

## **U.S Department of State issues Worldwide Caution**

Late on Friday, January 9, the U.S. Department of State updated a "Worldwide Caution" that was originally created October 10, 2014. The Department of State stated they remain "concerned about the continued threat of terrorist attacks, demonstrations and other violent actions against U.S. citizens and interests overseas. Authorities believe there is an increased likelihood of reprisal attacks against U.S., Western, and collation partner interests throughout the world, especially in the Middle East, North Africa, Europe, and Asia."

The Department of State is strongly urging U.S. citizens traveling abroad to enroll in the <u>Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP)</u>. Travelers that are enrolled may receive important safety and security announcements, if necessary, based on their location. Enrolling also makes it easier for the U.S. Embassy to contact travelers in the event of an emergency. U.S. citizens should also ensure they are aware of the local phone numbers for both police and medical emergencies since the numbers may vary by country and do not always follow the U.S. 911 system.

For more information on the recent update, you may click on <u>U.S. Department of State Worldwide Caution</u>.