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General Exemption

South African Civil Aviation Authority (SACAA)
Private Bag X73
Halfway House
1685

Dear Sir/Madam

GRANTING OF EXEMPTIONS

The South African Civil Aviation Authority ("SACAA") has put in place a contingency plan to cater for the Covid-19 outbreak and to ensure business continuity during the lock down period. Due to the constraints evident in the issuing of licences / approvals of personnel and organisations, this Authority approved a general exemption as follows:

1. AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS, FLIGHT CREW, CABIN CREW, MAINTENANCE ENGINEERS, REMOTE PILOTS, FLIGHT ENGINEERS AND SECURITY SCREENERS/ INSTRUCTORS:

- 1.1 The SACAA issues an extension enabling licensed personnel whose licences expire between 26 March 2020 and 30 April 2020 to exercise the privileges of their licenses for an extended period of up to 26 June 2020.

2. MEDICAL EXAMINATION AND CERTIFICATE EXEMPTION:

- 2.1 Class I, II, III and IV medical certificates will be extended for a period of up to 26 June 2020 subject to the conditions attached to each certificate.
- 2.2 Class I, II or III medical certificate holders who are on medical protocols will be required to complete a signed medical examination form/self declaration and submit

to the Designated Aviation Medical examiners or Medical Assessors prior to the medical extension being applicable.

- 2.3 Designated Aviation Medical Examiners shall not conduct and issue medical examinations for new applicants during the lockdown period.
- 2.4 In line with Part 67.00.9, applicants have a duty to notify their designated aviation medical examiners or the CAA Medical Assessors:
 - a. Should they be aware of any medical condition or medication which could affect the validity of their medical certificate;
 - b. after such medical certificate have expired;
 - c. in case they get injured;
 - d. should they be hospitalised;
 - e. should they undergo surgical operation or invasive procedure;
 - f. if they start using medication regularly;
 - g. 1st or 3rd trimester of pregnancy;
 - h. Absence from work due to illness for a period of more than 21 days.
- 2.5 All aviation medical certificate holders shall continue to comply with the *Civil Aviation Regulations and Technical Standards* (CARs and CATS) save as specifically mentioned in this exemption.
- 2.6 Those who have medical conditions will continue to provide the follow-up medical reports as per the technical standards (e.g. annual cardiology review and another test for Coronary Artery Disease).
- 2.7 Medical examination priority should be given to aviation workers that render essential services such as helicopter emergency services, police, coastguard, offshore oil and gas, cargo operators and our air traffic controllers.
- 2.8 The pilot in command and co-pilot must ensure that while operating an aircraft in a multicrew environment, one crewmember has a valid medical certificate, which is not affected by the medical extension in terms of this exemption.
- 2.9 Applicant's medical restrictions on medical certificates will remain in force during the period of the exemption.

3. WRITING OF CIVIL AVIATION PERSONNEL LICENCES EXAMINATIONS

- 3.1 From 27 March 2020, examinations will be suspended at all SACAA venues.
- 3.2 The Manager: Examinations will communicate the new schedule in due course, depending on the prevailing circumstances within the country.
- 3.3 Clients will not be required to pay any additional examination fee for rescheduled examination sessions as a result of this exemption.
- 3.4 Theoretical examinations expiring within the lock down period shall be extended for a period commensurate with the lockdown period.

4. AIRPORT AND AIR TRAFFIC SERVICES OPERATIONS

- 4.1 All regulatory approvals, licenses, ratings, currency training and ATS Designated Examiners, expiring between 27 March and 30 April 2020 are granted extension up to 26 June 2020, provided that these were current on 1 April 2020.
- 4.2 For upgrade of aerodromes or firefighting service category, etc., a risk assessment shall be conducted with an application for exemption, submitted to SACAA.
- 4.3 For downgrade of aerodromes or firefighting service category, hours of operation, aerodrome facilities, etc. the licence holder will obtain a written approval from the SACAA and thereafter issue a NOTAM advising the industry of the category downgrade.
- 4.4 Aerodrome and ATS operators must enrol their employees upon renewal of their approvals, training and/or ratings at the first available opportunity and must submit a risk assessment to SACAA with respect to the intended resumption of normal operations, with personnel who's approvals, training and/or ratings are affected during lockdown.

5. DANGEROUS GOODS, AVIATION SECURITY, CREW RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, SAFETY AND EMERGENCY PROCEDURES TRAINING, LINE CHECKS, PILOT PROFICIENCY CHECKS:

- 5.1 If your current flight review or proficiency check expires after 01 March 2020, you will be able to continue to use all the privileges of your licence for up to 26 June 2020.
- 5.2 Dangerous goods and aviation security training certificates will be extended for up to 26 June 2020. This extension is subject to the following:
- 5.2.1 The training must have been current on the 1st of April 2020;
- 5.2.2 The employer must ensure that such employees are trained on the latest updates and amendments. The approval holder must submit proof of same to the SACAA.
- 5.2.3 Employers must enrol their employees for training to renew their certificates at the first available opportunity once training organisations resume their training operations.
- 5.3 Air Operator Certificate holders will be relieved from Part 121 and Part 135 pilot proficiency checking, dangerous goods training and checking requirements for up to 26 June 2020.

6. DESIGNATED FLIGHT EXAMINERS, CABIN DESIGNATED EXAMINERS AND DESIGNATED AVIATION MEDICAL EXAMINERS:

- 6.1 If you are a holder of the designation and it expires after 27 March 2020, you will be able to continue to use the privileges of your designation for a period of up to 26 June 2020.

7. OPERATOR'S RESPONSIBILITY

Operators conducting Multi Crew operations are to ensure that any crew pairing does not include two pilots operating under this exemption.

Yours faithfully,

Sent electronically. Signed version is available.

Ms POPPY KHOZA
Director of Civil Aviation