



STATE PROTOCOL DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITIES AND PRIVILEGES (DIAP) CIRCULAR NO 2 OF 2020

The Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO) of the Republic of South Africa presents its compliments to Heads of Diplomatic Missions and International Organisations accredited to the Republic of South Africa, has the honour to refer to State Protocol Diplomatic Immunities and Privileges (DIAP) Circular No 1 of 2020 regarding Alert Level processes during South Africa's National State of Disaster due to COVID-19, and wishes to inform Foreign Missions of revised Alert Level One processes.

The Department wishes to further inform Foreign Missions that all official documents may continue to be sent via email, or where necessary, to be delivered in printed format to the main reception at DIRCO on Mondays to Friday, 08h30 to 12h30. Health protocols have been put in place during access control and for meetings.

The Department wishes to further inform Foreign Missions that all applications for Diplomatic Accreditation, Diplomatic Vehicles and Temporary Residence Visas (TRV's) should be submitted in original format, and any queries regarding diplomatic immunities, privileges, and security of the Diplomatic Corps are to be sent to the following dedicated electronic mail addresses:

- diapaccreditation@dirco.gov.za – Accreditation requests including the issuing of diplomatic identity cards.
- diapprivileges@dirco.gov.za – Certificate A and B Customs Clearances, Diplomatic Properties, SARS (excluding * Vehicles VAT refunds).
- diapsecurity@dirco.gov.za – Security related matters.
- diaptrv@dirco.gov.za - Temporary Residence Visas (TRV).
- diapvehicles@dirco.gov.za – * Vehicle requests including SARS vehicle related VAT refunds.

All other diplomatic immunities and privileges requests and / or enquiries are to be sent via electronic mail to the following officials:

- Ms L de Jong
Director: Diplomatic Immunities and Privileges, dejongl@dirco.gov.za, 0674155555
- Mr J Lotter
Deputy Director: Foreign and SA Heads of Mission Appointments and SA Diplomatic and Acting Deputy Director: Diplomatic Privileges Passports, lotterj@dirco.gov.za, 0663020046
- Mr K Oosthuizen
Deputy Director: Diplomatic Security, Immunity Disputes, Permits and Front Office, and Acting Deputy Director: Diplomatic Accreditation, oosthuizenk@dirco.gov.za, 0636900414

Foreign Missions are requested to use the Country Name / International Organisation Name and the specific request details in the Subject Line so as to easily identify the electronic mail.

For ease of reference, Foreign Missions are requested to take note of the Diplomatic Immunities and Privileges Policy, the Diplomatic Immunities and Privileges Act, No 37 of 2001, and related forms on the DIRCO website, www.dirco.gov.za – State Protocol – Diplomatic Immunities and Privileges (DIAP). Foreign Missions are reminded that all newly appointed diplomats should be announced indicating who they will be replacing and when the incumbent will be leaving.

The Department further wishes to remind Foreign Missions to complete the attached Emergency After Hours Contact List template to ensure that the Department has the correct Mission details on record. The completed template is to be sent to diapsecurity@dirco.gov.za.

In terms of the present protocols and the amended Regulation 75 of the Disaster Management Regulations issued on 11 November 2020, all international travel to and from

South Africa resumed from 12 November 2020, and international travel is allowed through the designated operational ports of entry subject to restrictions that include the following:

- (a) The traveller providing a valid certificate of a negative COVID-19 test which was obtained not more than 72 hours before the date of travel.
- (b) In the event the traveller's failure to submit a certificate as proof of a negative test, the traveller will be required to quarantine him or herself at his or her own cost.
- (c) International air travel is restricted to OR Tambo, King Shaka and Cape Town International Airports
- (d) Any traveller who exhibits COVID-19 symptoms when screened upon arrival will be required to take a COVID-19 test at their own expense. Should the test result be positive, travellers will be subject to quarantine at their own expense.

All travellers are encouraged to install the COVID-19 Alert SA mobile application on their mobile devices. The application may be downloaded and installed from the following link: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=za.gov.health.covidconnect&hl=en>

A COVID-19 test is required for all travellers over the age of five.

The normal visa regulations for business and leisure travel has been re-instituted and travellers from visa exempt countries will no longer have to apply for visas. Persons applying for longer term permits can do so at one of South Africa's diplomatic missions or at VFS.

The Department of International Relations and Cooperation of the Republic of South Africa avails itself of this opportunity to renew to Heads of Diplomatic Missions and International Organisations accredited to the Republic of South Africa the assurance of its highest consideration.



PRETORIA
7 December 2020

Heads of Diplomatic Missions and International Organisations
accredited to the Republic of South Africa
PRETORIA