

AN UPDATE ON 2014 TALA APPLICATION

Dear members,

Greetings from TATO

We are happy to have heard from quite a few of you inquiring about filling 2014 TALA applications on the online application system we launched last year. For those of you who completed your applications online last year, we thank you and salute you for being trail blazers. This year we hope to get even more of you using the system!

This online application system is important because it aims to, and will continue to, work to simplify the application system for you while also allowing TATO to capture aggregate data on what is happening in the industry as contributed by you the members. This data is crucial for TATO to be able to lobby and advocate for an ever improving business environment and sustainability of our industry.

Being already November, it is high time you begin the application process for 2014. However we had not given the "go ahead" as we waited on the fate of two issues:

1. Indication from the Ministry that there would be some changes to the TALA application form;
2. Words that the Ministry was also considering an online application system of its own.

Over the course of the last couple of weeks we have been able to get these two issues sorted. On the former, yes some changes have been introduced, and on the later indeed such a system was in the pipeline. It is unfortunate that the IT department at the Ministry was not notified about the TATO online system despite it being known by key people in the Ministry. However after reviewing and comparing both systems, the Ministry and TATO secretariats have decided to go on with the use of the TATO online system because of its ease of use, lower learning curve, and to avoid any confusion amongst applicants.

In light of this we are now working to make some changes to the TATO online application system to account for the redesigned TALA application form. Once these changes are in place we'll welcome all members to use the system. For those of you who had not used the online system last year, you will get emails with signing up instructions. And for those of you who did use the online system last year, your data is still there and this year you will only have to fill in the data that has changed over the course of this year!

As part of our discussions with the Ministry we also looked at some possible additions to be made to the system for the 2015 application season. The most exciting of these possibilities is having a "Submit to Ministry" button in the TATO online application system that would submit

your application to the Ministry electronically once complete. Hopefully with this we can help you avoid paper-based applications all together, significantly easing the application process.

With that said, we hope to have the system adjusted to the new TALA application form by mid next week. We shall notify you then so you can begin the application process. In the mean time the system is and has been online, and those of you with accounts can access it at any time but we suggest you wait for our confirmation before you begin your 2014 application.

Kind Regards,

Kelvin Remen,

Project Officer.

Tanzania Association of Tour Operators

CCM District Building, Fire Road

<http://www.tatotz.org>

P.O. BOX 6162 Arusha - Tanzania

Fax: +255 27 2506430

Tel: +255 27 2504188

Mob: +255 755 191901