

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

### **KENYA AIRWAYS AND SOUTH AFRICAN AIRWAYS CUSTOMERS TO ENJOY LOUNGE ACCESS IN BOTH COUNTRIES**

**Nairobi/Johannesburg (1<sup>st</sup> April, 2022)** - Kenya Airways (KQ) and South African Airways (SAA) have announced a new lounge access agreement for their customers as part of the Strategic Framework Agreement (SPF) signed in November 2021.

The lounge access agreement will allow KQ business class customers as well as Sky Team Elite customers (Premium and Gold) to have exclusive access to the lounge services at the SAA ultra-modern Premium lounge located at O.R Tambo International Airport in Johannesburg.

At the SAA lounges in Johannesburg, customers will have 2 lounge options to choose from. Both lounges offer a tranquil and comfortable escape from the hustle of the airport to freshen up, have complimentary WI-FI access, entertainment, indulge in food and beverages.

Julius Thairu, Kenya Airways Chief Commercial and Customer Officer said, “One of the key objectives of the partnership between KQ and SAA is to create win-win outcomes for customers and deliver exceptional service with high level of customer satisfaction. As air travel begins to pick up we are seeing Customers demanding a more seamless, personalized experience and we will continue working closely as equal partners to ensure that the experience is seamless at every tough point.”

Simon Newton-Smith, Executive Commercial at SAA says. “The lounge access will be reciprocal for SAA customers flying to Nairobi which signals the benefits of the strategic partnership of both airlines.”

KQ and SAA signed a Strategic Partnership Framework in November 2021 to work together to increase passenger traffic, cargo opportunities, and general trade by taking advantage of strengths in South Africa, Kenya, and Africa and eventually form a Pan-African carrier

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### **About Kenya Airways**

Kenya Airways, a member of the Sky Team Alliance, is a leading African airline flying to 41 destinations worldwide, 34 of which are in Africa and carries over four million passengers annually. In 2020 KQ was named Africa's Leading Airline by the World Travel Awards. It continues to modernize its fleet with its 32 aircraft being some of the youngest in Africa. This includes its flagship B787 Dreamliner aircraft. Kenya Airways services London, Amsterdam, Guangzhou, Sharjah, Mumbai and over 25 intra-Africa routes in addition to its passenger network. The on-board service is renowned and the lie-flat business class seat on the wide-body aircraft is consistently voted among the world's top 10. Kenya Airways takes pride in being at the forefront of connecting Africa to the World and the World to Africa through its hub at the new ultra-modern Terminal 1A at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport in Nairobi.

### **About South Africa Airways**

South Africa Airways (SAA) began operations on 1 February 1934. SAA, is a leading carrier in Africa, serving regional destinations between Johannesburg and six African destinations - Accra, Kinshasa, Harare, Lusaka, Lagos, Mauritius and 2 domestic routes from Johannesburg to Cape Town and Durban. SAA is a member of the largest international airline network, Star Alliance. SAA's core business is the provision of passenger airline and cargo transport services together with related services, which are provided through SAA and its wholly owned subsidiaries: SAA Technical (SAAT), a world class maintenance facility and Air Chefs, the catering entity of SAA. SAAT has particularly been successful in the delivery of high-quality maintenance services such as; major airframe checks; engine overhaul; mechanical components; avionics and line maintenance. From its first flight in 1934, SAA have welcomed the world to South Africa by showing off the warm generous heart of the country. The airline has more than 88 years of excellence and innovation to draw on.