



## **Emergency Message for U.S. Citizens: Kinshasa (Democratic Republic of the Congo)** **Possible Case of Bacterial Meningitis at TASOK School** Travel Health and Safety; Disease Outbreak

Africa > Congo, Democratic Republic of the > Kinshasa

4/23/2012

The U.S. Embassy in Kinshasa informs U.S. citizens that a person associated with the American School in Kinshasa (TASOK) has possibly contracted bacterial meningitis. Certain forms of bacterial meningitis, spread by respiratory droplets, can be highly contagious to close contacts of the patient. You are advised to check with your local physician to review your immunization records.

You can stay in touch and get Embassy updates by checking the U.S. Embassy Kinshasa web site. You can also get global updates at the U.S. Department of State's, Bureau of Consular Affairs website where you can find the current Worldwide Caution, Travel Warning, Travel Alerts, and Country Specific Information. Follow us on Twitter and the Bureau of Consular Affairs page on Facebook as well or you can download our free Smart Traveler iPhone App for travel information at your fingertips. If you don't have internet access, current information on safety and security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States, or for callers from other countries, a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).

If you are going to live in or travel to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, please take the time to tell us about your trip by enrolling in the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP). If you enroll, we can keep you up to date with important safety and security announcements. It will also help your friends and family get in touch with you in an emergency. You should remember to keep all of your information in STEP up to date. It is important during enrollment or updating of information to include your current phone number and current email address where you can be reached in case of an emergency.

The U.S. Embassy in Kinshasa is located at 310 Avenue des Aviateurs, tel. +243-081-225-5872 (Do not dial the zero when calling from abroad). The Consular Section of the Embassy may be reached at tel. +243-081-884-6859 or +243-081-884-4609 and is open Monday-Thursday, 7:30 a.m.-5:15 p.m. and Fridays from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.



For after-hours emergencies, U.S. citizens should call 081-556-0151 and ask to speak with the duty officer.