

RELEASE IN FULL

From: Mills, Cheryl D <MillsCD@state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2011 11:11 AM
To: H
Subject: Fw: State Department Launches iPhone Travel App

Fyi

From: Dowd, Katie W
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2011 10:59 AM
To: Mills, Cheryl D; McHale, Judith A; DiMartino, Kitty; Kenna, Corley
Subject: State Department Launches iPhone Travel App

I am not sure if you have seen but wanted to make you aware of one of the ways State is pushing forward to better serve citizens. Just launched is an iPhone application to help provide better up to the minute travel information – includes country backgrounds, travel alerts, maps, embassy locations, etc. A long time in the making and PA did a great job with this, I am sure it is not perfect but one of the many ways things are moving forward and adapting to changing needs. Best Katie

Huffington Post:

State Department Launches iPhone Travel App

<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/06/14/state-department-iphone-t n 877037.html>

WASHINGTON -- The State Department now has an app for intrepid travelers and wary tourists alike that will offer danger alerts, provide directions to the nearest U.S. embassy or just help keep itineraries straight.

The new "[Smart Traveler](#)" for iPhone, iPad and iPod touch, released Tuesday, allows easy access to information on the department's travel [website](#).

The app provides frequently updated travel alerts and warnings, maps, embassy locations and updated country information. It also allows travelers to enroll in the U.S. government's free Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) so they can receive consular help in case of an emergency while in another country.

In addition, the app offers useful information on entry and exit requirements, local penalties for criminal offenses such as drug possession and a customized itinerary planner. For those long layovers in foreign airports, the app offers information on random countries at the shake of the iPhone.

"We created this app because political upheaval and natural disasters – whether earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, or hurricanes - can happen anywhere, anytime," the State Department said in an email to The Huffington Post. "We wanted a way to let Americans traveling abroad find out what's going on and get alerts and warnings quickly and easily."

While the app is free, the roaming charges one might have to pay to get up-to-the-minute warnings about the latest civil unrest or tsunami are not.