

Note No: A368/13

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 winter period from Sunday 27 October 2013 until Spring 2014.

Ad-hoc slots will be suspended from 0430-0800 (UTC), during the British Winter Period. 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.

In addition, <u>reduced ad-hoc availability</u> will exist <u>between 0800-2245 UTC</u>. This will mean that your preferred slot will be extremely difficult to obtain due to the very limited capacity at Heathrow Airport and we expect this situation to continue into the summer 2014 period. We therefore <u>strongly</u> 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.

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 17 October 2013

