



IATA SPEAKS OUT ON SOUTH AFRICAN VISA AND IMMIGRATION CHANGES

News / Airlines



The International Air Transport Association (IATA) has released a statement in support of the changes made to South Africa's visa and immigration regulations.

However, in spite of its support, IATA suggests a need for urgency in announcing the changes: "We urge the South African Government to communicate the changes clearly, expeditiously and effectively to all markets so that there is no confusion. This will require far greater clarity on the dates from which the amendments will become effective.

"It is crucial the changes are implemented quickly, to avoid further lost opportunities for South Africa's travel and tourism sector, which has already been damaged and will experience a notable downturn in business over the coming high summer season, traditionally the sector's busiest period of the year."

IATA continued to explain what the benefits of a quick announcement would mean for South Africa:

"The speedy adoption of the amended requirements will also support the combined marketing campaigns led by airlines and their Tourism industry partners which aims to restore consumer confidence in South Africa as a value-for-money destination for business and leisure travel. It is imperative, given South Africa's current socio-economic challenges, that airlines are permitted to safely, securely and efficiently transport people and goods between South Africa and its markets around the world. This will promote economic growth, create and sustain jobs, drive skills

development and advance genuine and meaningful transformation.”

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