

Note No: A159/13

Protocol Directorate of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office presents its compliments to all Diplomatic Missions and International Organisations and has the honour to inform them about slot capacity at Heathrow Airport during the British summer period until Saturday 26th October 2013.

Ad-hoc slots will be suspended from 0430-0800 (UTC) **AND** between 2030-2255 (UTC), during the British Summer Period. The evening restriction is due to single runway operations for runway resurfacing and will be in place for the remainder of the Summer 2013 season. This means **no** private or State aircraft will be permitted to arrive or depart during this period. Slots can be reserved in the normal way outside this period.

Therefore in addition, a <u>Reduced Ad-Hoc availability</u> will exist <u>between 0800-2025 UTC</u>. This will mean that your preferred slot may be difficult to obtain due to the limited capacity at Heathrow Airport. We would strongly recommend that you consider alternative airports to ensure securing a convenient landing slot. Possible alternative airports you might wish to consider include: RAF Northolt, Tag Farnborough, London Gatwick, London Stansted, London Luton, London City and Biggin Hill.

We will advise later in the year whether any restrictions will remain in place for the Winter period.

Protocol Directorate of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office avails itself of this opportunity to renew to all Diplomatic Missions and International Organisations the assurance of its highest consideration.

FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE LONDON SW1 05 June 2013

