

U.S. Embassy Lusaka, Zambia
Message for U.S. Citizens
Yellow Fever Vaccinations

January 31, 2012

The U.S. Embassy has been informed that South African Airways (SAA) now requires all passengers to present their World Health Organization (WHO) card (commonly called a “yellow card”) showing a valid yellow fever vaccination shot record before boarding flights from Zambia to South Africa. SAA recently implemented this policy because South Africa is now enforcing its proof of vaccination requirement for travelers arriving from all WHO- designated yellow fever countries. Also, South Africa now requires the original (not a photocopy), current vaccination cards of travelers from Zambia.

South African authorities can and do refuse entry into South Africa to travelers who do not meet this requirement. See the State Department’s [Country Specific Information Sheet](#) for South Africa for latest entry/exit and safety requirements pertaining to South Africa.

There has been no change in the need for yellow fever vaccination or a risk of becoming sick from yellow fever while living in South Africa or Zambia. No action is necessary unless you plan to travel through one of the at-risk countries and then enter South Africa. As always, please check your [immunization requirements and recommendations](#) before embarking on international travel.

Further information on SAA’s boarding policy can be found on the airline’s web site under [Travel Advisories](#).

You can stay in touch and get updates by checking the [U.S. Embassy in Zambia web site](#). 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 Warnings, Travel Alerts, and [Country Specific Information for Zambia](#). Follow us on Twitter and the Bureau of Consular Affairs page on Facebook as well, or you can download our free Smart Traveler iPhone App for travel information at your fingertips. If you don’t have Internet access, current information on safety and security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States, or, for callers from other countries, a regular toll line 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except federal holidays).

The Embassy cannot prevent you from traveling to locations despite a Travel Warning. For your personal safety and security and the peace of mind of your family and friends, it is useful for you to notify us in advance of your travel plans via the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program](#) (STEP).

The U.S. Embassy in Lusaka is located on Ibex Hill Road, Lusaka. The Consular Section can be contacted at 0211-357-000, or via email at ACSLusaka@state.gov. For assistance after hours or in an emergency, you can contact us at 0211-357-000 or 0966-877-805.