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Ethiopian Tour Operators Association

Ref. ETA/312/16

Date. 19/10/16

Statement from Ethiopian Tour Operators Association

The Ethiopian Tour Operators Association is key stake holder in Ethiopian tourism and actively participates in promoting our destination and taking responsibility for the safety, wellbeing and satisfaction of visitors coming to Ethiopia. We are proudly working to empower and benefit the huge population in the vast value chain of our tourism sector.

With the establishment of Ethiopian Tourism Organization and the joint effort with private stake holders, Ethiopian tourism has shown a remarkable growth in the past years which we hope to achieve a lot in the years to come.

Ethiopia is a unique destination with no substitute in Africa. We are proud of our unique historical attractions, history of liberation, more than 83 ethnic groups with its own different and unique culture, magnificent nature; our active volcanoes, the mystical churches of Tigray and many more making Ethiopia an authentic African Experience.

Ethiopia is one of the safest countries in the world for visitors. The country has enjoyed many years of peace and tranquility with no security incidents on any of the tourist routes. The Ethiopian people have a welcoming culture with strong religious and cultural ties resulting to the integrity and kindness witnessed in our people.

Recent Situations

The recent demonstration at some parts of the country has turned to be violent resulting in loss of life and properties. Following this, our government has issued state of emergency in order to stabilize the country and ensure the safety of citizens and all visitors to the country. We tour operators believe the act will have positive impact ensuring the well being of all citizens and travelers.



Visit the Land of the Cradle of Mankind Through our Member Companies

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We would like to inform that safety of travelers is our priority and with the active participation of our civic society, protecting travelers has been our quality as a destination. Accordingly, we are proud to disclose that our tourism is running without any interruption, confirm that no single tourist has been victim and all our attraction sites are safe and open for travelers.

Finally, as tourism is one the nation's priority sector, we are working in collaboration with our government to exert all efforts to ensure the safety of all visitors and continue welcoming our guests.

Taking this opportunity, Ethiopian Tour Operators Association invites all travelers to our unique tourism destinations!





Date:-October 18, 2016
Ref. No. AHA/051/16

Dear Valued Visitors,

The Addis Ababa Hotel Owners Trade Sectoral Association has been performing different functions since its establishment in 1997. It is a non-profit making Owner's association and devotes its time to being a vital resource, protecting the rights and interests of its members. Acting as a voice for its members, the association also works to build a favorable business climate, and to influence government policy that impacts on the hotel industry. Currently, the association has 96 member hotels in Addis Ababa, international brands as well as locally owned businesses.

Over the past few months, there have been public demonstrations in some parts of our country, and as a result travel advisories have been issued by countries informing their respective citizens to take extra precautionary measures when visiting the affected areas. We understand that such travel advisories have been cause for concern to tourists and meeting organizers who are planning to visit Ethiopia as well as tour operators who organize tour packages.

The Hotel Association would like to assure our visitors that all tourist destination sites across Addis Ababa are safe for all travelers and open for business. We would like to confirm that the city of Addis Ababa and its hotels are more than ever ready to serve you and your safety is as always, our highest priority. Furthermore, hotels belonging to the Hotel Association in the city are more geared up than ever to ensure you have a memorable stay.

As a key stakeholder in the city, the Hotel Association is keenly aware of the importance for stability and calm so as to maintain sustainable tourism flows in the country. To this end, it is committed to further enhancing security in the city through sustaining a dialogue with local government bureaus, and constantly seeking ways in which to ensure that Addis Ababa remains a safe and secure tourism destination. Following the recent events, the Hotel Association has also been in contact with concerned government departments who confirm that both domestic and international tourists are continuing to visit the city, and that there should be no safety concerns. Furthermore, the fact that there has not been a single incident encountered by either domestic or international tourists bears out this assertion.

On behalf of its members, the Hotel Association looks forward to welcoming you all to the country and we wish you a pleasant stay in Addis Ababa.

Sincerely,


Benyam Bisrat
Chairman



Cc: *Ministry of Foreign Affairs
*Ministry of Culture and Tourism

*Addis Ababa Culture and Tourism Bureau
*Ethiopia Tourism Organization

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We Work to Transform Ethiopian Tourism!
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