



U.S. Embassy Lusaka

CONSULAR COMMUNICATOR



U.S. EMBASSY MOVES TO NEW BUILDING

JANUARY- MARCH 2011



The completed chancery situated on Ibex Hill in eastern Lusaka.

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Finally, our new building is complete! We bid adieu January 21 to our old building at the corner of Independence and United Nations Avenues, our home for 45 years. The US Embassy will be moving to its (your!) new chancery on Ibex Hill in Lusaka on January, 25, 2011. The new facility is lo-

cated at the eastern end of Kabulonga Road.

What is a Chancery?

Although diplomatic buildings are commonly referred to as embassies, an embassy historically refers to just an ambassador's residence. Today, the building that houses an entire diplomatic mission (i.e. an embassy) is called a chancery.

Construction of the chancery was completed by 1,240 Zambian workers over a period of three years. It is a modern and energy-efficient (LEED certified) building. Some of the chancery's environmentally friendly features include a water recycling system, motion-sensing lights, energy-efficient heating and cooling, and large windows that allow natural light to replace man-made

lighting.

Most of the U.S. federal agencies working in Zambia will now be housed under one roof, enhancing coordination and increased efficiency of the Mission—which manages about \$400 million in projects that benefit Zambia each year. The

completion of the new chancery is a symbol of the continued cooperation and growth of the partnership between the American and Zambian people.

Visiting the New Chancery

The Consular Section will be closed to the public (emergencies excepted) January 20-26 while we move. We look forward to serving you in our new facility upon reopening January 27.

Our Web site has a [map of our new location](#).

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.



Chancery Atrium



Consular Section waiting room

The new Consular Section comes with modern equipment that will enable staff to provide efficient, quality service to our customers.



Above: Ambassador Mark C. Storella with Americans at the American Corner at Mindolo Ecumenical Foundation in Kitwe. Right: Ambassador Storella with American citizens in Eastern province.

Ambassador Storella's Outreach Trips

U.S. Ambassador Mark Storella has only been in Zambia for a few months but already has visited several provinces to familiarize himself with the country. Recently, Ambassador Storella visited Eastern and Copperbelt provinces, where he was able to meet with resident American citizens. Ambassador Storella is very interested to hear the concerns and achievements of the American community in Zambia. Consular Section staff were on hand to provide consular services.



Robberies

In December, 2010, the Embassy sent a Warden Message to Americans in Zambia to warn of the increase in robberies in urban areas, especially in Lusaka, and especially during the holiday period. Of course robberies can happen anywhere, so we repeat the guidance here:

- Drive with your windows up and doors locked.
- If someone, either on foot or in another vehicle, attempts to get you to stop, either by hand motioning or attempting to use their vehicle to slow you down or block your path, get away from the situation. Always ensure that you have sufficient distance from surrounding cars so that you can get away.
- If you believe you are being pursued, immediately proceed to the closest police station or public area, such as a hotel. DO NOT proceed to your residence; the person could be attempting to find out where you live.
- The key is not to isolate yourself in a remote area.
- While it is helpful to law enforcement if you are able to get the license plate number of the assailant's vehicle, the priority should be on getting away from the situation.
- Be cautious of persons representing themselves as collectors for charity. This may be used as a ruse to gain access to your house, for actual crime or criminal surveillance of your property.
- Do not leave items in plain view in your unattended vehicle. Place items or valuables in the trunk or in the rear of the vehicle out of sight.

Smart Traveler / SMS



You may have heard us encouraging you to enroll in [Smart Traveler](http://www.travel.state.gov/step) (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, 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 your mobile phone number to us at ACSLusaka@state.gov.



Welcome Teddy Berihun

The Consular Section welcomes a new member of its staff: Teddy Berihun. Teddy is a Consular Assistant and takes over from Nylsa Clark who is now working in another section of the Embassy. Teddy was born and grew up in Addis Ababa. Later he moved to Indialantic, Florida, where he lived for two years. He worked as a lecturer and software test engineer in Addis Ababa, Florida and Ohio. In his free time, Teddy enjoys traveling, mountain biking, salsa dancing and playing football (soccer).



Voting Tip of the Season: Re-register with your State!



We recommend that each January, you resubmit the [Federal Post Card Application](#) to your home county in the States to ensure you remain on the voting rolls and receive a ballot. You can find instruction on the [Federal Voting Assistance Program website](#) or simply come by the Embassy and we'll help you fill it out and mail it.

USCIS Fee Changes

The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) implemented a new schedule of fees November 23, 2010. These changes affect consular customers wishing to file a petition for immigrant visas and other services. The new schedule of fees is the result of a USCIS fee study that determined that the previous schedule did not recover the full cost of those services provided.

USCIS has also introduced a fee for collecting fingerprints for US citizen adoptive parents. Previously, there was no fee when fingerprints for adoptions were collected at the Embassy on behalf of USCIS. The Consular section will collect the new fees for all USCIS services provided by the Embassy. These fees are payable in cash, either in U.S. Dollars or Kwacha at the Embassy's daily exchange rate.

USCIS fees commonly charged overseas include:

<u>Service</u>	<u>Old fee</u>	<u>New fee</u>
DHS I-130 Petition for Alien Relative	\$355	\$420
DHS I-600/600A Petition to Classify an Orphan as an Immediate Relative	\$670	\$720
DHS I-601 Waiver of Ground of Excludability	\$545	\$585
DHS Biometrics (fingerprint) Fee		\$85
DHS I-360 Petition for Amerasian, Widow(er), or Special Immigrant	\$375	\$405
DHS I-131 Reentry Permit	\$305	\$360
DHS I-212 Application for Permission to Reapply for Admission into the U.S. after Deportation or Removal	\$545	\$585
DHS I-90 Application to Replace Permanent Resident Card	\$290	\$365
DHS I-290B Notice of Appeal or Motion	\$585	\$630
DHS N-565 Application for Replacement Naturalization/Citizenship Document	\$380	\$345

NEW CONSULAR REPORT OF BIRTH



The U.S. Department of State is pleased to announce the introduction of a redesigned Consular Report of Birth Abroad (CRBA, or Form FS-240). The redesigned CRBA, which is an official record confirming that a child born abroad to a U.S. citizen parent or

parents acquired U.S. citizenship at birth, has been updated with a variety of state-of-the-art security features to help prevent fraud and identity theft. We think it is an even nicer looking certificate too!

in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, and New Orleans, Louisiana. By centralizing production and eliminating the distribution of controlled blank stock throughout the world, we will help ensure uniform quality and lessen the possibility of fraud. Additionally, the Department will no longer issue the DS-1350 Certification of Report of Birth Abroad. Instead, the Department will simply provide new FS-240s in response to requests for additional, replacement, or amended CRBAs. As this change is instituted there may be a delay in providing the report of birth. However, do not worry if you have urgent travel needs: We can still issue you a passport and provide the report of birth to you when you return to Zambia.

What are the requirements for a married couple, one of whom is American, to pass on citizenship to their child born abroad? Rules have changed over the years, but currently, the American parent must demonstrate that s/he lived in America for five years prior to the birth of the child; two of those years must have been after age 14. **Child born to two American parents?** They have it easier. One parent just has to show s/he lived in the United States at some point before the birth.

citizenship at birth, has been updated with a variety of state-of-the-art security features to help prevent fraud and identity theft. We think it is an even nicer looking certificate too!

Within the coming month or two, a new procedure for applying for a CRBA will be put in place. The Embassy will still document the citizenship of children born overseas to U.S. citizen parents, but the CRBAs will be printed at our passport agencies



Ambassador Storella congratulating families who successfully adopted Zambian children and obtained visas for them to immigrate to the United States.

The Rainy Season

Experts are predicting heavier than normal rains in Zambia this year. We have no inside knowledge of weather patterns, but if there is serious flooding in your area, let us know. See the U.S. State Department's crisis preparedness information on [natural disasters](#).



Traveler's Health



YELLOW FEVER POLICY FOR SOUTH AFRICA

South Africa requires a valid yellow fever certificate from all individuals who have traveled from the countries listed below. This requirement may be imposed on travelers flying to South Africa via yellow fever countries, even when transiting passengers are required to stay on board the plane, including South African Airways flights stopping in Dakar, Senegal. Please note that yellow fever inoculations are no longer administered at South African ports of entry. Travelers are advised that they are now required to obtain a yellow fever inoculation at least 14 days prior to their arrival in South Africa; this is in accordance with WHO regulations. If a yellow fever inoculation is not obtained with regard to these new guidelines, passengers may be turned around at the South African port of entry. For more information on this policy, see the [South African government's notice](#).

Below is a list of yellow fever countries from the [U.S. Centers for Disease Control](#) Web site.

Africa

- Angola
- Burundi
- Benin
- Burkina Faso
- Cameroon
- Central African Republic
- Chad
- Congo (Republic of)
- Congo (Democratic Rep. of)
- Cote d'Ivoire
- Equatorial Guinea
- Ethiopia
- Gambia
- Gabon
- Guinea
- Guinea-Bissau

- Kenya
- Liberia
- Mali
- Mauritania
- Niger
- Nigeria
- Sao Tome & Principe
- Senegal
- Sierra Leone
- Somalia
- Sudan
- Rwanda
- Tanzania
- Togo
- Uganda

South America

- Argentina
- Bolivia
- Colombia
- Ecuador
- French Guyana
- Guyana
- Panama
- Paraguay
- Peru
- Suriname
- Venezuela

How to Contact the U.S. Embassy:

0211-357-000 or 0966-877-805

You can also email us at ACSLusaka@state.gov.