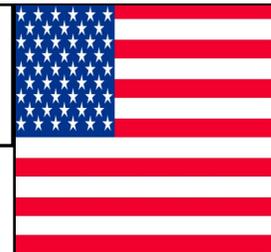




U.S. Embassy, Lusaka



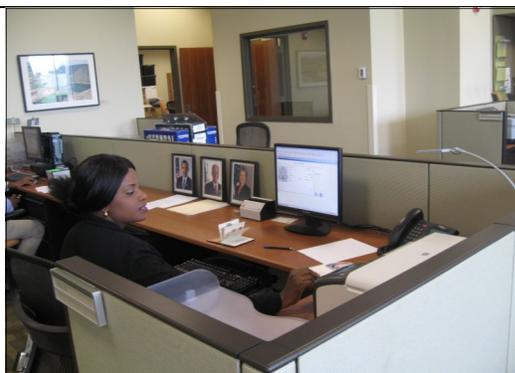
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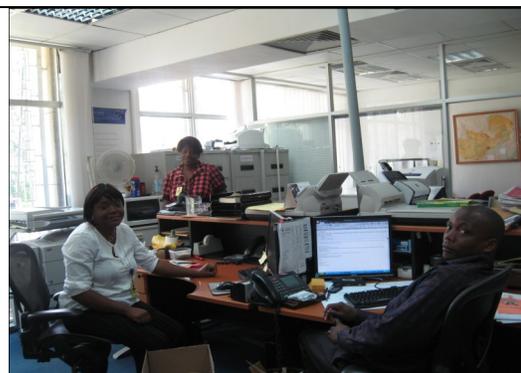
APRIL—JUNE 2011

We Moved to our New Home!

After 45 Years at United Nations and Independence Avenues, the United States Embassy’s new home in Zambia is located in Ibox Hill at the eastern end of Kabulonga Road. Key contact information: Tel: 021-1-357000, 0966-877-805 (emergencies) or email at ACSLusaka@state.gov. We will continue to serve our U.S citizen and Zambian customers proactively with efficiency, expertise, and empathy.



New Embassy Consular Section



Old Embassy Consular Section



New Embassy Consular Waiting Room



Old Embassy Consular Waiting Room

The Consular Section has its own pedestrian entrance gate at the northeastern corner of the compound on Kabulonga Road.

For those with an appointment, there is limited parking in the lot designated “Visitor Parking” next to the main chancery entrance. If that lot is full we recommend parking in the vicinity past the consular entrance. All vehicles parked at the embassy are parked at the owner’s risk.

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Embassy Website

The Living in Zambia portion of the main Embassy website at www.zambia.usembassy.gov now has an updated Attorney List, Doctors List and other essential information. These lists are compiled based on the results of questionnaires and serve as a point of reference to you, but do not constitute recommendations by the U.S. Embassy. If you use these services and find that they are far below standard, let us know by writing to ACSLusaka@state.gov.

Additional Visa Pages

U.S. Citizens can get an extra set of passport inserts **free** at the time of paid application for extra pages. Instructions to follow soon.

Credit Card Payments

We are pleased to announce that U.S. citizens will soon be able to pay by credit card for all American Citizen Services as well as some immigrant visa services such as petition filing or adoptions at Embassy Lusaka. Non-immigrant visa services are **not payable** by credit card. Details to follow soon.

Consular Lusaka's New Call Center

In order to improve the level of customer service we provide for our visa applicants, we will soon be served by a call center and enhanced website for general enquiries.

ACS News

In our continued effort to achieve excellence in customer service, especially for our U.S. citizen residents, we have the following news to announce.

Passport Application Forms

All U.S. citizenship application forms have been updated.

In order to avoid data entry errors and better serve you, we now ask that you complete your passport application online at www.travel.state.gov, print it, and bring it with you to the interview. While we recommend that you complete the application at home, we have an internet terminal available at the consular section for your use if you are unable to do so.

Smart Traveler / SMS



You may have heard us encouraging you to enroll in Smart Traveler (www.travel.state.gov/step). Smart Traveler is the U.S. Department of State's worldwide program that allows us to provide you timely information on the places where you are traveling and living—and to be able to reach you in an emergency, whether there is a crisis in Zambia, or a personal crisis back home in which your family is trying to reach you via the Embassy. Our stalwart volunteer American Wardens help us in these situations.

Sounds a lot like the old registering with the Embassy? Actually it's a new name for the same program. If you registered with us before and your contact info remains the same, no need to re-enroll. If you are traveling to other countries, or your contact information changes, do update your information at the Web site noted above.

Text messaging (SMS)

As part of Smart Traveler, we can send you an emergency SMS text messages on your mobile. You can provide your mobile number when you subscribe. If you have already registered with the Embassy and have not been contacted by your warden, please send your mobile phone number to us at ACSLusaka@state.gov.

Warden Messages Recently Posted on our Website:

- http://zambia.usembassy.gov/zambia/citizen_services.html
- [Zambian Immigration Act Change to penalties March 7, 2011.](#)
- [Changes to our Zambia country specific travel information.](#)
- [Rape Drug Usage on the Increase](#)

We remind all U.S. Citizens to avoid demonstrations of any sort and to use caution when in the vicinity of large gatherings. Even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and possibly escalate into violence.

Reminder: Passport Return Option



U.S. citizens resident in Zambia have the option of supplying the Embassy with a pre-paid, pre-addressed Fedex or DHL envelope for return of their new passports rather than making a separate trip to the Embassy to collect them. This envelope should be provided at the time of passport application. U.S. citizens continue to have the option of returning to collect their passport in person or designating another party in writing to collect it for them. It takes an average of two weeks for the Embassy to receive your new passport from the United States and you will receive email notification when it has arrived.

To avoid inconvenience, please call us at 0211-357-000 x260 to notify us if your planned arrival time so that we can make sure we are here to assist you. The U.S. Embassy is closed on the following Zambian and U.S. holidays for the remainder of 2011: April 22, April 25, May 2, May 25, May 30, July 4, July 5, August 1, September 5, October 10, October 24, November 11, November 24, December 26.



VOTING OVERSEAS



I WANT YOU TO VOTE!

If you've come for a service at the Embassy recently, we probably encouraged you to fill out a Federal Post Card Application to re-register with your home state and request a ballot. The Federal Voting Assistance Program (part of the Department of Defense, due to the large number of overseas American military voters) is looking to update the forms, and they want your ideas on how to improve them. You can email them at vote@fvap.gov.

Remember that we always post information on state special elections on our Embassy Voting webpage. For example, New York will hold a special election for the 26th Congressional District, to fill the seat vacated by Representative Christopher J. Lee. The 26th Congressional District includes the following counties: Erie, Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Niagara, Orleans, and Wyoming.

MALARIA PRECAUTIONS



The CDC recommends that all travelers to any part of Zambia take medication to prevent malaria and avoid mosquito bites by using insect repellants at dusk/evenings and by sleeping under an insecticide treated bed net each night. Drugs currently recommended for Zambia are Malarone (atovaquone/proguanil), Lariam (mefloquine) or doxycycline. Each has its pros and cons which are well described on the CDC travel web site (<http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/yellowbook/2010/chapter-2/malaria.aspx>). Please consult your medical provider for assistance in deciding which medication to take.

For persons living in Zambia long term the decision about taking preventive medications is more complex. First, for urban Lusaka, there is very little locally-acquired malaria and it is reasonable to use insect repellants during dusk/evenings and sleep under an insecticide treated bed net at night while foregoing long term preventive medication. There is also easy access to adequate medical care including diagnostic testing and treatment if fevers develop.

Most areas outside urban Lusaka have much higher malaria risk, particularly during the rainy season. Those living outside Lusaka should sleep under a net and use insect repellent. If you choose not to take preventive medication, you should have good access to medical care and when sick, seek medical attention for the best quality diagnosis and treatment. In all cases, you should seek medical care and malaria testing immediately if your illness includes a fever. Pregnant women are at increased risk from malaria complications and should talk to their medical provider about the best ways to prevent malaria.



OVERSEAS TAXPAYERS CAN USE IRS FREE FILE TO PREPARE AND E-FILE TAX RETURNS

- If you are a U.S. citizen or resident alien, the rules for filing income, estate, and gift tax returns and paying estimated tax are generally the same whether you are in the United States or abroad. Your worldwide income is subject to U.S. income tax, regardless of where you reside.
- If you reside overseas, or are in the military on duty outside the U.S., you are allowed an automatic 2-month extension to file your return until June 15. However, any tax due must be paid by the original return due date (April 15) to avoid interest charges.
- If you are unable to file your return by the due date, you can request an additional extension to October 15 by filing Form 4868 before the return due date. However, any payments made after June 15 would be subject to both interest charges and failure to pay penalties.
- The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) advises that U.S. Citizens and resident aliens living outside the United States can use IRS Free File to prepare and file their federal tax returns electronically. IRS Free File is brand-name software that is offered exclusively at IRS.gov, through a partnership with the tax software industry. There are five companies that accept foreign addresses. Taxpayers should review the list of tax forms supported by the company to ensure it meets their needs, especially Form 1116 (Foreign Tax Credit), and/or Form 2555 (Foreign Earned Income).
- To be eligible for Free-File, taxpayers' adjusted gross income in 2010 must be \$58,000 or less. Some overseas taxpayers may exclude \$91,500 of their 2010 foreign earnings, which would make more people eligible for IRS Free File.
- Free File software generally asks questions and taxpayers supply the answers. The software completes the proper tax forms, does the math, and allows for free electronic filing through IRS e-file. By filing electronically, taxpayers due refunds and who have U.S. bank accounts can opt for direct deposit and get their refunds in as few as 10 days.
- To get started with IRS Free File, go to www.irs.gov/freefile and select "Pick a Free File Company."
- Taxpayers with an Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) over \$58,000 can e-file their returns by purchasing online software. Check the software provider's information to ensure that it can accommodate a foreign address.
- If you are a U.S. citizen or resident alien (Green Card Holder) and you live in a foreign country, but do not wish to e-file, mail your U.S. tax return to:

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service Center
Austin, TX 73301-0215

Estimated tax payments should be mailed with form 1040-ES to:

Internal Revenue Service
P.O. Box 1300 Charlotte,
NC 28201-1300





To U.S. Citizens in the Kitwe area:

You probably know we have an “American Corner” at the Dag Hammarskjold Library of the Mindolo Ecumenical Center in Kitwe. In fact, you may have gone there to meet with the U.S. Ambassador Mark Storella last December. The American Corner is a place where people can learn about America through books and publications, attend events about American life, and learn about options for studying in the United States.

The Embassy is looking for a volunteer to help maintain the American Corner and work with the Embassy on occasional special events at the center. While the position does not come with a salary, this could be a great internship opportunity, and there may be a possibility of attending a regional conference about running an American Corner. If this is something that might interest you, please contact the Embassy Public Affairs Section at IRCLusaka@state.gov.



Dag Hammarskjold Library, Mindolo Ecumenical Center, Kitwe