



Emergency Message for U.S. Citizens: Bamako (Mali), Temporary Closure of U.S. Embassy Bamako and Airport

Political Violence

Africa > Mali > Bamako

5/1/2012

On Wednesday, May 2, the U.S. Embassy will be closed due to the continued unrest in Bamako. The closure includes American Citizens Services and Visa Services sections and the Information Resource Center. U.S. citizens in need of routine citizen services, such as Consular Reports of Birth Abroad or passport applications or renewals, should send an e-mail to ConsularBamako@state.gov, so we can be prepared to assist you when services resume. At this time, we cannot predict how the security situation will evolve, but hope to soon re-open the Embassy to the public.

The Embassy has also received reports that the airport is closed to large commercial aircraft until May 8. Security conditions are changing rapidly. All U.S. citizens are encouraged to remain sheltered in place; further updates will follow via SMS. Contact us at ConsularBamako@state.gov to add your cell phone number to the SMS distribution list. Please note that the SMS system does not have a 100% success rate due to the volume of calls currently moving through the Malian cell phone network.

You can, however, stay in touch and get Embassy updates by checking the U.S. Embassy Bamako web site. You can 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 Warnings, Travel Alerts, and Country Specific Information. If you don't have internet access, we have a call center for updates: 1-888-407-4747 toll free in the United States and Canada, or from other countries on 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 federal holidays). You can also download our free Smart Traveler iPhone App to have travel information at your fingertips.

If you are going to live in or travel to Mali, 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 family and friends 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 Bamako is located at ACI 2000, Rue 243 Porte 297. The Consular Section can be contacted at +223 2070 2505, or via email at consularbamako@state.gov. For after-hours emergencies, please contact the Embassy Duty Officer via the Marine Guard at +223 2070 2301 or 2070 2302.