

IASMN Recommendations

Residential Security Risks for United Nations Locally Recruited Personnel

June 2017

At its 26th session, the IASMN approved the report of the Working Group on Residential Security Risks for Locally Recruited Personnel and made the following recommendations for the consideration of the Designated Officials and Security Professionals.

a) Enhance reporting practices

There is a need to improve the reporting of incidents that affect locally-recruited personnel. In accordance with the “Framework for Accountability”, all personnel employed by the organizations are required to “report all security incidents in a timely manner”. The reporting and recording of incident is essential in order to contribute to threat analysis and inform an effective response. Local information sessions can be provided to locally-recruited personnel to apprise them of who they should report security issues to, the format of the reporting requirement, the use of the information provided, and to reassure them on what action will be taken and how they can receive feedback and/or support/assistance on their report. These information sessions should be provided by the employers, with the support of the local security professionals.

b) Provision of a non-binding advisory service

Where identified through the Security Risk Management (SRM) process, the security section, in collaboration with the security cell, should provide, where feasible, advice to locally-recruited personnel upon request on how to improve residential safety and security. Such service would enhance their awareness of basic security practices and enable locally-recruited personnel to determine for themselves the most appropriate way to enhance their residential security against local threats, in particular criminality.

c) General information on residential safety and security

All duty stations can develop, as required and where required, general information for locally-recruited personnel including the following topics:

- Fire safety – detectors, extinguishers, storage of flammable items, family evacuation routes and emergency measures, etc.
- Burglary prevention – exterior considerations, interior considerations, doors, windows and locks, securing valuables, pets, lighting, alarms, shutters, bars/grills, etc. In essence, all staff should apply to their residences the *Integrated Systems Approach* described in the UNSMS Security Advisers can use the principles outlined in the Policy on Security of United Nations

Premises, such as the four Ds (Deter, Detect, Delay and Deny), layers of security, systems approach and access control, to guide locally-recruited personnel on how to design a residential security system for themselves.

- General safety – electricity (cords, overloading, etc.), hazardous materials/poison, “childproofing”, household accidents, swimming pools, first aid, emergency response, children home alone, strangers at the door/phone, intruder drills, key control, power loss, storms, snow/ice, dust, mosquitos (malaria, dengue, zika, chikungunya), neighborhood watch, etc.
- UNSMS policy requirements, such as accurate staff and dependents lists, contact details, security briefings to newly recruited personnel, informing UNDSS on the exact location of the residence (geo-location), etc.
- Actions required to – secure important documents/copies, stockpile basics (food, water, medicine, cash), family contact plans, emergency drills, move around the neighborhood, etc.
- Locally-recruited personnel can coordinate with their neighbors to increase collective security, including through “neighborhood watch” approaches.
- Duty station specific residential safety and security issues particular to that location could include items such as:
 - ❖ Burglaries/break-ins
 - ❖ Home invasions
 - ❖ Gender considerations for households' main earners/breadwinners or living alone
 - ❖ House service providers/housekeeping
 - ❖ Kidnapping
 - ❖ Confidence scams
 - ❖ Capacity/capabilities of emergency services
 - ❖ Natural disasters
 - ❖ Power outages/problems
 - ❖ LNG/propane issues
 - ❖ Houses versus apartments
 - ❖ Communities
 - ❖ Warden system
 - ❖ Traffic patterns

Such information is generally available online through short videos.

- d) In addition, security professionals are encouraged to share material and experience to strengthen security at the residences of locally-recruited personnel through the best practice mailbox: bestpractices.undss@org.