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HIV/AIDS ENTRY BAN TO BE LIFTED

President Obama recently signed the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act of 2009. It represents an ongoing commitment to ensuring access to needed HIV/AIDS care and treatment. The White House and the [Department of Health and Human Services \(HHS\)](#) worked closely with Congress on this bipartisan legislation, and the consensus document developed by the HIV/AIDS advocacy community was an important part of the process.

The Ryan White Program is the largest federal program specifically dedicated to providing HIV care and treatment. It funds life-saving medical care, medications, and support services to more than half a million people each year: the uninsured and underinsured, racial and ethnic minorities, people of all ages.

The President also announced the elimination of the HIV entry ban. Since 1987, HIV-positive travelers and immigrants have been banned from entering or traveling through the U.S. without a waiver. In July 2008, Congress removed all legislative barriers to repealing the ban and paved the way for HHS to repeal the ban. The final rule was published in the Federal Register on Monday, November 2nd and will take effect in early January 2010. This means people who have HIV and are not U.S. citizens will be able to enter the U.S. without a waiver beginning in January 2010. This is a major step in ending the stigma associated with HIV.

EMBASSY CLOSURES

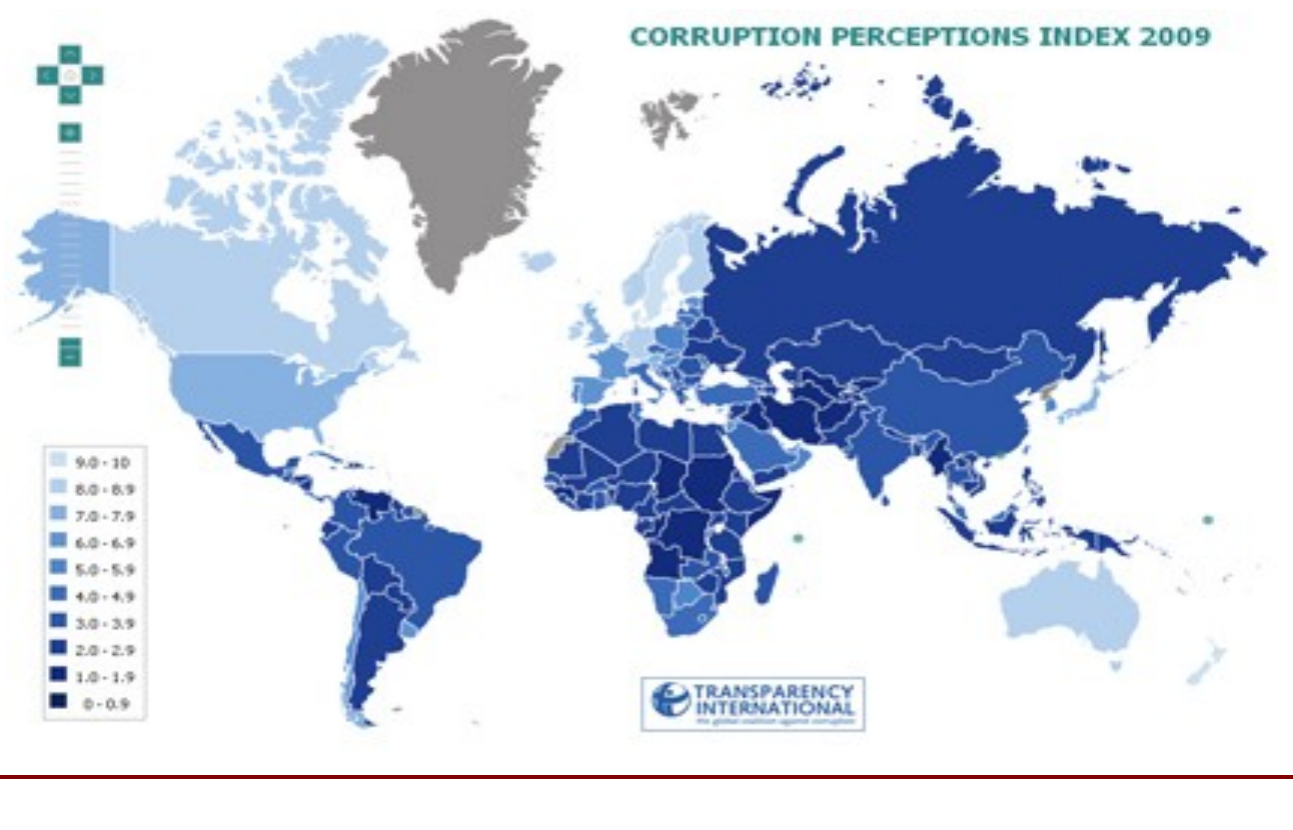
The Embassy will be closed on **Friday, December 25th** for Christmas Day and Mozambican Family Day. It will also be closed **Friday, January 1st** for New Year's Day. Happy Holidays!

In the event of an emergency involving a U.S. citizen, please contact the Consular Section immediately at 21 49 2797 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.



TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL - CORRUPTION PERCEPTION INDEX

The Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) measures the perceived level of public-sector corruption in 180 countries and territories around the world. The CPI is a "survey of surveys", based on 13 different expert and business surveys. Seven of these surveys were used to score Mozambique. This year, Mozambique scored 2.5, a score shared with Nigeria, Uganda, Mauritania and Nicaragua. Out of 180 countries, it is ranked 130th. <http://www.transparency.org/>



CONSULAR SECTION ATTAINS CREDIT CARD ABILITY

The Consular Section is please to announce that after much trial and tribulation, payment for U.S. citizen services may now be made by credit or debit cards from the following companies:

