The Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO) continues to facilitate the repatriation of South Africans stranded in various states across the world. This follows the declarations of State of Disaster by President Cyril Ramaphosa on the implementation of the national lockdown on 26 March 2020.

Over the past few days, more South Africans were repatriated from Zambia, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Portugal, Guinea, China, Angola, Senegal, Congo, Austria, Mozambique, Spain, Nigeria and Zimbabwe. In line with the regulations, all repatriated citizens have been transferred to various quarantine sites.

Over 11 000 South Africans have been repatriated to date.

Removals from certain countries over state borders is being hamstring by various factors.

ARRIVALS FROM 1 JUNE 2020

- A flight from Zimbabwe repatriated 32 South Africans
- A flight from Nigeria repatriated 51 South Africans
- A flight from Ethiopia repatriated 15 South Africans
- A flight from Maputo, Mozambique, repatriated 42 South Africans
- A flight from Australia repatriated 234 South Africans
- A flight from the Congo repatriated four South Africans
- A flight from Sudan repatriated 27 South Africans
- A flight from Luanda, Angola, repatriated 29 South Africans
- A flight from Ethiopia repatriated four South Africans
- A flight from Lilongwe, Malawi, repatriated three South Africans
- A flight from Marseille, France, repatriated 83 South Africans
- A flight from Lilongwe, Malawi, repatriated nine South Africans
- A flight from Lubumbashi, DRC, repatriated six South Africans
- A flight from Namibia repatriated 47 South Africans
- A flight from the USA repatriated 44 South Africans
- A flight from Tanzania repatriated five South Africans
- A flight from India repatriated 49 South Africans
- A flight from Namibia repatriated 31 South Africans
- A flight from Brazil repatriated 130 South Africans
- A flight from the Seychelles repatriated 24 South Africans
- A flight from Ethiopia repatriated 25 South Africans
- A flight from Ethiopia repatriated 21 South Africans
- A flight repatriated seven South Africans from Ghana
- A flight from Tanzania repatriated 10 South Africans
- A flight from Zimbabwe repatriated 100 South Africans
- A flight from the Netherlands repatriated 60 South Africans
- A flight from Tanzania repatriated 10 South Africans
- A flight from the DRC repatriated two South Africans
- A flight from the Netherlands and Zimbabwe repatriated 194 South Africans
- A flight from Tanzania repatriated 10 South Africans
- A flight from Pakistan repatriated 89 South Africans
- A flight from the United States of America (USA) repatriated 93 South Africans
- A flight from the DRC repatriated 26 South Africans
- A flight from Spain repatriated 269 South Africans
- A flight from Zambia repatriated 18 South Africans
- A flight from Angola repatriated 51 South Africans
- A flight from Senegal repatriated six South Africans
- A flight from Ethiopia repatriated 37 South Africans
- A flight from Namibia repatriated 12 South Africans
- A flight from Madagascar repatriated 81 South Africans
- A flight from Qatar repatriated 149 South Africans
- A flight from Washington repatriated 163 South Africans
- A flight from Beijing repatriated 24 South Africans
- A flight from Guangzhou repatriated 13 South Africans
- A flight from Shanghai repatriated 11 South Africans
- A flight from Tokyo repatriated 5 South Africans
- A flight from Bangkok repatriated 4 South Africans
- A flight from Kuala Lumpur repatriated 3 South Africans
- A flight from Seoul repatriated 2 South Africans
- A flight from Seoul repatriated 1 South African
- A flight from Guangzhou repatriated 1 South African
- A flight from Shanghai repatriated 1 South African
- A flight from Tokyo repatriated 1 South African
- A flight from Bangalore repatriated 1 South African
- A flight from New Delhi repatriated 1 South African
- A flight from Manila repatriated 1 South African
- A flight from Jakarta repatriated 1 South African
- A flight from Colombo repatriated 1 South African
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- A flight from Tokyo repatriated 1 South African

You can also contact the 24-hour DIRCO Command Centre on +27 12 351 3763 or +27 12 351 3764 or email occtextinfo@dirco.gov.za or occtextinfo.southafrica@diplomatie.gouv.fr.
Most of the South Africans stuck in Hanoi, who listed their average age of 57, are not truly retired and arranged by SAA from here back just in time, and are happily welcomed in quarantine. The new flights, a huge step in the right direction, also show this government wants to do much more and beyond then call it to support the degradation of COVID-19. The new flights are a major move by SAA to support the government’s efforts to repatriate South Africans as part of the ‘Home’ wish and to make it easier for families to reunite with their loved ones.

A group of South Africans was repatriated on 15 June through a repatriation flight arranged by Mr. Tertius Myburgh, to Hanoi, who took passengers from Hanoi Airport, Vietnam. The flight, a chartered flight, was operated by Vietnam Airlines and carried 244 passengers. The passengers weremet with open arms when they landed at the airport and were welcomed with a special welcome ceremony.

The flight left from Hanoi and landed in Durban on 17 June. The passengers were met with open arms when they arrived and were welcomed with a special welcome ceremony. They were greeted by Mr. Tertius Myburgh, the ambassador of South Africa in Vietnam, who thanked all the passengers for their patience and perseverance. He also thanked the Vietnamese government for their support and assistance in repatriating South Africans.

The passengers were then transferred to a hotel for quarantine. They were provided with all the necessary services and facilities to ensure their comfort and safety. They were also provided with food, medical assistance, and other necessary facilities.

After more than three months of being stranded in Vietnam, a total of 65 South Africans were repatriated to South Africa from Vietnam during June 2020.

Through such perseverance, and the many circumstances in the way the government presented itself, this has truly been a testament of the South African government’s efforts to bring South Africans home.

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The South African government expressed its appreciation to the Vietnamese government for their support and assistance in repatriating South Africans. They also thanked all the passengers for their patience and perseverance.

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