

PRESS STATEMENT

DIRECTION TO TOURISM OPERATORS ON THE CLOSURE OF MALAWI AIRPORTS AND BORDERS

We would like to confirm to our membership and the entire tourism private sector that the Ministry of Health has issued a directive to close our borders and airports to all travellers, except for returning citizens, residents and essential travelers. This means no tourists will be allowed into Malawi under the new guidelines.

The Department of Immigration, through its Public Relations Officer; Mr. Wellington Chiponde have confirmed to us that they have indeed received this communication from the Ministry of Health and are implementing as advised. Mr. Joshua Malango speaking on behalf of Ministry of Health, also confirmed the development to us and said these measures are due to the rising cases in some of our neighbouring countries.

We hereby offer direction to all our members to advise all their clients (tourists) that were due to arrive in Malawi of this development. Those who already obtained visas must contact the Department of Immigration for the way forward.

As a council, we are taking urgent steps to engage government about the possibility of taking a selective approach to safely manage the pandemic without having to impose a blanket ban on travel. We will keep you all posted on the same.

Richard Jackson Mdyetseni

Executive Director Tuesday, 15th June 2021