



American Citizens eNewsletter November 2009

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NEW MOZAMBIKAN TRAFFIC REGULATIONS FOR REFLECTIVE VESTS, TRIANGLES AND REFLECTIVE MARKINGS

According to ACIS, new regulations regarding reflective vests and triangles were published on the 8th of September and will come into effect 90 days from that date. The following regulations are mandatory for all vehicles:



- 1.) A reflective triangle that has a side of at least 500mm long and 50mm wide with a thickness of roughly 5mm. The triangle must be uniformly covered in a red reflective material with a white back or white covering at the back. The edge of the triangle must be yellow and must be visible at 100 meters in the presence of light.
- 2.) A reflective vest made of polyester and that has reflective strips that are at least 400mm wide on the front, back and sides of the vest. The vest must be worn anytime someone is attending to a vehicle or an accident on the side of the road.
- 3.) Reflective markings are needed on all vehicles or trailers over 10,000kg in weight or over 6 meters long. The markings must be located on the back and sides of the vehicle.

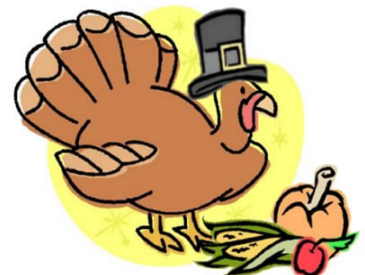
Please consult the original legislation and its English translation below if there are any uncertainties about these new regulations. ACIS also provides a list of suppliers around the country who sell the reflective equipment.

http://www.acismoz.com/index.php?level=acisofala_top1_content&pageid=8

EMBASSY CLOSURES

The Embassy will be closed on **Tuesday and Wednesday, November 10th and 11th** for Maputo Day and Veteran's Day and **Thursday, November 26th** for Thanksgiving. Gobble gobble!

In the event of an emergency involving a U.S. citizen, please contact the Consular Section immediately at 21 49 2797 x3439 or 21 49 0723 during non business hours. Please remember that in case of an emergency, no matter what day or time, there is always someone available to assist you.



MOZAMBIQUE'S RANKING IN PRESS FREEDOM IMPROVES

According to the RSF, (Reporters Without Borders) Mozambique has moved up eight places from 90th to 82nd place out of 175 countries ranked.

Reporters Without Borders compiles an index every year on the basis of questionnaires that are completed by hundreds of journalists and media experts around the world. This year's index reflects press freedom violations that took place between 1 September 2008 and 31 August 2009.

<http://www.rsf.org/en-classement1003-2009.html>

NELSPRUIT IS OFFICIALLY RENAMED TO MBOMBELA

The Ministry of Arts and Culture has approved 42 geographic name changes throughout South Africa in the past few months. Nelspruit, a city popular among Mozambicans for shopping and medical appointments, has been officially changed to Mbombela. Mbombela is Siswati for "a lot of people together in a small place." Other major name changes include Durban to "eThekweni" and Bloemfontein to "Mangaung". Authorities will allow the cities and towns to keep the former names during a transitional period of about three years.

U.S. DONATES \$2 MILLION TO CLEAR LANDMINES

In a ceremony held in an area of active mine fields outside Maputo U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Todd Chapman presented HALO Trust, the largest mine clearance agency in the world, with a \$2 million USAID grant for the clearance of landmines in Maputo, Manica and Tete provinces on October 15th. The goal of the grant is to restore safe access to land and infrastructure for local populations.

It will be used to survey all villages across six districts of Maputo Province, to resurvey minefields in Maputo, Manica and Tete, and finally to clear priority mined land in each of the three provinces.

An estimated 175,000 mines were laid in Mozambique during its fight for independence (1964-1975) and throughout the civil war that followed. All factions used mines to defend provincial and district towns, roads, airstrips, key bridges, power supply infrastructure and military posts. Although the civil war ended in the early 1990s, landmines and unexploded ordnance continued to claim lives and hinder development.

The United States has been contributing to demining efforts in Mozambique since the end of the civil war, and has given more than \$48 million for demining in the country.



TRAVEL ALERT STILL IN EFFECT FOR MOZAMBIQUE

The Department of State alerts U.S. citizens to the potential for violence in Mozambique in association with the October 28, 2009, general election. **This Travel Alert will expire on November 10, 2009.**

U.S. citizens residing in or traveling to Mozambique during this period are reminded to maintain a high level of security awareness at all times and avoid political rallies, demonstrations, and crowds of any kind. U.S. citizens should monitor the situation via local media sources, including TV and radio and via the internet.

For the latest security information, U.S. citizens traveling abroad should regularly monitor the Department's Internet website (<http://travel.state.gov>), where the current Travel Warnings and Public Announcements, including the World Wide Caution, can be found.

CONSULAR SECTION FREQUENTLY ASKED PASSPORT QUESTIONS



My husband and I want to travel and my passport is still in my maiden name. Do I need to obtain a new one or will this one still be accepted?

You need a new passport. Per the U.S. Department of State, all U.S. citizens must travel under their current legal names. Plus, your passport has to match the name on your ticket. The fee for a new passport is \$75 (no charge if your old passport was issued less than a year before the name change). You will need to provide documentation of your name change, e.g. a certified copy of your marriage certificate when you apply.

Where can I obtain passport application forms?

All passport application forms and instructions can be found in the U.S. Embassy's website under the U.S. Citizens Services tab. Please do not sign your passport application until you are asked to do so at the Consular Section. Please note that you must have an appointment which can only be made online. In emergency situations please contact the Consular Section at 21 49 2797 ex. 3439 or 21 49 0723 during non business hours.

How soon should I renew my passport before it expires?

You may renew your passport any time before it expires. However, please plan ahead and try to apply at least one month before it expires. All passport renewals and extra visa pages require an appointment and new passports can take up to ten business days from the date of application.

LINK TO PASSPORT APPLICATIONS AND ON-LINE APPOINTMENTS:

<http://maputo.usembassy.gov>



PHOTO GALLERY—ENDING GENDER BASED VIOLENCE IN AFRICA

According to the World Health Organization, one in three women around the world will experience violence in her lifetime, either through the form of domestic, sexual, and / or psychological abuse, or mutilation and murder. The Obama administration and Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, a longtime defender of human rights, have taken a number of decisive actions to help stop violence against women and girls both in the United States and around the world. Raising awareness about gender-based violence is the first step.

http://www.america.gov/multimedia/photogallery.html#/4110/gender_violence/



OVERSEES SECURITY ADVISORY COUNCIL MAPUTO, MOZAMBIQUE

OSAC Maputo Country Council Presents:

“**Outside Maputo - Safety and Security in the Provinces**”

A Discussion on Security Considerations When Traveling Outside Urban Areas And In The Provinces

Guest Speaker:

Charlie Messervey– Whiting
Head Of Security
European Union
Election Observation Mission
&
Seacurity Consultant
Control Risks

A Leading International Business Risk Consultancy

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH, 2009
1000—1200

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