



## UBC battle to go to court

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A STALEMATE between the Department of Home Affairs and the tourism sector could end in a lawsuit.

This comes after industry's lobbying to scrap the requirement for children travelling to South Africa to produce an unabridged birth certificate has come to naught.

**David Frost**, Satsa ceo, said legal action against the Department of Home Affairs was a possibility and that the association had already sought legal counsel.

David said what was needed

was for the Minister of Home Affairs, **Malusi Gigaba**, to provide the basis of the policy implementation. "Ultimately, what you want is a court of law to be able to put the Minister of Home Affairs on the stand and ask him to provide the rational basis for the UBC requirement: how many children have been trafficked? How big is the problem?"

David added that they had sought an opinion from senior legal counsel, which he would table at the Tourism Business Council of South Africa as an option to consider.

**James Vos**, Shadow Minister

of Tourism, told *TNW* that the DA would release a statement outlining their comments on the Draft First Amendment of the Immigration Regulations, 2014 within a few days. He said what was needed was to remove the ambiguity from the regulations and that the application process should be streamlined and made easy to understand.

He also said that electronic visas would be an option to consider, where biometrics were captured on arrival, but that all immigration desks needed to operate during peak periods. ■