



DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITIES AND PRIVILEGES (DIAP) CIRCULAR NO 5 OF 2023

The Department of International Relations and Cooperation of the Republic of South Africa presents its compliments to Diplomatic Missions and International Organisations accredited to the Republic of South Africa and has the honour to inform all Foreign Missions of the following regarding diplomatic agents on temporary deployment:

- The sending State is obliged in terms of the Vienna Conventions to notify the receiving State of the appointment of members of the mission and their arrival even when on temporary assignment
- If no vacant post appears on the staff establishment, the official will not be placed
- Missions are reminded that officials can only be placed in the correct category (e.g. a diplomat cannot perform temporary duty in an administrative position)
- Missions are also requested to clearly indicate the reason for the temporary placement (e.g. Ms X is on maternity leave and therefore Ms Y will temporarily be placed in the position)
- Missions are requested to provide details of the official who occupies the post as well as details of the official who will perform relief duty
- The temporary official will not be accorded any diplomatic immunity or privileges in line with the post in which the official is placed
- In cases where a visa is required to enter the RSA on assignment, the temporary official will report to a SA mission abroad and be issued with the relevant visa for the duration of the temporary deployment. No requests for visa extension to unannounced officials will be considered by DIRCO.

The Department of International Relations and Cooperation of the Republic of South Africa avails itself of this opportunity to renew to Diplomatic Missions and International Organisations accredited to the Republic of South Africa the assurances of its highest consideration.



PRETORIA
17 May 2023

Diplomatic Missions and International Organisations
accredited to the Republic of South Africa
PRETORIA