

**U.S Embassy Dakar, Senegal
Emergency Message for U.S. Citizens**

Possible Student Demonstrations for Tuesday, February 7th

February 6, 2012

This message is to inform U.S. citizens in Senegal that the “M23” opposition movement and students at the University of Cheikh Anta Diop (UCAD) in Dakar have called for a march tomorrow from the University to the Ministry of the Interior, which is located in the downtown area of Dakar. It is unclear at the moment which route they will take (either Rue de Ouakam or the Corniche); while organizers have called for the march to start at 10 a.m., it could be later in the day. Now that the Presidential campaign has officially started, political opposition members could also join the march and demonstrations in front of the Ministry. This has the potential to disrupt traffic moving in and out of Dakar, and could also turn violent.

A separate student demonstration has also been called for tomorrow in the coastal city of Mbour, about 60 miles southeast of Dakar. During last Tuesday’s demonstrations, a student from Mbour was killed by security forces; this demonstration has been called to protest his killing and could also turn into a political demonstration.

Given the uncertainty of exactly when and how large demonstrations in these two areas may be, U.S. citizens are encouraged to exercise caution if traveling in these locations (from UCAD to the Ministry of Interior in Dakar, and around the city of Mbour) on Tuesday. Demonstrations could quickly turn violent. Stay tuned to media reports, maintain situational awareness, consider alternate travel routes in case of blockage and avoid demonstrations should you come upon them.

You can stay in touch and get Embassy updates by checking the U.S. Embassy Dakar web site (<http://dakar.usembassy.gov/>). You can also 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 Warning, Travel Alerts, and Country Specific Information (http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1013.html). If you don't have internet access, you can get current information on safety and security by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States, or for callers from other countries, 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 U.S. federal holidays).

If you are going to live in or travel to Senegal or Guinea-Bissau, please take the time to tell us about your trip by enrolling in the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP - <https://travelregistration.state.gov/ibrs/ui/>). If you enroll, we can keep you up to date with important safety and security announcements. It will also help your friends and family 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 Dakar is located on at Avenue Jean XXIII, Dakar; the mailing address is B.P. 49, Dakar, Senegal. If you have questions or concerns about safety or related issues, you are encouraged to contact the consular section at the Embassy by sending an email message to consulardakar@state.gov. The Embassy telephone number is +221 33 829-2100. For After Hours Emergency, please call Tel: 33-829-2209 and ask to speak to the duty officer.