

**U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
Office of Global Health Affairs (OGHA)**

Safe Travel to Evacuated Posts

In order to protect U.S. Government employees overseas, the Department of State authorizes or orders that U.S. Government employees and family depart their foreign posts of assignment when the security situation warrants. The Department of State has long-established routine procedures and guidelines to follow when agencies need to authorize official travel to an "evacuated" post. As the number of evacuated posts continues to grow, it is imperative that CIOs and AIOs review Embassy contact procedures with the traveler. Travelers should also keep updated regarding the security situation in the countries they are visiting, referring to the current document [Safe Travel to Evacuated Posts](#)

Posts Currently in Evacuation Status:

Jakarta, Surabaya (Indonesia)
Bangui (Central African Republic)
Amman (Jordan)
Caracas (Venezuela)
Kuwait City (Kuwait)
Riyadh, Dhahran, Jeddah (Saudi Arabia)
Beirut (Lebanon)
Tel Aviv (Israel)
Damascus (Syria)
Jerusalem (Jerusalem)
Muscat (Oman)
Aby Dhabi (United Arab Emirates)
Adana, Ankara, Istanbul, Izmir (Turkey)
Ho Chi Minh City, Hanoi (Vietnam)

Unaccompanied Posts:

Abidjan (Cote d'Ivoire)
Khartoum (Sudan)
Algiers (Algeria)
Bujumbura (Burundi)
Monrovia (Liberia)
Kabul (Afghanistan)
Pristina (Yugoslavia)
Islamabad, Karachi, Lahore, Peshawar (Pakistan)
Bangui (Central African Republic)
Sana'a (Yemen)
Freetown (Sierra Leone)
Beirut (Lebanon)
Brazzaville (Republic of Congo)
Sarajevo (Bosnia-Herzegovina)

Normal Operations Temporarily Suspended at the Following Posts:

Bangui (Central African Republic)
Dushanbe (Tajikistan)

Official Travel to Posts Under Authorized or Ordered Departure

All official travel to a post in evacuation status (including TDY of locally employed staff) requires that all HHS travelers seek and obtain the written approval of the country Ambassador and the State Department Under Secretary for Management BEFORE the travel may commence. Special approval must also be obtained for employees and family members who were away from post when evacuation was approved who wish to return to post, as well as for employees/family members arriving to begin an assignment. The Department of State is likely to approve only mission critical travel when the safety and security of the traveler can be ensured. Requests to obtain approval to travel to an evacuated country should carefully detail the urgency of the travel and the serious negative impact of failure to immediately perform the travel. Requests should also include a detailed itinerary and any additional information available that would assist the embassy in evaluating the urgency of the travel and ensuring safety of the traveler. In those instances when country clearance is required for a non-USG employee, the country clearance cable should clearly state that the traveler is NOT a USG employee.

Unaccompanied Posts

The Department of State designates certain posts which are not evacuated but are in imminent danger areas and areas with severe hardships as "Unaccompanied." Unaccompanied means no family members are allowed to reside at post or only certain categories of family members (e.g., adults only or adults and small children) are authorized to reside at post. Travel to unaccompanied posts requires Country Clearance but does not require the approval of State's Under Secretary for Management. It is reasonable to expect that unaccompanied embassies will want to restrict the number of travelers at post. Requests for country clearance should contain information to help the embassy evaluate the criticality of the travel vis-à-vis their ability to support travelers and ensure their safety.

Travelers in Transit

Transit of a country in which the U.S. Mission is under Authorized or Ordered Departure, as well as transit of Unaccompanied posts, is not prohibited but should be avoided. Should there be an instance where a transit is unavoidable (e.g., a USG employee transiting a country in which the U.S. mission is under evacuation via a direct connecting flight with no intention to exit the airport), Agencies must advise the appropriate embassy/consulate of the planned travel so that the post can be informed of the employee's transit. If the employee is required to stay overnight at the transfer point, written approval must be sought and obtained from the Ambassador and the State Department Under Secretary for Management BEFORE the travel may commence. This added burden ensures that the Department of State and the relevant embassy are aware of the employee's location in case of emergency.