

U.S. CITIZEN SERVICES

U.S. Embassy – Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire

Crisis and Contingency Planning for U.S. Citizens

The Embassy's highest priority is the protection of U.S. citizens

Protection is a dual responsibility: Citizens and the Embassy each have distinct roles in preparing ourselves and our families.

Signing up for the Smart Travelers Enrollment Program (STEP), keeping your information up to date and staying abreast of Consular Information on the web site is a critical responsibility of U.S. citizens residing or traveling overseas.

Ensure that your passports and other critical travel documents are current. Evaluate your own family's security situation and make plans to depart the country to a safe place if needed.

It is important to know that as time goes on should a crisis escalate suddenly the Embassy's ability immediately may be limited or impossible. Costs to the citizen, and delays in being able to leave a dangerous situation may consequently increase. The decision about whether to depart is the responsibility of each citizen based on his/her personal security situation.

In the event circumstances warrant an evacuation, the policy of the U.S. government is generally to help U.S. citizens get to the closest safe haven country.

U.S. assistance is a last recourse once all commercial means of air or vehicle transport out of the country are unavailable.

Transport costs are the responsibility of the citizen even if military or charter transport becomes available.

In the case of U.S. citizen minors, one non-U.S. citizen parent, or legal guardian (eligible to enter the safe haven country or the United States) with a visa may accompany the child.