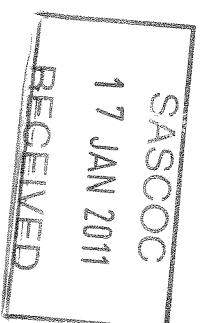




MINISTRY  
SPORT AND RECREATION  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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Mr. Gideon Sam  
President of the SA Sports Confederation and Olympic Committee  
P O Box 1355  
HOUGHTON  
2041

Dear Mr. Sam

**SAFETY AT SPORTS AND RECREATIONAL EVENTS ACT, 2010 (ACT NO. 2 OF 2010)**

As you may be aware, the Safety at Sports and Recreational Events Act (“Act” and attached hereto) which was assented to by the President on 26 May 2010, came into operation on 2 August 2010.

The Act was a product of a lengthy drafting and stakeholder input process, involving, amongst others, national, provincial and local government, the South African Police Service (“SAPS”), national sport and recreation controlling bodies, event organizers and stadium and venue owners.

The Act sets out a number of minimum legislative requirements and obligations for, amongst others, role players such as yourselves. Given that Sport and Recreation South Africa (“**SRSA**”) strives for the promotion of good governance and statutory compliance in respect of its interactive dealings with its important stakeholders, such as yourselves, I believe we would be failing in our duty to you, if we were not to furnish you with relevant information in respect of the practical and operational import of the Act on important event stakeholders such as yourselves. This is particularly relevant given that proven non-compliance with the more important provisions of the Act constitute criminal offences which, on conviction, can carry significant penalties.

### **Provisions of the Act**

With reference to the above, it is recommended that you fully familiarize yourself with and, going forward, give practical effect to all of the provisions of the Act in as far as your activities as a key event role player is concerned.

In this regard your attention is drawn to the following provisions of the Act, given your role as the administrator responsible for high performance sport, as defined in terms of section 1 of the National Sport and Recreation Act, 1998 (Act No. 110 of 1998 as amended), insofar as the hosting of major international sport events in South Africa are concerned:

- **Sections 1 and 2 (Definitions and application of the Act);**
- **Sections 4, 5, 6, 11 and 14 (responsibility for safety and security at events);**
- **Sections 7, 8, 9, 10 and 13 (safety certification - stadium or venue owners in particular);**
- **Sections 15 to 25 (event safety and security measures);**
- **Sections 36, 37 and 42 (appeals);**
- **Sections 44 (offences and penalties); and**

- **Section 45 (regulations).**

### **Event categorizations**

In addition, I wish to sensitize you to the legislated process in terms of the Act which must be followed by event organizers in respect of event risk categorizations for their scheduled events at stadiums and other venues in South Africa:

- (a) A risk categorization schedule in respect of the above events must be forwarded by an event organizer to the National Commissioner of the SAPS in Pretoria. It is an offence for an event, falling under the regulatory ambit of the Act, to take place without a risk categorization process having taken place.
- (b) Given that the timing of the putting into operation of the Act, has not allowed for the submitting of an annual schedule of events by an event organizer as contemplated in section 6 (1) of the Act, the submission of the said schedule for events in the interim must be submitted to the National Commissioner as provided for in section 6 (3) of the Act.
- (c) In the absence of detailed Regulations setting out the detailed information which must be contained in the said schedule), you must, in the interim, forward the following information to the National Commissioner in order to ensure your compliance with the Act:
  - (i) the event venue (including the latter's safety certification and event risk grading by the relevant Municipality);

- (ii) the date, time and duration of the event;
- (iii) the expected spectator/event officials attendance at the event – both along the route and within the stadium or venue and its adjoining precinct;
- (iv) the nature of the event (e.g. PSL league match, SAFA sanctioned international football match, music concert, religious gathering, mass public road race/cycle event, etc.);
- (v) information relating to the number of event participants;
- (vi) historic information relating to safety, security or medical incidents at previous events (if not a once-off event);
- (vii) any other factors which could have a bearing on the level of risk of the event; and
- (viii) the level of risk (high, medium or low) attributed to the event by the event organizer (it cannot for e.g. be assessed as a low to medium risk event – it must be either low, medium or high risk).

In addition to the above, it is recommended that in an event categorization submission by an event organizer, the latter also requests from the National Commissioner, the name and contact details of the SAPS “**authorized member**” as contemplated in section 15(1) of the Act. The authorized member is the person who convenes and chairs the event safety and security planning committee (“**ESSPC**”) for an event, as contemplated in sections 15 and 16 of the Act.

(d) My Department has contacted the National Commissioner's office in Pretoria and has been advised that event risk categorization schedules must be submitted to the following persons who have been assigned the responsibility to assess, in the interim, the submissions of risk categorization schedules by event organizers:

Major General Chippu ([chipupp@saps.org.za](mailto:chipupp@saps.org.za)) and  
Colonel Siva ([sivaa@saps.org.za](mailto:sivaa@saps.org.za)) who are both  
contactable on (012) 421 8103.

#### **Workshops**

Stakeholder workshops regarding the practical implementation of the Act by SRSA and the SAPS have already commenced and will continue on an on-going basis during this implementation period of the Act.

These workshops are being conducted in order to assist you with the practical **implementation and understanding** of the Act and its Regulations which will be promulgated early in 2011.

Should you require any additional information relating to the conducting of the workshops, please feel free to contact the following official of my Department:

Mr. Gideon Boshoff – [gideon@srsa.gov.za](mailto:gideon@srsa.gov.za) or fax: 086 644 9786

With reference to all of the above, it would, therefore, be greatly appreciated if you could assist my Department in ensuring that the thrust of this correspondence relating to the practical implementation of the Act, is cascaded and communicated to all of your stakeholders who may be required to comply with the provisions of the Act.

**SAFETY AT SPORTS AND RECREATIONAL EVENTS ACT, 2010 (ACT NO. 2 OF 2010)**

Mr. Gideon Boshoff – [gideon@srsa.gov.za](mailto:gideon@srsa.gov.za) or fax: 086 644 9786

With reference to all of the above, it would, therefore, be greatly appreciated if you could assist my Department in ensuring that the thrust of this correspondence relating to the practical implementation of the Act, is cascaded and communicated to all of your stakeholders who may be required to comply with the provisions of the Act.

I trust that the above and enclosed information will be of assistance to you.

Kind regards

  
#MBALULA

MINISTER

DATE: 03 December 2010