

FINAL

DEFERMENT OF AFRICA AEROSPACE AND DEFENCE (AAD) 2020

Africa Aerospace and Defence (AAD), Africa's premier aerospace and defence exhibition and airshow, scheduled to take place 16-20 September 2020, has been deferred to 21 -25 September 2022 as a result of the current global COVID-19 pandemic. This decision follows a series of events which included the close monitoring of the pandemic's global rollout as well as its prevalence in South Africa. The organisers announced the deferment to September 2022 following consultations with the Department of Defence (DOD) and other key stakeholders associated with the biennial flagship event.

The Show organisers advised that several factors were taken into consideration in arriving at the decision, which include – amongst others:

- The absolute need to ensure the battle against the Covid-19 virus is won and to further safeguard human lives,
- The severity that the pandemic has imposed on the global aviation and defence exhibition sector
- A decision by the DOD to put a hold on all foreign activities and events (inbound and outbound missions)
- South African borders remaining closed with no travelling anticipated to take place by September 2020.

The announcement also comes at the time when South Africa is currently under level 3 lockdown due to the Covid-19 pandemic, which restrictions include the prohibition of any public gatherings, a trend also seen around the world during lockdown phases.

“We are aware that the deferment of AAD 2020 comes as an additional setback to the international defence and aerospace industries, and in particular the South African industry, given that AAD Expo is identified and diarised as a platform to showcase the latest advances and technological innovations that the world's best in aviation and defence has to offering. . However, everyone's health, safety and security come first; we can and will only proceed with giving you the best of AAD when it is absolutely safe to do so. We can assure you though that we are already working and planning on delivering an enhanced AAD2022”, said Exhibition Director, Leona Redelinghuys.

The organisers will engage directly with all exhibitors whose participation had been confirmed for AAD2020 on various options available to them, as a result of the deferment.

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UNLOCKING AFRICA'S AEROSPACE AND DEFENCE POTENTIAL



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