



Emergency Message for U.S. Citizens: Hong Kong (China), Tropical Storm Vicente Update

Hurricanes

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Due to the Tropical Storm Vicente the American Consulate General closed early on Monday, 23 July. At the present time Signal 3 is still in force, but Hong Kong Observatory expects to issue Tropical Cyclone Warning Signal Number 8 at or before 6 p.m. today.

In the past few hours, Vicente continued to track northward and showed signs of intensification. The associated outer rain bands and squalls of Vicente are now affecting Hong Kong. Locally, strong winds prevail over parts of the territory. There are occasional gale winds over offshore waters and on high ground. As Vicente continues to move closer to the coast of Guangdong, local winds are expected to strengthen further.

Listen to radio, watch TV or browse the Hong Kong Observatory's web site, <http://www.hko.gov.hk/contente.htm>, for information on the tropical cyclone. Should Signal 8 be active in the morning of Tuesday, 24 July, the normal procedures will be observed and the Consulate will be closed.

Additional information on hurricanes and storm preparedness may be found on our "Hurricane Season-Know Before You Go" webpage, and on the "Natural Disasters" page of the Bureau of Consular Affairs website. Updated information on travel in the Asia Pacific region may be obtained from the Department of State by calling 1-888-407-4747 within the United States and Canada, or from overseas, 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are available from 8:00 am to 8:00 p.m., Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).

Please continue to monitor the Embassy's website <http://hongkong.usconsulate.gov/> for updated information. Please consult the Country Specific Information for Hong Kong and Macau, available on the Bureau of Consular Affairs website.

For any emergencies involving U.S. citizens, please contact the U.S. Citizens Services Unit of the U.S. Embassy's Consular Section, located at 26 Garden Road, Hong Kong; telephone +852 2841-2211; after hours emergency telephone +852 2523-9011; ACS unit fax +852 2845-4845; e-mail ACSHK@state.gov; web page <http://hongkong.usconsulate.gov/>