

## FORCE PROTECTION PLAN

The Force Protection plan requires engaging the brain, thinking the unthinkable. Read about where you are going, think about the risks and then address them. The threats in Africa are real. You may never have a problem. This preparation helps to ensure you won't. **You are your own best protection.** Don't let this just become an administrative exercise.

Ideally, the chain of command or the approver, engages the brain and asks questions, but they may not. They may be busy, they may see a completed form and assume it covers all bases, they may assume someone between you and them has reviewed it, or they may even be afraid of offending you if they ask questions. Don't be that supervisor yourself- ask questions, read the plan.

### Review Country Warnings and Threats:

- Read Foreign Clearance Guide (FCG) Sections I& VI for each country to be visited/transited:
  - <https://www.fcg.pentagon.mil> or SIPR <http://www.fcg.pentagon.smil.mil>
- Check to FPCON Level of each country to be visited. [TRAVEL MAP AFRICOM AOR](#)  
NOTE: FPCON only assesses **TERRORIST** threat. It does not consider **criminality, health or political instability**, all of which can be serious on the continent.
- Read Department of State (DoS) Travel Warnings:  
[http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis\\_pa\\_tw/tw/tw\\_1764.html](http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/tw/tw_1764.html)
- Read DoS Country Specific Information: [http://travel.state.gov/travel/travel\\_1744.html](http://travel.state.gov/travel/travel_1744.html)
- Get a Country threat brief from your security officer.
- Unclassified site country info: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/>
- Classified sites with FP Info: <https://portal.africom.smil.mil/orgs/oplog/at/default.aspx> and <http://maps.eucom.smil.mil/ATFP/index.cfm> , Use JRAMP: <http://jramp.smil.mil> or -

### FP Plan basics:

Your organization may have a preferred format, use it. Still read through this – if you see areas here missing from your unit's plan, consider adding them. Consider all hazards, not just terrorism. Criminality, health issues also pose risks for which the traveler should plan and prepare. A 13 page security brief is not an FP Plan. Distill the essential info into something you can use, carry and read.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR USING THIS FORMAT SAMPLE:** Select and copy starting the next section and paste into a word document, then you can edit. Adapt IAW unit/ leader/ component guidance. Each traveler should take a copy and leave a copy with the unit.

COUNTRY: xxxxxxx (SPECIFIC FOR EACH COUNTRY VISITED):

1. Contacts, phone info and addresses.
  - 1.a. US Embassy physical address, contact numbers and 24 hour marine guard or switchboard number (FCG Section VI has Embassy info)
  - 1.b. In country nodes - hotel, physical address, phone, email or if visiting a person, that person's name, relationship, physical address and contact number. Do this for each location on your full itinerary. Consider entering info in phone and/or small, easy to carry notes to carry on person.
  - 1.c. "911" equivalent if it exists and/or other relevant numbers (FCG Section VI).
2. Precaution Summary. Note critical info or instructions from FCG Section VI or from DOS Travel Warnings. (NOTE: Section VI is written by the Defense Attaché based on experience of travelers)
  - 2.a. Address mitigations for particular issues - it may include "no go" areas, activities, places or situations to avoid (e.g., political events).
  - 2.b. Identify any mandated mitigations IF needed – tailor to country, edit and delete as appropriate:

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- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Meet/pickup at airport | <input type="checkbox"/> Local RSO briefing required on arrival | <input type="checkbox"/> Use Blue Passport          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Civilian clothing only | <input type="checkbox"/> Cell/Sat phone reqd                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Vary routes daily          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day travel only        | <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial luggage use                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Curfew applies             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Embassy approved hotel | <input type="checkbox"/> No / limit alcohol use                 | <input type="checkbox"/> No travel outside the city |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No taxi or bus use     | <input type="checkbox"/> Commo plan required                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Lease Car with driver      |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> Anti-malarial reqd         |

3. No buddy or non-US family/friend/tour guide is 'buddy'? Make sure your alternate buddy knows what to do in an emergency – state who your alternate buddy is and state you will provide them the essential info, e.g., emergency contacts, Embassy contact, emergency medical info. If no buddy, more attention should be given to PR info, check-in plan, itinerary communication and updates (see#6 below).

4. Medical Info Summary. If there are specific medical precautions that need highlighting add or acknowledge in this section. Be aware of health threats (water, sanitation, disease), consider behavioral threats - HIV/AIDS is critical in many parts of Africa.

4.a. See your medical clinic/physician and prepare medically. Use the [Travel Health Form](#). Maintain records locally. Anti-malarials (if required) and vaccination currency are the minimum. (See [https://intellipedia.intelink.gov/wiki/USAFRICOM\\_Force\\_Health\\_Protection](https://intellipedia.intelink.gov/wiki/USAFRICOM_Force_Health_Protection) for added info.)

4.b. Make sure you have a basic 1st aid kit with you (don't count on having antidiarrheals, antiseptics, aspirin, sunscreen, insect repellent readily available at destination.)

4.c. Consider how you will address non-emergency medical issues (1<sup>st</sup> Aid kit or beyond).

4.d. Emergency medical evacuation: TRICARE SOS for Active duty ONLY. Others (including military retirees) should evaluate if they will make insurance arrangements. (Note: In Africa, issues that might be routine elsewhere could require evacuation, depending on the location and local capabilities.)

5. Criminality Info Summary. If there are specific precautions that need highlighting do so here. Crime is an ACTIVE THREAT in most of Africa. Be situationally aware and decide beforehand about jewelry, wear of cell phones, and whether use of public transportation and taxis is advisable. (NOTE: For leave travelers visiting family, be conscious that likely your visit is known beyond those of direct family members and neighbors. There are leave travelers who have been targeted for crime, remain alert.)

6. Identify if you have Personnel Recovery (PR) Plan and who you filed it with – PR preparation is required to prepare for a situation when a traveler needs to be located after they become isolated, whether through accident (e.g., vehicle breaks down en route to a location), political turmoil (e.g., riot) or criminal/terrorist action (e.g., kidnapping). Travelers should prepare to self-sustain for 96 hours in case of isolation. See PR Plan formats at <http://www.africom.mil/staff-resources/travel-to-africa>

**Personnel Clearance Forms and Formats Section.**

7.a. Identify a check-in plan, particularly important if traveling alone. This will allow movement to be retraced or to identify if there is a problem early instead of a question raised some days after you were supposed to have returned.

7.b. Identify how you will behave and communicate in certain circumstances, e.g., rally points (Embassy, Hotel, 2dary Embassy or Hotel), communication alternatives and to whom (phone, SMS, email, twitter)

7.c. If you are traveling between locations, ensure basic supplies are present if vehicle breaks down (e.g., water, food, comms -even if only a mirror)

8. IMPORTANT: Upon APACS Approval, read approver comments in their entirety once and follow any instructions/warnings. The country approvers often provide contact info or check-in instructions. Add such info to the FP Plan.

*Intl access from US is 011/from Europe is 00 ("+" on cell phone automatically inserts appropriate int'l access code.)*

If Active Duty Military follow Component Guidance: USARAF: AKO <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/622433> DSN 314-635-

4374/4377 (COMM +39-0444-71-xxxx) [usarmy.vicenza.usaraf.mbx.usaraf-ops@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.vicenza.usaraf.mbx.usaraf-ops@mail.mil); AFAFRICA: [AFAfrica.AFFOR-FP@ramstein.af.mil](mailto:AFAfrica.AFFOR-FP@ramstein.af.mil) <https://afkm.wpafb.af.mil/community/views/home.aspx?Filter=27310>; DSN 314-478-1745 (comm.+49-6371-405-xxxx);NAVAF: [C6F-FP@eu.navy.mil](mailto:C6F-FP@eu.navy.mil) DSN 314-626-1964 (Comm +39-081-568-xxxx); MARFORAF: [mfawatch@mfe.usmc.mil](mailto:mfawatch@mfe.usmc.mil); DSN 314-431-2986 (COMM +49-7031-15-xxxx); SOCAF: DSN 314-421-5005 (COMM +49-711-729-xxxx); AFRICOM HQ AT:

[africom.stuttgart.acj34.list.j343-at-operations@mail.mil](mailto:africom.stuttgart.acj34.list.j343-at-operations@mail.mil) DSN 314-421-8914 or [jocatfp@usaficom.smil.mil](mailto:jocatfp@usaficom.smil.mil). USAFRICOM Command Watch 24/7 **NOT** to be used for routine inquiries: DSN 314-421-4050 (Comm: +49-711-729-xxxx)