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NONPROFIT ORGANISATION Reference no 074-179

STAP VIR GESONDHEID / HIKE FOR HEALTH

Dear Trail owner / Hiker

The **Green Flag** auditing of hiking trails has been growing steadily during the past 12 months. At this stage all the major trail-providing organizations have in principle committed to the system: SANParks, Cape Nature, KZN-Ezemvelo, SAFCOL (KLF, Cape Pine) and some of the Provincial governments and main urban municipalities. Interest from private landowners is also growing but much work is to be done in marketing the concept to this group. Now is thus an appropriate time to hold another training course to equip more certified auditors. It is also required of all existing certified auditors to do refreshment courses at least every two years in order to ensure that we all adhere to the same standards and assessment procedures.

The next course will be held in the Magaliesberg at the resort Rustig 19-21 June 2015.

The course entails the following: (Details available on request)

Day 1: Friday - From approx. 09h00 to 17h00:

- (a) Theory of Green Flag and method of executing the fieldwork.
- (b) Trail construction assessment at hand of KZN Trails manual.
- (c) Field excursion to apply techniques.

Day 2: Saturday - Practical assessment exercise on a trail together with certified auditor.

Day 3: Sunday -

- (a) Report writing procedures.
- (b) Administration procedures.

Costing: HOSA is a non-profit organization. The cost involved will be kept affordable as it is important to have as many motivated auditors involved as possible. The final price will be determined by the number of trainees. Please let us know by return of mail if you or some of your staff are interested in attending the course. A formal invitation and registration forms will then be sent to you.

Pre-requisites: In order to be allowed on the course it is required that you have been hiking for some years or be appointed in a position where you are (co-)responsible for trail maintenance or trail management. Basic computer and map reading skills are a requirement and access to a veldt GPS is highly recommended.

Benefits of being a Green Flag auditor:

GF auditors should not be motivated by the anticipated financial gain. The motivation should be a passion for the improvement of hiking in South Africa. Normally there is a remuneration of R750 per hiking day plus R250 for the writing of the report. You of course also hike free of charge and can take a companion with you. Petrol fees are also paid by the trail owner. In order to formally qualify and be certified you will need to accompany another certified auditor on a trail audit and produce our own independent report. To facilitate this we are anticipating to do such auditing at Rustig on Tuesday directly after the course when you can then be under the guidance of one of the course leaders. This will be optional.

Albert Bossert

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