



Association of South African Travel Agents

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NOTICE TO ALL ASATA MEMBERS

Please be advised that the Board of ASATA has taken the decision to terminate the services of the ASATA Airport Office from the 27th March 2009.

This decision was taken after the following facts had been considered;

- The current office lease expires on the 31st May, 2009 but three months notice of renewal or termination is required. ACSA require a new lease to be negotiated and for our offices to be moved into the central terminal building office block.
- In 2007 ASATA declined the opportunity to tender for the contract to meet and greet the inbound and outbound employees of marine shipping companies. ASATA had previously dominated in the delivery of this service however this role has become increasingly more liable and it was agreed that this is not suited to our core business. Without this revenue the office expenses are in excess of the income.
- The introduction of electronic ticketing has negated the need for our staff to assist in the issuing of tickets on behalf of passengers.
- The increasing demand by Consulates for biometric visa applications has also lessened the need for the ASATA office to hold passports.
- The new ORT International Airport has been designed in line with any world class airport and access from Domestic to International vice versa is good. Whilst the distance is far the meet and greet services that we offer is no longer an essential requirement.
- The airlines are committed to utilizing the services of the selected ground handling companies; namely Menzies, BidAir and SwissPort. All of whom offer meet and assistance and have a very efficient infrastructure to support a 24 hour service. ASATA with four employees are not in a position to compete on this basis.

Regrettably the four employees of ASATA have been served with retrenchment notices and are subsequently available for other opportunities in the workplace. If any of our Members are interested in interviewing any of these individuals please do not hesitate to contact the ASATA head office on 011 327 7803.

Robyn Christie

