MINISTER OF
HOME AFFAIRS
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Ref. M3/7/1/1/3

CEO: Board of Airline Representatives (BARSA)
CEO: Airline Association of Southern Africa (AASA)
Area Manager: Southern Africa: International Air Transport Association (IATA)
Manager Administrator: Airline Operators Committee (AOC)

Dear Stakeholders,

WITHDRAWAL OF VISA EXEMPTIONS FOR TRAVELLERS FROM COVID-19 HIGH AND MEDIUM RISK COUNTRIES

On 15 March 2020 the President of the Republic of South Africa ("the Republic"), H E Mr MC Ramaphosa, announced that there would be a ban on travellers from COVID-19 high risk countries as determined by the World Health Organisation ("WHO").

In view of the above, I have withdrawn the visa exemptions of nationals of the following countries:

a) Germany
b) Italy
c) South Korea
d) Spain
e) United Kingdom
f) United States of America
g) France

I have also cancelled any visas issued to persons from the following countries in terms of section 10(9) of the said Act with immediate effect:

a) Iran
b) People's Republic of China

Furthermore, I have, in terms of section 10A(4)*(c)* of the Immigration Act, 2002, withdrawn the visa exemption of passport holders of the medium risk countries. Nationals of these countries will not be admitted to South Africa without a visa. They are:

a) Hong Kong;
b) Portugal; and
c) Singapore.

South African citizens, permanent residents and refugees of South Africa returning from the countries will be subjected to extensive screening on arrival. You are requested to ensure that this decision is implemented immediately by airlines.

Yours sincerely,

DR PA MOTSOALEDI, MP
MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS
DATE: 17/3/2020