



American Embassy Consular Section Dakar, Senegal

Warden Message
SECURITY REMINDER
April 1, 2010

Uncertain Political Situation in Guinea-Bissau

This Warden Message is being issued to advise U.S. citizens in Guinea-Bissau that the political situation in Bissau appears to be fluid and uncertain at the moment. The Bissau media has reported that the Prime Minister has been detained by a segment of the Armed Forces.

While we are not aware of any incidents or reports of violence, in light of the uncertain political situation, U.S. citizens are urged to be vigilant and exercise caution. U.S. citizens should take appropriate safety precautions, to include maintaining good situational awareness; avoiding crowds and demonstrations; monitoring local news outlets; and reviewing emergency procedures, travel documents, and contingency plans.

U.S. citizens traveling abroad should monitor the Bureau of Consular Affairs' website at <http://www.travel.state.gov>, where the current Worldwide Caution, Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts and Country Specific Information can be found. U.S. citizens traveling specifically to Senegal or Guinea-Bissau should also regularly monitor the US Mission's website at <http://dakar.usembassy.gov/>.

Please note there is no permanent U.S. diplomatic or consular presence in Guinea-Bissau. The U.S. Embassy in Bissau suspended operations on June 14, 1998. While officials from the U.S. Embassy in Dakar, Senegal, make periodic visits to Guinea-Bissau, their ability to provide consular services, including emergency assistance, is very limited. The United States does maintain a liaison office in Bissau, located at Edifício SITEC, Rua José Carlos Schwarz 245, Bairro d'Ajuda (tel/fax 245-256382, 245-5954647). This office is staffed by locally employed staff who, while not equipped to provide consular services, may be contacted in the event of an emergency. The nearest U.S. Embassies are located in Banjul, the Gambia; Conakry, Guinea; and Dakar, Senegal.

We encourage U.S. Citizens to review "A Safe Trip Abroad" found at http://travel.state.gov/travel/tips/safety/safety_1180.html, which includes valuable security information for those both living and traveling abroad. In addition to information on the Internet, travelers may obtain up-to-date information on security conditions by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or, outside the United States and Canada on a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444.

We also encourage U.S. citizens to register or update their information at http://travel.state.gov/travel/tips/registration/registration_1186.html.

Please note that it is important during registration 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 Dakar is located at Avenue Jean XXIII, B.P. 49, Dakar, Sénégal. The Embassy telephone number is (221) 33-829-2100. The Embassy fax number is (221) 33-822-5903. For after-hours emergencies, please call (221) 33-829-2109.