

**From:** TBCSA User [mailto:kagiso@tbcsa.travel]  
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### TBCSA WELCOMES APPOINTMENT OF SAA CEO

*The Tourism Business Council of South Africa welcomes the appointment of Siza Mzimele as the new Chief Executive Officer of South African Airways.*

"We applaud the SAA Board for their decision and congratulate Ms. Mzimele on her appointment. This is a key appointment not only for SAA but for the sector and the nation as a whole. We believe that her experience within aviation, particularly her previous work with SAA and her recent experience at SA Express, makes her well equipped to deal with some of the challenges that the national carrier currently faces" said Mmatšatši Marobe, CEO of the TBCSA.

"We view this appointment, as an indication that Government has heeded the call from both the public and private sector, to fill important positions that currently lie vacant in the different parastatals", she said. Marobe also commended the current SAA Acting CEO, Chris Smyth, who took over the reigns after the departure of the previous CEO, Khaya Ngqula, specifically for the role he has played in the airline's preparations for the Soccer World Cup.

"Mzimele does not have an easy task ahead of her but she does have the support of the tourism private sector. We wish her success in her new position. In her capacity as CEO of SA Express and former Chairman of the Airline Association of South Africa (AASA), the TBCSA has had a good working relationship with her and we look forward to continuing this relationship during her tenure at SAA", Marobe concluded. //Ends

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**On behalf of Mmatšatši Marobe, Chief Executive Officer**  
**Date Wednesday , 24 February 2010**

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