



Private Charter Passenger Association (PCPA)

Dear Minister of Transport, Mr. Mbalula and Director General, Mr. A Moemi & Minister of Tourism, M/s M Kubayi - Ngubane

cc. The President, Mr. Cyril Ramaphosa and Minister of Trade and Industry, Minister Patel

I hereby write this letter to yourselves in request for a meeting on behalf of all major stakeholders within the Charter and Tourism Coach and Bus sector despite having been trying to engage with yourselves for the past seven months. As the D.G and the Speaker M/s Paine, will be well aware of, I have been trying to resolve the ongoing licencing issue dispute via both parties and various members of the department of transportation both nationally and provincially since the commencement of lockdown and the utter-desperation that those members of our association and other stake holders within the industry are facing with regards to those operators in possession of Charter and Tourism Permits with regards to failure of operating since the 26th March 2020 and of whom are still in a state of complete lockdown, despite the country being at level one.

I am therefor appealing to your better judgement in replying to myself and leading stakeholders to engage at an urgent meeting with yourselves, as soon as possible at a time which is conducive to yourselves regarding coming to a solution regarding the extension of the licencing disks of just those in possession of Charter and Tourism permits, so in the event that they are able to operate in the future, in the hope that they might be able to commence in March next year, there might be a luxury coach and tourism transport sector left to transfer our visitors in South Africa as a reliable form of transport.

Despite, having tried to engage with yourselves via several forms of communication, the sector feels that government's failure to engage with ourselves is showing a gross form of negligence towards the future of the Tourism sector and safety of international guests and South African citizens when utilising or requiring a reliable form of transport in the future and are only requiring time in lieu of what the government has been pre-paid prior to the Lockdown from our licence fee holders.

The future of Tourism is in question when looking at the prospect of the Luxury Coach industry not being able to survive without government assisting ourselves with our pre-paid licence fee money in the way of time in lieu of the months which were prepaid to all the licencing offices of which we have not been able to benefit from.

Mr. Minister, (Mr. Fix-It), please fix our problem, we have been awaiting your engagement since the commencement of this lockdown through all our correspondence we have sent to yourself and or several members within the department of transport and tourism and we are appealing to yourself to engage with myself as the Chairperson of the Private Charter Passenger Association (PCPA), which is made up of representatives of various race and creeds throughout the country, as well as engaging with Mr. Jason Smallbone and Geert Van Doorn as Stakeholders of two of the largest Luxury Tourist and Charter companies, within the Coach and Tourism Permit sector of transportation in South Africa.

I hereby write this letter on behalf of the association and with the consent of all its Association Provincial representatives and members of the Private Charter Passenger Association (P.C.P.A) represented, pleading with yourselves to engage with ourselves for the future of the industry and the turmoil it is in regarding mass retrenchment and the survival of the industry. The PCPA is a group of Non-subsidized operators servicing the travel and tourism industry countrywide of which it has absolutely No affiliation to the South-African Bus Owners Association (SABOA).

Despite Minister Mbalula advising "he has assisted the Taxi organisation financially and attended meetings on a bi-weekly basis with regards to a media briefing and that we are advised to approach the many loan schemes available", the operators are without having had, a cashflow for eight months unlike the Taxi industry, and are unable to provide financial cashflows and therefor are subsequently denied loans and feel that the government has not assisted ourselves with our V.A.F companies to engage on our behalf which it did with the Taxi industry and is resulting in vehicles being repossessed and the future of the reliable five-star industry on wheels being un-available in the future to tourism and the conferencing industry.

With regards to engagement with the D.G, Mr. Moemi, the D.G advised that, "it would not be likely that the government would be able to repay our funds financially but would approach the various provincial departments to extend the time in lieu on our operators licences" which would ensure that the vehicles are kept on the road to sustain the industry and hence be repaying funds back to the operators in extension I.E) time in lieu as an extension, rather than in finance terms in order for the sector to remain sustainable as these operators cannot operate without a licence and COF which would cause some operators to take the risk of taking a chance to sustain themselves. This suggestion, of extension, would resolve and stop the mass retrenchment and bankruptcy that has been going on in the sector for seven months, or prevent a catastrophic incident with our international tourists being involved in an un-foreseen accident in an un-licensed and unroadworthy vehicle, however have not heard back from the D.G regarding feedback from our meeting which was held in early September, despite constant request for feedback. Furthermore, departments of transport are failing to adhere to the gazetted extension given to those members whose licences fell between the 26th March and 31st August in various parts of the country as the municipalities are advising operators that there is no extension granted and we are not entitled to any extension as we do not fall into Public operating licensing category I. e) they are merely assisting Taxi permit holders and route operator permit holders, so here again we are incurring penalties and interest on monies we have already paid the department of transportation.

Please, therefor engage our-selves urgently regarding this letter of a request of an urgent meeting on behalf of the leading role players in the Tourism and Charter Permit Luxury coach industry holding market, as operators have been awaiting your engagement and reply to communication, going on eight months and would like for the betterment of the country to resolve this ongoing dispute.

Please, I urgently ask that you would consider re-imbursing these operators in time in lieu of the monies that certain operators have paid out, for the sake of not allowing the whole industry to collapse and thousands more drivers and their families being effected, as well as all related industries by not assisting ourselves with what we have pre-paid to the government in good faith to utilise the road, however have been unable to utilise the road for commercial purposes due to the governments intervention and prevention of utilising the roads, hence have not been able to obtain an income and being unable to sustain our costs of our businesses with regards to our permits entitling ourselves to carry tourists and charter passengers only.

I look forward to a reply from yourselves with regards to a way forward in assistance with the areas of concern I have raised in engaging ourselves for a meeting. I thankyou for the time in reviewing our request.

Kind Regards



Fiona Brooke-Leggatt

Chairperson of the Private Charter Passenger Association