



# SOUTH AFRICAN HAJJ & UMRAH COUNCIL

(Est: 1995)

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته

### PRESS RELEASE: Hajj 1439H (2018) - Accreditation Amendments

13<sup>th</sup> January 2018

The South African Hajj and Umrah Council (SAHUC) strive to serve the interest of the community guided by the policies of the Ministry of Hajj in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Due to the majority of Hajj operators not having their Hajj packages ready for accreditation, SAHUC has revised the timing for selection of accredited Hajj Operators for Hajj 1439 H (2018).

In Sha Allah accredited Hajj operators will be present at the SAHUC Roadshows. Hujaaj can discuss with Hajj Operators with regards to possible Hajj packages for 1439H (2018). However there is a possibility that some packages might exclude prices for the 5 days of Hajj until the protocol team finalises in the middle of February.

SAHUC delegation met with the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia in Pretoria on the 11<sup>th</sup> of January. We were informed that from this year, Biometrics will be required for all Hujaaj travelling for Hajj. The Saudi Embassy has confirmed that official communication regarding Biometrics will be send to SAHUC. We will inform the public once official communication is received.

At the meeting, SAHUC also raised the concern of VFS only having offices in Johannesburg and Cape Town. We were verbally informed that VFS are considering opening an office in the KZN region.

#### Revised Accreditation Procedure:

1. The release date of Accreditation will be the 15<sup>th</sup> of January 2018 at 18h:00. The South African Quota is currently 2500. Final acceptance of accreditation or transfer shall be the 05<sup>th</sup> of February 2018 at 18h00. If accreditation is not accepted or deferred, it will result in a cancellation by SAHUC with a penalty of 30 points. **NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE ENTERTAINED.**
2. Payment for acceptance of accreditation for Hajj 1439H is ZAR 1,500.00. Any applicant who paid a fee last year and did not request a refund will pay an additional top up of ZAR 130.00. Proof of payment for their accreditation last year must also be provided. Payment must be completed by the 05<sup>th</sup> of February at 18h:00.
3. A Hajj Operator selection will only be logged on the SAHUC system from the 06<sup>th</sup> of February. Final choice of a Hajj Operator selection shall be the 28<sup>th</sup> February 2018 by 18h:00. **NO EXTENSIONS WILL BE GIVEN.** Any Hajji not linked to an Accredited Hajj Operator by that date will have their accreditation revoked and a penalty of 30 points will be deducted from their score.
4. All accredited hujaaj will be notified via SMS of their accreditation for Hajj 1439H. **DO NOT RESPOND TO THE SMS,** log onto the system and accept accreditation and Hajj operators on the SAHUC system at [www.sahuchajjregistry.org.za](http://www.sahuchajjregistry.org.za)
5. All queries will be centralised through [info@sahuc.org.za](mailto:info@sahuc.org.za)

We sincerely request accredited hujaaj to act responsibly by abiding to the process. Please feel free to contact any of our offices for any assistance.

Yours Sincerely,  
Was Salaamu Alaikum

Moaaz Casoo  
Secretary General

National Executive: Muhammad Vaid (President), Shaheen Essop (1<sup>st</sup> Deputy President), Ismail Kholvadia (2<sup>nd</sup> Deputy President), Moaaz Casoo (Secretary General), Hassan Choonara (Asst. Secretary General) Asif Essop (Treasurer), Mohammed Maiter (Asst. Treasurer)