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Expiry of Aviation Documents issued by the Directorate of Civil Aviation (DCA)

1. The Namibia Civil Aviation Act (Act 6 of 2016) came into effect on 1 November 2016, thereby establishing the Namibia Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA) and superseding the Civil Aviation Act of 1962.
2. The Namibia Civil Aviation Authority was previously known as the Directorate of Civil Aviation (DCA) under the previous act and issued aviation documents for the purpose of flight safety and authorizations.

Saving and Transitional Provisions of the Civil Aviation Act

3. Article 236 of the Civil Aviation Act (2016) states:

A licence, a rating, a certificate, a permit, an authorisation, an approval or other document validly issued by an authorised staff member of the Directorate of Civil Aviation –

- (a) prior to the commencement of this Act;*
- (b) under the repealed Civil Aviation Act, 1962; and*
- (c) in force at the commencement of this Act,*

is deemed to be an aviation document issued under this Act and accordingly continues to be in force for period of 24 months from the date of the commencement of this Act, unless its date of expiry precedes the expiry of the 24 months period in which case the licence, rating, certificate, permit, authorisation approval or other document expires on its current date of expiry.

Confirmation of Expiry Date

4. Therefore, in terms of the abovementioned Article, all aviation documents issued prior to 1 November 2016 by the Directorate of Civil Aviation, the Director or any Authorised Person, Inspector or Officer of the DCA, shall expire at 2359:59 Namibia Local time on 31 October 2018.
5. An aviation document means any licence, permit, certificate, or other document in respect of any person, aircraft, aerodrome, aeronautical procedure, aeronautical product, or aviation related service, and shall include so called Grandfather rights, Authorisations and Delegations of Authority

to Authorised Persons issued prior to 1 November 2016 even if such document was originally issued without an expiration date, or an expiration date after 31 October 2018.

Impact on License Holders, Authorised persons, Operators, and Service Providers

6. Any aviation documents that were previously issued by the DCA without expiration dates or with expiration dates after 31 October 2018 shall cease to be valid after 31 October 2018.
7. All permissions, privileges or authorisations contained in aviation documents issued by the DCA shall cease after 31 October 2018 and the holders thereof shall no longer be entitled to act on such unless a new aviation document, granting such permissions, privileges or authorisations has been issued by the NCAA. A new application may be required before such permissions, privileges or authorisations may be granted again and these shall be subject to standard approval criteria as may be in place currently.

Determining if a document was issued by the DCA.

8. The Namibia Civil Aviation Authority came into effect on 1 November 2016, all aviation documents issued up to and including 31 October 2016 are considered to have been issued by the Directorate of Civil Aviation under the provisions of previous legislation.
9. It should be noted that some aviation documents issued after 1 November 2016 were still issued on Directorate of Civil Aviation Stationary which included the Namibia Coat of Arms (Figure 1 below) and not depicting the NCAA Logo (Figure 2 below). All Aviation Documents issued after 1 November 2016 are considered as issued by the NCAA regardless of what logo is displayed on the stationary.



FIGURE 1 Namibia Coat of Arms



FIGURE 2 Namibia Civil Aviation LOGO

10. Holders of an aviation document should check the date of issue of such document. If no date of issue is stated on the document then the date stamped on the document shall be used as date of issue. Should they be unable to determine the date of issue holders should query this with the appropriate NCAA inspector.

Conclusion

11. All aviation documents issued prior to 1 November 2016, under the provisions of the Civil Aviation Act of 1962, shall be considered to have expired at 2359:59 Namibia local time on 31 October 2018.
12. New applications for aviation documents should be made prior to the expiry of previously issued documents to ensure the continuity of operations.