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Airports Company South Africa SOC Ltd  
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## MEDIA RELEASE

### SECURITY OFFICERS AT O. R. TAMBO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT MAKE DRUG BUST

*KEMPTON PARK, 14 February 2018* – A suspected drug courier was arrested today after alert security officers at O.R. Tambo International Airport conducted a search of a Seychelles-bound passenger believed to be acting suspiciously.

The male Seychelles national was arrested after airport security officers called in South African Police Service officers based at the airport.

The Seychelles national had been due to leave South Africa on flight HM60 to his home islands. His behaviour aroused the suspicion of security officers at a checkpoint. The security officers requested that a search be conducted in private by two other officers.

Two packets of suspicious white powder, suspected of being cocaine, were found on the passenger's person during the search.

At this point, South African Police Service officers based at the airport were called in to proceed with the investigation.

The passenger's bags were also scanned as part of this process and further searched by both airport and SAPS officers. Nothing additional was found in these bags and the suspect was then escorted to the police station at the airport.

The arrested person is expected to appear in court shortly.

It was later determined that the two packets contained white powder believed to be cocaine with an estimated street value of R140 000.

Said airport spokesperson Leigh Gunkel-Keuler: "As Airport Management we have congratulated our security officers who continue to carry out their security with professionalism and care.

"Furthermore, we remain committed to the continuing work being done across all government agencies based at this airport to curb all forms of crime and corruption. This effort continues to operate under the banner of the Integrated Multi-Disciplinary Tactical Security Plan which was launched on 21 July 2017 by the Hon. Minister of Police, Fikile Mbalula," says Gunkel-Keuler.

**ENDS**

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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, Ghana, and has a Sister Airport Agreement with Munich Airport.

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](http://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.*