

EMERGENCY EVACUATION PLAN

For Fiji Nationals in the GCC and MENA Region

1.0 Introduction

This emergency plan is addressed to all Fijian Nationals residing in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) States, and the broader Middle East region.

This plan has been prepared by the Fijian Embassy in Abu Dhabi to guide all Fijians in case of an emergency evacuation scenario due to escalating regional threats. The safety and wellbeing of all Fijians remains the Government of the Republic of Fiji's utmost priority.

The term "emergency evacuation" in this plan refers to the urgent removal of all Diplomatic Agents, Embassy Staff, and Fijian Nationals from high-risk areas or environments deemed life-threatening due to terrorism, armed conflict, insurgencies, nuclear attack, civil disorder, or sudden natural disasters in the UAE.

This plan aims to describe the immediate actions to be taken should an emergency evacuation become necessary. It outlines clear procedures to ensure the safe relocation of Fijians and maintain Embassy coordination, communication, and operations during such disruptions.

The plan is grounded in proactive risk mitigation and strict adherence to applicable international regulations and host-country protocols.

This plan aligns with evacuation frameworks developed by allied nations such as Australia, New Zealand, the United States, and the United Kingdom. The Embassy maintains active coordination with these partners to ensure synchronized response strategies, shared intelligence, and logistical collaboration if an evacuation becomes necessary.

2.0 Purpose & Scope

To ensure the safety and orderly evacuation of Fiji nationals residing or working in the GCC and MENA region in the event of regional conflicts, war, civil unrest, natural disasters, or any other major emergency that poses a risk to life.

This plan applies to: All Fiji citizens holding Fiji passports living, working, or transiting through countries in the GCC (UAE, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Oman, Kuwait) and MENA region

(including Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Syria, Israel, etc.); and All dependent family members accompanying Fiji nationals (holders of Fiji passports).

3.0 Activation Criteria

The plan will be activated when:

- **Official travel advisories** from the Fiji Government or relevant host nations are issued.
- Worsening security situations, declared conflict, or outbreak of war.
- Closure of airspace/ports, mass demonstrations, acts of terrorism, or breakdown of civil order.
- Specific directives from the Fiji Ministry of Foreign Affairs or international partners (e.g., UN Security Agencies).

4.0 Roles and Responsibilities

Entity	Responsibility
Fiji Embassy, Abu Dhabi	Coordination of evacuation plan, liaison with GCC & MENA governments, updates to nationals, management of consular services, clearance of evacuation flights.
Fiji Embassies & Missions (where present, for example applicable to Fiji PRUN New York since accredited to Israel)	Provide local support to nationals, safe assembly points, transportation coordination.
Fiji Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Strategic direction, diplomatic clearance, securing evacuation support from partners (UAE, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, others).
Fiji Government Crisis or Emergency Committee (MFA and Ministry of Home Affairs)	Policy guidance, funding for evacuation if required, public communication.
Fiji Nationals / Families	Maintain updated contact details with the Embassy, comply with instructions, prepare personal evacuation kits.

5.0 Applicable Laws and Regulations

- Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations (1961)
- Vienna Convention on Consular Relations (1963)
- Host country local laws for emergencies

6.0 Concept of Operations

For the purpose of coordination and communication, the Embassy will convey in all its official and communication platforms and utilizing its designated Fijian Diaspora Points of Contact

(POCs) on the implementation of this Evacuation and Contingency Plan to coordinate safe, efficient evacuation or relocation efforts.

7.0 Evacuation Phases

Phase 1: Preparedness & Monitoring

- 24/7 Monitoring of regional situation by Embassy Operations Cell.
- Communicate regularly with Fijian communities & diaspora groups.
- Ensure Emergency Contact Database (Google Form or Register) is up-to-date.
- Issue advisories to Nationals to prepare travel documents and emergency kits.

Phase 2: Alert & Pre-Evacuation

- Embassy issues **Evacuation Readiness Advisory**.
- Nationals instructed to limit travel and stay in safe locations.
- Identify and announce **Assembly Points** or staging areas in each country.
- Arrange preliminary ground transport and evacuation flights through host nations or friendly partners.

Phase 3: Evacuation

- Official **Evacuation Order** is issued.
- Nationals moved to safe zones or airports.
- Board evacuation flights or escorted border crossings (land/sea/air), coordinated with host governments.
- Evacuation priority: Vulnerable groups (elderly, children, pregnant women), families, then all other citizens.

Phase 4: Post-Evacuation

- Arrival briefings, medical assistance where required.
- Temporary accommodation in safe host country (e.g., UAE) before return to Fiji.
- Psychological support & counseling as needed.
- Family reunification efforts.

8.0 Evacuation Essentials Checklist (For Nationals)

All Nationals are required to have the following items on hand should a need of evacuation be activated:

- Valid passport and identification (If undocumented, or passport is expired/expiring, including Dual Citizens, please contact the Embassy immediately)
- Essential medication and personal medical supplies

- Essential Personal Funds: In the event ATMs and card services become inaccessible, nationals are advised to keep emergency cash on hand. Please note that Fijian nationals may be required to pay or co-pay for repatriation flights, particularly if commercial flights are utilized. Should regional airspace closures occur, the Government of the Republic of Fiji will coordinate evacuation operations for its nationals, in consultation with host governments and international partners.
- Mobile phone, charger, and power bank
- Lightweight clothing and sturdy footwear
- Minimum 3-day supply of food and water
- Basic hygiene supplies and sanitary items
- First aid kit
- Waterproof copies of essential documents
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- Whistle or signaling device
- Contact details for the Embassy and local emergency services

9.0 Communication & Updates

Embassy will provide real-time updates via:

- Official email and WhatsApp groups
- Fiji Embassy Abu Dhabi Facebook page
- Phone hotlines -Please refer to local or host country emergency hotlines
- Nationals must monitor trusted information channels and avoid disinformation.

Embassy Focal Points

The Fijian nationals are kindly encouraged to contact on the following details given below for assistance:

Emergency Contact Details

1. First Secretary, Mr. Sanaila Lagai:

Mobile: +971-50-199-9542 Email: firstsecretary@fijiemb.ae

2. Second Secretary, Mr. Jaljeet Kumar:

Mobile: +971-50-199-9205

Email: secondsecretary@fijiemb.ae

3. Accounts & Consular Officer, Mr. Joeli Waqa:

Mobile: +971-50-956-2792 Email: aco@fijiemb.ae

4. General Office - Embassy of Fiji in the United Arab Emirates (UAE)

Emergency Contact Details

Email: <u>EA@fijiemb.ae</u> Phone:+ 971 2 681 3002

5. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs - Headquarters,

Nasese, Suva 24/7 Operations Center Phone: 229 7323 | 990 4606 Email: feedback.foreignaffairs@gmail.com

6. Mr. Rafi Dayan

Honorary Consul of Fiji to Tel Aviv, Israel

Email: r.dayan@green-ltd.com Cell Phone: + 972 54 – 425 –7700

Tel: + 972-77-2010710 Fax: + 972 - 77-2010711

Address: Green 2000- Agricultural Equipment & Know-

How Ltd.

P.O.Box 572 Kfar-Vitkin 5710 Rd., 4020000 Israel

7. Permanent Mission of Fiji to the United Nations, New York

Email: mission@fijiprun.org Phone: +1 (212) 687 – 4130

These officers serve as primary Embassy focal points for all evacuation-related matters. Please keep these contacts on hand and follow any guidance they issue during critical periods.

10.0 Coordination with Partners

The Embassy will have ongoing liaison with:

- UAE, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and GCC Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Interior
- IOM, UNHCR, Red Crescent, and partner Embassies
- Airlines and private sector for charter flights
- Local Fijian community leaders

The Embassy will liaise with Fijian Diaspora Point of Contact (POCs) for the next Plan of Action (POA) and confirm safety status. No evacuation shall proceed without verified accounting of all nationals.

The Embassy will also coordinate with allied Embassies—namely those of Australia, New Zealand, the United States, and the United Kingdom—who have active evacuation networks and military-logistical capabilities in the region. Wherever possible, joint evacuations or shared transport mechanisms may be utilized.

11.0 Limitations

- Evacuation may be delayed by security, logistics, or closure of borders.
- Priority will be given to life-saving actions first, with orderly departure coordinated as practical.
- Nationals may need to relocate to internal safe zones until transport is arranged.

12.0 Review and Updates

- Embassy will review this Plan, which is a living document on an annual basis and according to updates based on latest threat assessments and lessons learned.
- Community briefings and consultations will be held annually or when risks escalate for the continuous review and updating of this Plan.

13.0 Conclusion

The safety of Fijian nationals remains the highest priority. The Embassy will issue formal evacuation instructions if required and continue to monitor all developments through official channels and allied intelligence networks.

Fiji Embassy – Abu Dhabi Effective from January 2015, Reviewed: October 2023 and June 2025