



## MEDIA RELEASE

### **Alitalia expands codeshare with Air Seychelles to Madagascar and South Africa**

Rome, 19 December 2016 – Alitalia has expanded its codeshare partnership with Air Seychelles, to offer travellers convenient air connections to Madagascar and South Africa.

Under the agreement, Alitalia will place its AZ flight code on Air Seychelles' four-weekly service to the Malagasy capital of Antananarivo and five-weekly service to Johannesburg, South Africa's biggest city. Subject to government approvals, the Italian flag carrier will also codeshare on Air Seychelles' upcoming twice-weekly service to Durban, set to commence on 30 March 2017.

Business and leisure travellers from Italy will be able to connect onto these services via Air Seychelles-operated flights from Abu Dhabi and Paris to Seychelles, using a single combined ticket for the entire journey.

Cramer Ball, Chief Executive Officer of Alitalia, said: *“Deepening our codeshare cooperation with Air Seychelles brings important benefits to our guests, who now have dozens of new travel options from Italy to Madagascar and South Africa via Seychelles. With its one-of-a-kind wildlife and nature, Madagascar is an attractive holiday destination that offers a new and exciting experience for travellers in Italy. In 2015 alone over 21,000 tourists visited Madagascar from Italy, a number which we are confident will rise with these new travel options. South Africa is likewise an attractive holiday destination, whose magnificent scenery, safaris and game parks are perfect for an outdoor adventure.”*

Roy Kinnear, Chief Executive Officer of Air Seychelles, said: *“Our partnership with Alitalia continues to open up attractive travel options for holidaymakers in Italy, who can now fly with Air Seychelles to the fascinating island of Madagascar and South Africa. Through this codeshare expansion, we have strengthened our route network and added more depth to our regional services, further increasing choice and convenience for travellers. We are confident this development will stimulate passenger and cargo traffic and, at the same time, strengthen the strong cultural, trade and diplomatic bonds between Seychelles, our neighbourly island of Madagascar and South Africa.”*

Air Seychelles operates an Airbus A320 aircraft configured with 136 seats on its Antananarivo service, while its service to Johannesburg is operated using both an A320 aircraft and the wide-body A330, which offer 254 seats.

The new flights are available on sale now, for travel from 18 January, 2017 and can be booked through travel agents, [airseychelles.com](http://airseychelles.com) or [alitalia.com](http://alitalia.com), by visiting any of the airlines' sales offices or by contacting the Air Seychelles Call Centre on +248 4391000 or the Alitalia Call Centre on + 39 06.65649. Alitalia's MilleMiglia loyalty programme members can earn miles also on these new codeshared services.

Flight schedule between Seychelles and Antananarivo. Flights are available for travel from 18 January, 2017:

Flight	Origin	Departs	Destination	Arrives	Frequency
HM754 AZ4483	Seychelles (SEZ)	10:05	Antananarivo (TNR)	11:50	Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Sunday
HM755 AZ4484	Antananarivo (TNR)	14:50	Seychelles (SEZ)	18:35	Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Sunday

Flight schedule between Seychelles and Johannesburg. Flights are available for travel from 18 January, 2017:

Flight	Origin	Departs	Destination	Arrives	Frequency
HM61 AZ4485	Seychelles (SEZ)	09:15	Johannesburg (JNB)	12:25	Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday
HM61 AZ4486	Johannesburg (JNB)	13:45	Seychelles (SEZ)	20:40	Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday

For media information:

**ALITALIA**

Alitalia Media

T. +39.06-65638950

Email. [media@alitalia.com](mailto:media@alitalia.com)

**AIR SEYCHELLES**

Air Seychelles Corporate Affairs

T. +248 2500 833

Email. [mgedosev@airseychelles.com](mailto:mgedosev@airseychelles.com)