

AGREEMENT SIGNED TO ENHANCE AIR ACCESS AND CONNECTIVITY THROUGH PORT ELIZABETH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Port Elizabeth, 21 June 2018 – Airports Company South Africa (ACSA) today, together with key stakeholders including Nelson Mandela Bay Metropolitan Municipality (NMBMM) and the Nelson Mandela Bay Tourism, signed a memorandum of understanding to enhance air service connectivity between national gateways and the city of Nelson Mandela Bay through Port Elizabeth International Airport.

Present at the signing was Mayor of NMBMM Councillor Athol Trollip, CEO of Nelson Mandela Tourism (NMBT) Ms Mandlakazi Skefile and Airports Company South Africa Group Executive of Business Development, Mr Charles Shilowa

This memorandum will assist with facilitating the city's growth. Councillor Trollip said: "Nelson Mandela Bay is a growing metropole for trade and tourism and the activities around these are facilitated through Port Elizabeth International Airport. This plan between the airport and the city will further support the economic growth of the region, and the airlift project is one of the key pillars to enable seamless movement of people, goods, and services linking with both water and air transport."

Port Elizabeth International Airport is optimally positioned as a city airport which is an important gateway to the tourism market, easily accessed by the local business and residence. It is also situated favourably within only 25km from the industrial cluster of the Coega Industrial Development Zone, which is demarcated as one of the country's largest Special Economic Zone.

According to the MMC for Economic Development, Tourism and Agriculture, Cllr Whitfield the air access project will take a three-phase approach. Phase one will include the scoping of key new and existing routes at national, regional, and intercontinental level to enhance trade and tourism. The second phase will involve analysis of potential markets, identification of potential airline partners, research and development for the airlift strategy and a three-year implementation plan for the establishment of new routes linking Port Elizabeth International Airport. The third phase will require the implementation of the identified route opportunities and development of incentive schemes.

“The Nelson Mandela Bay Business Chamber and Nelson Mandela Bay Tourism, as critical and key stakeholders to this agreement, will play an integral and pivotal role in the implementation of phases two and three of the air lift strategy. We also hope to have more and direct private sector participation in the programme,” added Cllr Whitfield.

The parties have all recognised the need for a co-ordinated approach when implementing the air lift strategy. They have therefore committed themselves to signing the MOU to ensure that the strategy is fully realised.

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Notes to editors about Airports Company South Africa

Airports Company South Africa is the largest airport operator in Africa. Our mission is to develop and manage world-class airport infrastructure for the benefit of all stakeholders

We manage South Africa’s nine principal airports.* In fulfilling this task, Airports Company South Africa enables more than 80 percent of South Africa’s commercial air travel. Our airports process 40 million arriving and departing passengers a year.

In the 2016/17 financial year, Airports Company South Africa reported total revenue of R8.6 billion. Currently 63% of Airports Company South Africa revenue is derived from regulated tariffs for aircraft landing and parking fees and a passenger service charge. The remaining 37% is non-aeronautical revenue generated by airport retail, parking, property and other services.

Airports Company South Africa's global footprint extends to technical advisory services and support, airport management, and operating concessions in India, Brazil, Munich, and Ghana.

We also frequently feature among the winners of independently-judged global airport awards. In the 2017 Airports Service Quality awards presented by Airports Council International no less than four of our airports were honoured:

- King Shaka International Airport achieved first place in Best Airport by Region;
- Cape Town International Airport achieved third place in Best Airport by Region;
- Cape Town International Airport was named Best Airport in Africa (over 20 000 air traffic movements) in the Safety Awards;
- Bram Fischer International Airport achieved first place in Best Airport by Region in the under 2 million passengers category as well as Most Improved Airport; and
- Upington International Airport joined the 2016 Director's Roll of Excellence for being ranked in the top five airports for its category, size and region from 2006 to 2015.

For more information please visit www.airports.co.za.

**South African airports we operate are: O. R. Tambo International Airport, Cape Town International Airport, King Shaka International Airport, George Airport, Bram Fischer International Airport, Upington Airport, Kimberley Airport, Port Elizabeth Airport and East London Airport.*