



**MINISTRY  
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND COOPERATION**

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

Date of Publication: 05 June 2026

Reply date: 22 June 2026

**PQ 3479. Mr W M Douglas (MK) to ask the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation:**

- (1) Whether, in light of the escalating conflict involving the United States of America, State of Israel and Islamic Republic of Iran, and the continued instability in Lebanon and the Strait of Hormuz, his department has conducted a full risk assessment recently regarding South African citizens currently residing, working and/or studying in the affected regions; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) whether, since the last update on his reply to question 1263 on 31 March 2026, his department has reviewed its contingency evacuation plans for South African citizens stranded in conflict zones and neighbouring states; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (3) whether his department has been updated about the economic impact of the conflict and shipping disruptions on the fuel prices, fertiliser imports and food security of the Republic; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what steps has he taken to raise the country's concerns on multilateral fora?  
NW3681E

**REPLY**

- (1) The Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO) continues to monitor closely the escalating conflict involving the United States of America, the State of Israel and the Islamic Republic of Iran, as well as the ongoing instability in Lebanon and the Strait of Hormuz. In this context, the Department has maintained regular risk assessments regarding South African citizens residing, working or studying in the affected regions. These assessments are informed by continuous reporting from South Africa's

Missions in the Middle East, which remain in contact with registered nationals and monitor local security conditions.

DIRCO has also encouraged South Africans in the affected regions to register on the DIRCO Travel Smart App, which enables the Department and Missions to maintain updated contact information, issue alerts, and provide consular guidance when required.

In line with established consular-crisis procedures, the Joint Emergency Evacuation Contingency Committee (JEECC) has been activated to monitor risks to South African nationals and interests abroad. The JEECC facilitates coordinated situational analysis, information-sharing and contingency planning among South Africa's Missions in affected jurisdictions. No South African casualties or requests for emergency assistance have been reported to date.

- (2) Since the last update provided in the reply to Question 1263 on 31 March 2026, DIRCO has reviewed its contingency and evacuation plans for South African citizens who may become stranded in conflict-affected areas or neighbouring states. These reviews form part of the Department's standard crisis-preparedness processes and include scenario planning, Mission-level readiness assessments, and the updating of consular communication and response mechanisms.

The activation of the JEECC has strengthened coordination between Missions in the region, ensuring that assisted-departure or evacuation procedures can be activated rapidly should the security situation deteriorate further.

- (3) DIRCO continues to receive updates on the broader economic implications of the conflict, including the impact of shipping disruptions in the Strait of Hormuz on global fuel prices, fertiliser imports and food security considerations for South Africa. These concerns have been raised in South Africa's engagements in multilateral fora, where the country has underscored the need to safeguard freedom of navigation, ensure the stability of global supply chains, and mitigate the effects of geopolitical tensions on developing economies.

South Africa has also reiterated, in relevant UN and multilateral platforms, the importance of de-escalation and adherence to international law to reduce the economic and humanitarian consequences of the conflict.