



Note No A094/20

Protocol Directorate of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office presents its compliments to all diplomatic missions and international organisations and, with reference to the Directorate's Notes Verbale A083/20 of 18 March and A086/20 of 25 March, has the honour to convey further guidance on the UK Government's response to the coronavirus pandemic.

As diplomatic missions and international organisations will be aware, the UK Government has introduced a number of social distancing measures, enforced by the Coronavirus Act, to reduce social interaction between people and to help to reduce the transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19), to protect our National Health Service and to save lives. Accordingly, for the duration of the current restrictions, we would expect missions, wherever they are based in the UK, to conduct their business and serve their communities in ways that are in line with UK Government guidance. Among other things, this will mean avoiding, or doing differently, any activities that would, if implemented as normal, require members of the public or your staff to:

- leave their homes for reasons other than those set out in the Government guidance;
- gather in groups in public places; or
- be unable to keep more than 2 metres apart from others at all times.

The Directorate has updated its frequently asked questions guidance, accessible at protocol.fco.gov.uk (passport: Diplomatic2012), to provide more detailed information on the impact of the current restrictions. In the meantime, diplomatic missions and international should continue to refer to the UK Government's guidance at <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>.

Protocol Directorate of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office avails itself of this opportunity to renew to all diplomatic missions and international organisations the assurances of its highest consideration.

FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE
LONDON SW1A 2AH
3 April 2020

