

Can we help?

The Canadian Government is ready to provide you with assistance and advice. The post security officer or other designated officer at a Canadian Embassy or High Commission abroad can provide, or request from Ottawa, an assessment of the terrorist threat in a given area. Most Canadian Consulates will also be able to assist. The officer may suggest local government contacts, including police officials. In some cases, the officer will be able to suggest local private security services. The officer will be able to obtain and provide information on local laws and practice on ransom and concessions to terrorists and on local gun laws. The officer will be able to suggest an appropriate level of general security for offices and homes, if necessary in consultation with experts in Ottawa.

If you are not resident abroad but are planning a business trip or the establishment of an office abroad, the services described above are available by contacting:

Contingency Planning Section (CSOG),
Consular Operations Division,
Department of External Affairs,
Ottawa, K1A 0G2, (613) 992-3414.

In the event of a terrorist incident, the Canadian Embassy or High Commission can assist in communicating with family or business contacts if the usual communication facilities are inadequate. The mission can assist contacts with local officials. The Canadian Government cannot, however, determine whether or not a company or individual should accede to terrorist demands. That decision rests with the family or company.

You can also help us by suggesting ways to change and improve this booklet. Such suggestions could be incorporated in future editions. Please write to the Coordinator for Emergency Preparedness (PSPE), Department of External Affairs, Ottawa K1A 0G2. If you are abroad, the nearest Canadian mission will be happy to forward your comments.

Each year the Department of External Affairs, Ottawa, K1A 0G2 updates a book entitled "Bon Voyage But . . ." which contains information for Canadians travelling abroad, including the addresses of Canadian Embassies and High Commissions. It is yours for the asking.