

Patron Her Serene Highness Princess Charlene of Monaco 22 July 2020,

Dr. Caroline Danneels Chairwoman Safe Coastal Tourism NPO

Re: Advisories to the Tourism Industry South Africa.

Lifesaving South Africa supports the call for the placement of suitable and applicable warning signs on all beaches and at all aquatic venues as presented by Dr Caroline Danneels and Safe Coastal Tourism.

Global drowning is a pandemic which can be avoided and the placement of suitable and applicable signage at tourist venues highlighting amongst other items:

- 1. Rip Currents
- 2. Areas of Strong currents or backwash
- 3. Rocky outcrops
- 4. Sudden changes in depth
- 5. Shark presence and spotters
- 6. Crocodiles or Hippopotamus presence

is vital to the continued risk management and reduction of potential drowning incidents.

Lifesaving South Africa was established in 1913 with the express aims and objectives to reduce drowning along the South African coastline and at aquatic venues. Over 130 000 rescues have been recorded by the voluntary members and over 5000 first aid cases are tended to annually at beaches, dams, rivers and pools across the country.

We advocate that all Tourism Vendors advise their guests accordingly of the risks of entering unknown waters across South Africa and encourage all to make use of venues where trained lifeguards are present.

Please feel free to access information about drowning prevention and lifeguarding from the Lifesaving SA website <u>www.lifesaving.co.za</u> and on our Facebook page @LifesavingSouthAfrica.

Yours in Lifesaving

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