

Media Release - 23/03/2001

South African National Parks (SANParks) announces second phase of its Commercialisation Programme

South African National Parks' (SANParks) much publicised commercialisation programme has now entered its second phase with the release this week at the organisation's Pretoria headquarters of a notice inviting investors to submit "Expressions of Interest" for the following opportunities:

- 10 restaurants in Kruger Park;
- 6 restaurants in other Parks;
- 12 retail shops in Kruger Park;
- 3 picnic sites in Kruger Park; and
- 11 retail shops in other Parks

These facilities are to be outsourced as going concerns, complete with staff and assets, under contracts that will transfer full operational control to the private operators. In keeping with SANParks objectives, particular attention will be paid to creating opportunities for Historically Disadvantaged Individuals and women, particularly those from communities adjacent to the Parks. In addition, private operators will have to respect the existing SANParks regulations regarding the protection of the environment.

Backgrounder

The commercialisation programme, which has been described as a strategy for conservation, aims to enable private sector operators to become involved in parks commercial operations, while freeing the organisation to focus on its core business of bio-diversity conservation. The first phase of the programme was completed in November last year and resulted in seven lodges (six in the Kruger and one in Addo) being awarded to private operators via 20-year concessions.

More information on this phase of the commercialisation programme is available on the SANParks website, at the address below. Alternately, interested operators may contact SANParks and request a faxed package of information.

Please address all queries to:

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