



media statement.

05 February 2025

Sedibeng District Municipality Responds to Recent Aerobatic Championships Competition Event

The Sedibeng District Municipality acknowledges the successful hosting of the recent Aerobatic Championships Competition at Vereeniging Airport on 01 February 2025. We extend our gratitude to all participants, organizers, and spectators for making the event a thrilling and memorable experience.

The event showcased the remarkable skill and dedication of aerobatic pilots, drawing aviation enthusiasts from across the district. The Municipality is especially proud that two members of the Aerobatic Club hold championship titles in the country, further promoting Sedibeng as a key hub for aviation sports.

While the competition was a resounding success, the Municipality recognizes outstanding compliance issues that must be addressed to ensure future events meet the highest safety and regulatory standards. We are committed to promoting local aviation by supporting pilot training schools and creating opportunities for aviation enthusiasts while providing aerobatic professionals with a platform to showcase their talents.

As part of our strategy to improve the management of Vereeniging Airport, the Municipality is taking steps to address compliance gaps and attract potential investors to develop a turnaround strategy for the airfield. Key focus areas include:

- ✓ **Upgrading Safety Protocols** to enhance the safety protocols around airfield operations, ensuring that all safety measures are in place and strictly adhered to during all activities.
- ✓ **Environmental Impact Assessments** will be conducted and implement measures to mitigate any adverse effects from aviation activities on the surrounding environment.
- ✓ **Airfield Infrastructure:** the municipality will work closely with relevant authorities to address issues related to airfield infrastructure to meet the required standards and improve operational safety.

- ✓ **Compliance with National Aviation Regulations**, we will collaborate with the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) and other relevant bodies to ensure that the airfield complies with all regulatory requirements, including air traffic control, flight clearance, and emergency preparedness.
- ✓ **Stakeholder Engagement**, we will actively engage with local communities, aviation stakeholders, and industry experts to ensure that all concerns are heard and addressed in the planning and execution of future events.

We remain committed to fostering a safe, regulated, and exciting environment for both professional and recreational aviation. Our goal is to continue to host world-class events while ensuring the safety and well-being of all involved and extending the public to be part of activities that promotes Airshows and other multiple activities which are within the functions of the municipal capability.

The District Municipality will provide further updates on the progress of these improvements and the measures being taken to ensure full compliance with the required standards.

For further inquiries, please contact:

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