# **SECURITY INFORMATION: NAMIBIA**

Location	UNITED NATIONS
Information	FESTIVE SEASON 2023
	The UNDSS would like to wish all our colleagues a happy festive season and enjoy the time spent with family and friends. We urge you to remain vigilant during this period. Criminals are not on vacation, and you are vulnerable if you are not vigilant.
	<ul> <li>Travellers: <ul> <li>Burglary prevention:</li> <li>Ensure your residences are fully protected by electronic measures, security providers etc. Alert the security companies of your absences and leave instructions on how to contact you during your absence in case of an incident.</li> <li>Arrangements should be made to have home deliveries such as post, newspapers and other regular deliveries collected from your mailboxes at home. It is prudent not to cancel deliveries because that will alert the mailing company that you will not be at home for an extended period and this information might be provided to criminals.</li> <li>Do not inform your domestic worker and gardeners of your exact departure or return dates, rather have the domestic workers and gardeners go on leave before you depart and call the domestic workers and gardeners upon your return to return to work.</li> <li>Make provision for the care of pets.</li> <li>Lock all doors and windows to prevent criminals and bad weather from affecting your residences.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	Request Security Clearance on the TRIP system, even for private travels and inform your agencies' Security Focal Points about expected absences and leave your emergency contact information at the Security Focal
	Point.  If you are leaving Namibia, make sure you have all the relevant travel documentation. Documentation includes unabridged birth certificates for children travelling with families both leaving and entering the country, it might be requested by the immigration authorities.

Make sure that you have the Electronic Travel Advisory App installed on your phone, and monitor any broadcasts published to your phone by UNDSS. Make sure to update you TRIP information on arrival to your destination, even for private travel, to receive country specific advisories.

## **Shopping areas:**

- Robbery prevention:
  - Exercise caution when using an ATM in all areas, avoid using ATMs in non-guarded locations.
  - Do not accept un-requested assistance from any persons while using the ATM, and request assistance from bank personnel, if required.
  - Follow all the usual precautions at parking lots, verify the effective locking of vehicles when using remote locks and park in well-lit, guarded areas at reputable shopping malls.
  - There is a spate of robberies that are taking place at shopping malls, if there is any indication that the area might be unsafe, please avoid entering the Shopping Centre.

Do not leave your personal belongings in trollies and shopping carts. Do not put your phones or wallets down on counters or tables while shopping or eating at restaurants. Always keep your personal belongings on your person.

### Children:

- Be vigilant of what your children are doing and where they are during this period.
- Educate children to be suspicious of strangers and make sure that they will not accept any gifts from unknown people.
- Caution children not to accept invitations from strangers to sit in their cars or to leave with them.

## On the road:

Hijacking prevention:

 UNDSS has noted an increase in the number of hijackings in the city, and throughout the country. Be vigilant and take note of other vehicles on the road. If you are followed, do not drive directly to your destination, drive to a police station and ask for assistance. Contact the UNDSS and provide the UNDSS with an accurate location. Take note of the number plate of the suspect's vehicle as well as any other relevant information. Take a photo of the vehicle if possible and if it is safe to do so. Send the photo to the UNDSS. If you do get pulled over, comply with the criminals' demands – Your possessions are not worth your life.

Staff members must make sure that their vehicles are roadworthy and, in a sound, mechanical condition if they plan to drive any significant distances over the festive season.

- Keep a printed copy of the contact information of the UNDSS in the vehicle.
- Keep the contact information for your roadside assistance in your vehicle.
- Lights, indicators, windscreen wipers, brakes, steering, exhaust systems and tires should be carefully examined for faults prior to embarking on a journey.
- Motorists unsure about the roadworthiness of their vehicles should submit their vehicles to a technical examination at a service point.
- Always carry a jumper cable and tow cable in the vehicle; these could save time and money in the event of a



breakdown.

- Check that all insurance policies are up to date, including motor vehicle, household, and life insurance policies. The policies should be kept in a safe place.
- Staff who are going to be travelling unfamiliar routes must plan their journey, use major roads, and try to avoid small secondary roads.
- Always wear your seatbelt and maintain at least a three to four-second following distance from the vehicle in front of you.
- Increase your following distance at night and on wet roads to six seconds or more.
- Fatigue and eye strain can be avoided by making frequent rest stops; driver changes are advisable at rest stops.
- Cars should be locked when unattended, with no valuables inside where they can be seen by passers-by.
- Never leave children or pets in a locked car, the heat built up in the interior can cause heat exhaustion or heat stroke that can be fatal.
- Always carry your driver's license and UN ID Card.

- Drive with your headlights on all the time this makes you more visible to other road users, specifically to pedestrians.
- Treat a breakdown of the vehicle as a security incident. Report your location and condition to UN Security.
- Make sure that you have a first aid kit in the vehicle and make sure that it is in a good condition and does not contain expired medicines.

#### **WEATHER:**

 Namibia is approaching the rainy season, and severe thunderstorms, and high volumes of rain is expected.
 During this period, staff members need to familiarize themselves with the measures to take during flash floods and extreme weather conditions.

### **NOTICE:**

- In addition to the security hazards encountered in Namibia, that require continuous vigilance, staff needs to consider the impact of road traffic accidents on the national roads.
- A new and rapidly growing trend is the targeting of tourists, by criminals for robbery. Staff members are advised to be vigilant when approaching shopping malls, ATMs and banks. Stay vigilant and aware of your immediate surroundings. Do not visit abovementioned areas on your own, have someone else always accompany you, especially when withdrawing large amount of cash.

# Action required of the UN staff

- 1. Remain extremely vigilant.
- 2. Ensure that security systems are equipped with functioning batteries that will last at least 12 hours.
- 3. Switch off geysers and other hot water systems when not at home for extended periods.
- 4. Make sure gas appliances are switched off and the gas supply are turned off.
- Monitor the security alerts and advisories from UNDSS.
- -Report incidents and cases of civil disorder to the UN Security immediately.

UNDSS Security emergency contacts:

- +264 811274629 (cell)
- +264 61 2046237 (land)

Activate your eTA on:

-Apple Android