Southern Region Office:**  
PO Box 174  
Cape Town  
International Airport  
**Tel. Number:**  
+27 21 934 4744  
**Fax Number:**  
+27 21 934 1326

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Inquiries: Ms Phindiwe Gwebu  
Tel. +27 11 545 1170  
Cell. +27 83 461 6070  
Email. [gwebup@caa.c.za](mailto:gwebup@caa.c.za)

Ms Merriam Mochoele  
Chairperson of the Board  
Recreation Aviation Administration of SA

Dear Madam

### DECISION ON THE DESIGNATION OF RECREATIONAL AVIATION OVERSIGHT

In 2008 the South Africa Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA) designated the Recreation Aviation Administration of South Africa (RAASA) in response to a need for the Regulator to strengthen safety and security oversight of the recreational aviation activities in the country. Before this time, the SACAA had designated these functions to the Aero Club of SA and due to the gaps that existed in this designation model at the time; the Regulator sought a more progressive structure that will ensure optimum oversight of the activities in this sector of the civil aviation industry.

RAASA has been in existence for the past nine years and are currently designated to provide oversight on recreational aviation until 2018.

As is the norm in any progressive organisation, the Regulator revisits decisions previously made based on the risk assessment conducted each year especially on those aspects which affect the mandate of the organisation. In 2015/16 the Executive Management revisited the decision related to the designation of the oversight on recreational aviation and aviation medicine as directed by the Annual Performance Plan the organisation entered into with the Minister of Transport. The outcome of this process yielded a strategy which was approved by the Board and called for several deliverables including the development of a Business Model to direct all future designations by the Regulator.

The 2016/17 Annual Performance Plan therefore called for the Regulator to develop the business model on the oversight of recreational aviation activities. Various models were considered and desk top benchmarking was also conducted to consider the best option for the South African environment. The business model was therefore submitted to the Board during March 2017 and a resolution on how the SACAA will handle recreational aviation going forward was reached by the Board on 22 March 2017.

Consultation with the Aero Club, Aviation Recreational Organisations and RAASA Board was conducted in the process of developing the business model.

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The Business Model proposed four options to the Board for consideration. Subsequently, the SACAA Board resolved as follows:

**Board Resolution on Recreational Aviation:**

“The Board on 22 March 2017 resolved as follows in relation to Recreational Aviation:

- a) The Board approved the Recreation Aviation Oversight Business Model report as articulated under Annexure B, which is titled Recreational Aviation Oversight Business Model.
- b) The Board further approved Option 2 in the Business Model, namely that the Recreational Aviation function be insourced within the South African Civil Aviation Authority of the Recreation Aviation Oversight Business Model to bring the function within SACAA as the preferred option subject to the following conditions:
  - i. That the Recreation Aviation Administration South Africa (RAASA) contract is extended for another one year from the 1st April 2018 until end 31 March 2019 as part of the transitional period.
  - ii. South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA) must look into the security of tenure for RAASA staff beyond the transitional period.
  - iii. Management to consider the possibility of creating an advisory panel to advise the Director of Civil Aviation (DCA) on recreational aviation matters.
  - iv. Management to bring to the Board the framework and details around the incorporation of RAASA functions by January 2018.
  - v. That the DCA be authorized to communicate the Board’s decision to RAASA.”

The SACAA communicated the decision of the Board to the RAASA and Aero Club on 13 April 2017.

The Director of Civil Aviation will, in due course, establish a task team, comprising of members of the SACAA, RAASA and certain members of the industry to develop a transitional plan.

The DCA appoints the Executive: Legal and Aviation Compliance, Ms Mmanare Mamabolo, to lead the process of managing this transition until completion. Her role will also include co-ordinating all stakeholders and resources to manage the transition.

The SACAA Board and management wish to extend their appreciation to the Board and management of RAASA for discharging the functions designated by the DCA, in an appropriate and efficient manner. The contribution of the RAASA leadership is vital in taking this process forward.

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All enquiries regarding this matter should be directed to Executive: Legal and Aviation Compliance, Ms Mamabolo, and any queries related to the media can be referred to the Corporate Services division for processing. The media manager is Mr Kabelo Ledwaba and he can be reached on 011 545 1086 or 083 451 2616 or LedwabaK@caa.co.za

With kind regards



**Ms POPPY KHOZA**  
**Director of Civil Aviation**

CC Mr Neil De Lange: Chief Executive Officer - RAASA