



**UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS
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The United States Mission to the United Nations presents its compliments to the United Nations Secretariat and has the honor to refer to the identification card services provided to officials falling under the purview of Section 19 of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations.

Starting January 2012, the United States Mission to the United Nations will begin using the services of the United States Government Printing Office ("GPO"), located in Washington, D.C., to issue newly-designed Department of State Diplomatic and Official Identification Cards. The newly-designed cards will provide entitled officials and their eligible dependents with credentials that incorporate numerous state-of-the-art security features which enhance their security and vastly reduce the risk of counterfeiting or fraud.

The United Nations Secretariat is informed that, beginning January 30, 2012, all officials and their family members who currently possess a valid diplomatic identification card as well as officials who are applying for new, renewal or replacements cards, will receive the Department of State's newly-designed credentials.

The application process for the Department of State's credentials will remain the same: new cards will be issued to eligible personnel by the United States Mission after official notification of appointment from the United Nations Protocol and Liaison Service. Renewals

and replacements of credentials will be issued by the United States Mission upon the official's written request, accompanied by a current color photograph of passport quality with white background.

Beginning mid-February 2012, except as noted below, all officials and their dependents holding the Department's current credential will receive a "swap out" newly-designed card (though the expiration date will remain the same) from the United States Mission. Details of the swap out will be forthcoming.

In addition, please be advised that officials and their dependents holding a current-style identification card which will expire **before May 1, 2012, will *not* automatically receive the Department's newly-designed credential.** Instead, it will be incumbent upon those personnel to apply for their renewal or replacement identification cards in the manner previously described.

The United States Mission to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the United Nations Secretariat the assurances of its highest consideration.