Uganda, Rwanda & Tanzania
Security Overview and Travel Assessment

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Executive Summary:

Security in the East African states of Uganda, Rwanda and Tanzania is relatively stable, although there are varying degrees of concern relating to criminal and terrorist threats. Uganda, while economically more developed than other Central & East African states, is under a continual threat of terrorism by al-Shabaab due to Uganda’s military participation in Somalia.

Travel:

Recently, the U.S. Department of State issued a travel advisory for Entebbe International Airport following credible threats of terrorism directed at the airport. Travel via roadway from Entebbe to Karagwe is direct, well-maintained and heavily used by civilian and commercial travelers; however, the route has also been subject to al-Shabaab threats of violence.

The route from Kigali, Rwanda, has roads that are comparable to Ugandan roadways, but the quality deteriorates upon crossing the Rwandan-Tanzanian border. The ongoing activity of armed bandits along the border, specifically near the Rusumo-Kahama highway, poses security concerns for individuals traveling through the area. These concerns become compounded when coupled with inadequately maintained roadways and the risk of vehicle breakdowns. Unlike Uganda, Rwanda and Tanzania have not been subject to the same scrutiny by al-Shabaab because those countries do not directly conduct operations or maintain a military presence in Somalia.

Tanzania:

In Tanzania, religious tensions in Zanzibar have created a volatile environment, resulting in a potentially precarious situation for tourists. Arusha and Dar es Salaam are also of increased security concern. Arms smuggling, specifically in the Mara region, is an increasing phenomenon in Tanzania, requiring an increase in military and police presence, including road blocks and vehicle searches. Arms smuggling also takes place in Karagwe and the greater Kagera region, but the overall security assessment for this area is more positive than other regions in Tanzania.

Crime:

In Rwanda, Uganda and Tanzania, travelers are less likely to be targeted for violent acts but more so for petty crimes of opportunity such as pick-pocketing, purse snatching, muggings,
and scams. To avoid being targeted, it is essential that foreigners and travelers maintain a low-profile. Travelers are encouraged to avoid extravagant attire or habits to evade scrutiny. Furthermore, travelers are advised against developing a pattern of behavior, particularly in regard to travel routes to and from frequently visited locations. Travelers should vary their routes and times of movement to avoid predictable behavior. All factors considered, Rwanda is the most secure of the three nations. In fact, Rwanda has a significantly lower crime index rating than the United States.

**Other Points of Entry:**

In the scope of this assessment, Armada has not addressed points of entry from Nairobi, Kenya, or Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, as both would require extensive overland travel through higher crime areas than entry points in Uganda and Rwanda. Further, Nairobi has a higher threat of terrorism from al-Shabaab than Uganda.
Route from Kigali to Karagwe

Maps of Tanzania and Kagera’s districts
Security Assessment: Uganda

In 2014, the U.S. government rated crime as a critical concern in Uganda, terrorism as a high concern, and political violence as a moderate concern. Despite this assessment, the most likely threat against foreigners in Uganda involves petty crime. There is no evidence to suggest Ugandans have hostility toward Americans, but crime does spike in areas where foreigners congregate. Valuables have been stolen from locked and secured vehicles, even when they are hidden. Pick-pocketing and purse snatching are also predominant, especially on public transportation or in hotels. Criminals also use “skimming” techniques where they lift sensitive information from debit cards using a skimmer device affixed to the card slot on an ATM.

Other security concerns range from armed robbery to sexual assault and kidnapping. Women should always practice caution since rape victims have reported having their drink drugged and then being assaulted at a different location. Kidnappings and ransoms are other violent crimes that have occurred in Uganda. In 2013, the U.S. Embassy received notification of a U.S. citizen being kidnapped. The hostage was held for two days, but was then rescued by the Uganda Police Force.

When traveling in Uganda (or any of the mentioned countries), foreigners should avoid motorcycle taxis (boda bodas) and minibus taxis (matatus). Frequent traffic jams can leave an individual vulnerable to robbery or theft, and women traveling unaccompanied are especially susceptible to more serious crimes.

While the highest likelihood of being targeted in Uganda emanates from crime, terrorism is a high concern as well due to the threat posed by al-Shabaab, a Sunni Islamist terrorist organization based in Somalia, which is committed to targeting East African interests and civilian populations. Al-Shabaab has successfully conducted multi-faceted attacks in Uganda, and all indicators point to al-Shabaab’s continued desire to conduct further attacks in country. Al-Shabaab’s interest in targeting Uganda stems from Uganda’s participation in the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM). In July 2010, al-Shabaab conducted simultaneous operations, detonating explosives at two locations screening the FIFA World Cup Final, killing 62 Ugandans and approximately 12 foreign nationals. In September 2013, al-Shabaab gunmen laid siege to a shopping mall in Nairobi, Kenya, killing 44 Kenyans and 19 foreign nationals.

In addition, al-Shabaab has banned international aid organizations from territories in Somalia controlled by the organization. As such, it is not inconceivable that al-Shabaab would
target aid workers outside of Somalia’s border, particularly if the organization is working in East Africa.

On July 3, 2014, the U.S. Embassy warned of a specific threat against Entebbe International Airport by an unknown terrorist organization. Ugandan police disseminated information concerning the threat, but declined to shut down the airport, opting instead to implement more thorough security protocols. Despite the fact that the threat was never identified, persons traveling to and from Uganda should remain aware that al-Shabaab is the likely terrorist organization that would launch attacks or target facilities such as airports or other locations frequented by westerners.

The travel route from Entebbe to Karagwe, mainly the Masaka-Kampala/Kakuto Roadway, reveals several concerns that travelers should consider. At present, there have been no incidents involving foreigners or NGOs along this route in the past year. Criminal activity has confined itself to the local population. However, al-Shabaab has issued threats that directly affect the route on the Masaka-Kampala Road. In March 2014, Ugandan authorities revealed a threat by al-Shabaab to target fuel tankers, stations and depots. A number of different fuel stations were identified as potential targets, but those of immediate concern are near or surrounding Kampala as well as one in Buwama (a town/village located along the Masaka-Kampala highway). Ugandan authorities are enacting a plan to mitigate the threat by mobilizing overt and covert anti-terrorism personnel to escort all fuel tankers traveling to and from Kenya.

For Amizade’s situational awareness, Armada has also highlighted several recent criminal activities around Masaka (a transit point for travel from Kampala to Karagwe). One incident involved a strike of taxi drivers due to changes in fee structures. The strike created a substantial traffic jam along the Masaka-Kampala highway. As vehicles remained at a standstill, a reported altercation and subsequent fistfight between two individuals took place. Another recent criminal act involved the murder of a security guard at a nursery school. Also, in May 2014, thieves breached a fence surrounding St. John’s Church of Uganda, and then broke in and stole property, including a music system, a projector, two keyboards, a computer set, a digital camera, and 1.5 million shillings (approximately $571).

In January 2013, in the city of Rakia, a local pastor and 8 members of his family were murdered in their home. The pastor is suspected of having made questionable deals with one of the suspected murderers, but the connection is unsubstantiated. An additional 26 people were
murdered in a similar fashion in the greater Masaka area in 2013, though no arrests have been made for these crimes.

**LGBTI Concerns in the Region:**

In February 2014, Uganda implemented the Anti-Homosexuality Act, which expands upon previous anti-homosexuality laws and broadens the scope of application. The recently adopted act includes provisions that would allow for the extradition of Ugandans who commit same-sex acts abroad and for individuals who help others engage in homosexual acts. Additionally, the legislation criminalizes lesbianism, which had previously not been addressed. Lastly, the act of engaging in homosexual activity with a minor or while infected with HIV, referred to as “aggravated homosexuality”, is punishable with life in imprisonment.

There has been a reported surge of human rights violations since the implementation of this law. Uganda has a history of exercising hostility against individuals who associate with the LGBTI (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Intersex) community. In 2012, Ugandan police forces raided and subsequently broke up a gay pride parade, leading to widespread arrests and forced evictions. As a result of the new law, LGBTI members face arbitrary arrests, abuse and extortion by the authorities, job loss, and homelessness. Several LGBTI persons have fled the country since the law was passed. The law has also created ripple effects in other aspects of social life. Medical providers are no longer supplying basic and necessary services to LGBTI individuals for fear of government reprisals.

Individuals in violation of the law can face life imprisonment for some consensual acts. The “promotion” of homosexuality is also punishable within the framework of the law, but the lack of a concrete definition for promotional activities allows for broad interpretation. Amnesty International claims that there have been 17 confirmed arrests and that more than 100 people have fled the country since the passage of the law. The only incident involving American interests followed a police raid at the Makerere University Walter Reed Project, where extensive HIV/AIDS research was being conducted. One Ugandan citizen was arrested and detained briefly, and Ugandan authorities alleged that they recovered evidence proving that Makerere University Walter Reed Project recruited and trained homosexuals.
Uganda adopted the Anti-Homosexuality legislation in an attempt to deter western groups from advocating or supporting homosexual activities in the country. Uganda has had laws against homosexuality since the colonial period, but the latest laws aim to appeal to anti-colonial sentiment. Several African leaders claim that homosexuality is a Western concoction designed to degrade African culture and society.

It is important to note that Tanzania has similar laws in place against LGBTI individuals. Specifically, sexual acts between two consenting males can be punished with imprisonment lasting anywhere from 30 years to life. In Tanzania, the burden of proof is substantial, and many individuals receive lighter sentences or avoid prosecution entirely. However, individuals suspected of being LGBTI are usually prosecuted for other crimes such as loitering or prostitution. Exercising discretion is the best way to maintain a low-profile and avoid discrimination from businesses and harassment by authorities.

Security Assessment: Rwanda

Rwanda experiences a low to moderate rate of crime, which is primarily non-violent in nature. Crimes such as pick-pocketing, purse-snatching and petty theft are the most prevalent forms of crime in Rwanda. Pick-pockets are often found among large crowds, and thieves typically target vehicles, hotels and sometimes churches. Portable devices such as smart phones and other mobile and electronic devices are the preferred items of thieves.

Major population centers such as Ruhengeri (Musanze), but more importantly Kigali, have witnessed recent terrorist attacks. In 2013, three attacks in Kigali were responsible for five deaths and 42 injuries. This is in addition to two attacks in Ruhengeri early in 2014. The perpetrators were Rwandan separatists based in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The attacks were limited to the southwest regions of Rwanda and typically consisted of grenade attacks against locals.

Violent crimes such as carjacking, robberies, home invasion and rape do occur; however, these crimes are not commonplace and are rarely committed against Americans or other foreigners. Kidnappings are nominal in Rwanda and there is no indication that kidnappings target Americans or other foreigners disproportionately.
The Rwandan National Police (RNP) is limited in size and capacity and is primarily focused on anti-terror activities. As a result, travelers should not expect a prompt response to police calls for non-terror related incidents. Local watch groups and anti-crime units have emerged, but they act in no official capacity.

There have been several instances of police action and criminal activity between Kigali and the border of Tanzania. In May 2013, the Rwandan police launched a massive arrest operation that targeted individuals suspected of selling and shipping marijuana. The majority of the arrests made were in Rwanda’s Rwamagana district. This district is suspected of being the most active in Rwanda’s east, with 93 suspects arrested in the operation. A similar operation was conducted in October, resulting in 62 arrests for reasons relating to the sex trade or contraband.

A particularly brutal murder took place in the Rwamagana district in July 2013 when a man hacked his wife and child to death because of suspected infidelity. A similar case occurred in June when one man was brought before a district court and accused of raping, torturing and strangling a 15-year-old girl. Authorities believe that multiple persons were involved and that the murder stemmed from a broader feud between families.

Nine individuals were arrested for illicit brewing activities in October of 2013. Large quantities of gin and other liquor were confiscated by police. In February, a highly elusive and notorious conman was apprehended by police when a potential victim reported him to police. The conman was the leader of a local crime syndicate and was wanted in several districts around Rwamagana. All other forms of crime in or around the Rwamagana district are confined to locals – foreigners have not been victims.

The roads in Rwanda are in relatively good condition, are paved, and, for the most part, safe. Traffic flows in the same manner as in the U.S. – on the right side of the road. Foreigners traveling in Rwanda should avoid the motorcycle-taxis or mini-bus taxis due to safety and security concerns.

The Rusumo-Kahama roadway in Rwanda to the B3 in Tanzania is one potential route from Kigali to Karagwe. The roads in Rwanda are relatively safe and adequately maintained however, once in Tanzania, the B3 is remote and unmaintained. There have been reports of banditry along the border region and interchange between the Rusumo-Kahama roadway and the B3. U.S. Embassy officials are required to travel with police escorts along the Rusumo-Kahama
road along the Rwandan border because of the potential for armed bandit attacks. The trip along the Tanzanian backcountry is long with minimal, if any, access to medical or law enforcement. Traveling this route as part of a convoy or in an armed escort would greatly reduce the likelihood of being targeted by bandits. While the Rusumo-Kahama roadway to the B3 is a longer, more remote travel option than transit from Kampala, it eliminates the threat posed by al-Shabaab in Uganda.

**Security Assessment: Tanzania**

Tanzania is considered to have a relatively stable security environment, although the U.S. government lists crime as a critical concern. Typical street crime consists of mugging, bag snatching, vehicle theft, attacks on vehicles using “smash and grab” techniques, armed robbery, burglary and home invasions. Criminals prefer intimidating victims with machetes and sticks, but the use of firearms has been increasing. Pedestrians are frequently targeted on beaches, footpaths and roads. Traveling in a group does not guarantee safety, but traveling alone is never advised. Avoid conspicuous attire such as flashy jewelry, and do not display electronic devices publicly. Carry only what you need when outside your dwelling, and ensure that all other valuables not on your immediate person are properly secured at your residence. Exercise extreme care when using your camera or phone, and restrict credit card use to only reputable tourist hotels. Robberies and assaults occur while people are on safaris, visiting parks, hiking, or mountain climbing. In the event that you are a victim of a crime, immediately contact the local police, and always request a copy of the police report for insurance claims.

There has been a steady increase in the number of foreigners being victims of home invasions, particularly those residing in Arusha and Dar es Salaam. Some of the victims have suffered serious injuries as a result of these invasions. If you are staying at the home of an expatriate, always make sure there is a secure area within the house that the occupants can retreat to and invaders cannot access. Residents in these cities are strongly encouraged to equip a functioning house alarm and to acquire 24-hour guards that patrol the premises. Typically, burglars scope homes, hotels and commercial enterprises looking for points of entry before breaking and entering. Perpetrators target locations known to contain electronics, jewelry and significant quantities of money.
Credit card use in Tanzania is rare as it is a cash-based economy. Only a few major hotels accept credit cards, but this is uncommon, even in large, urban centers. Foreigners have reported being victims of fraud through the use of credit and debit cards. Do not use standalone ATMs, and if you think you are being watched while accessing funds, vacate the area. If you need to use an ATM, only use those attached directly to a bank. Avoid using debit cards entirely as some ATMs are known to have “skimming” devices.

Inter-city transportation services connecting major population centers can vary in terms of safety and quality. Foreigners are strongly encouraged to select transportation providers that maintain modern equipment and are not in obvious disrepair. Americans located in Tanzania have reported being robbed on buses after consuming drug-laced food and beverages offered by other passengers. Always make sure to secure your belongings and be aware that road travel is extremely dangerous, particularly at night.

Avoid using taxis that were hailed by someone you do not know well. Instead, hire taxis from a reputable source. If you are staying at a hotel or eating at a restaurant, ask an employee to recommend a driver or taxi service. Americans in Dar es Salaam have been robbed when using taxis in the city. The taxi driver will typically pick up an additional customer who then threatens the other passenger. The other passenger is usually forced to make a series of ATM withdrawals until the maximum limit is reached. Never enter a taxi that already has a passenger, and vacate a taxi immediately if another passenger enters the taxi you are in.

The U.S. State Department also advises against the use of “dala-dala” microbuses and “bajaji” three-wheeled taxis. These vehicles are notorious for their poor maintenance and lack of safety. If you are traveling by car, never forget to lock the vehicle doors and remove any valuables from plain sight, as carjackings are prevalent in both urban and rural regions of Tanzania. Always drive with all doors locked and windows rolled up. Avoid stopping in isolated areas and try traveling in a convoy. Be wary of individuals along a roadway waving down motorists as this is a common technique for robbing travelers.

Tanzania’s western border has seen increased military and police activity due to armed bandits operating in the area. As a precaution against these armed bandits, U.S. Embassy officials are required to travel with police escorts along the Rusumo-Kahama road near the Rwandan border due to the potential for armed attacks. As such, Amizade personnel should also maintain a heightened sense of awareness in this area and avoid the area if possible.
Furthermore, the Burundi-Tanzania border has seen similar instances of violence. Small, Tanzania-based rebel groups are known to execute incursions into Burundi where they initiate a series of attacks and then retreat across the Tanzania border. These groups sometimes take hostages to enhance the ease of their escape. The Burundian military arrested numerous members of rebel groups in November 2011, and the intra-border violence has subsided since 2012. The Tanzania-Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) border is also a concern for criminal activity since the smuggling of weapons and illicit minerals is prevalent in the region. Smuggling operations may also occur among nation-states that border Lake Tanganyika.

**Kagera**

Kagera is one of 30 administrative regions in Tanzania, and it includes the district of Karagwe. The region, as of 2012, had a population of nearly 2.5 million. Security concerns for individuals traveling in Kagera are marginal and, based on the data obtained; the region is roughly equivalent to the crime statistics for Pittsburgh, PA. Crime against foreigners was not quantified and appears to be minimal. Over the past year, the military has arrested 529 criminals, 425 illegal immigrants, and 88 weapons smugglers. In addition, several arms shipments have also been intercepted by the military. Authorities believe Burundi is the final destination for these weapons shipments. Quantifying crime statistics for Kagera required Armada to pull data from local press reports. The data was often incomplete, culminating in the prospect of underreported criminal activity. Armada, however, was able to find the following information:

- 346 people were murdered in Kagera in 2013, an increase from 301 in 2012. This equates to a murder rate of 14.07 per 100,000. By contrast, Pittsburgh, PA, had a murder rate of 13.1 per 100,000 in 2012.
- Robberies with violence were recorded at 441 in Kagera in 2013, an increase from 418 in 2012. Armada was unable to find clarification on the number of non-violent robberies, and therefore, an accurate comparison for reference is not available.
- From January to November 2013, 306 instances of rape were reported in Kagera, along with another 135 instances of cruelty to women. This equates to 12.45 rapes per 100,000. By contrast, Pittsburgh, PA, had 15.1 rapes per 100,000 in 2012.
From January to September 2013, 876 criminal acts involving the use of firearms were recorded by police in Kagera.

Financial crimes have seen an increase in the Kagera region in recent years as well. There has been a significant increase in counterfeit bank notes in the last year. Foreigners are cautioned to only accept bank notes from reputable business enterprises. The government is attempting to crack down on counterfeiters, but current efforts have proved fruitless.

Despite government attempts to implement laws prohibiting gender-based discrimination, there are still occurrences of gender-based crimes, particularly in the rural regions of the country. It is not uncommon for women to be the victims of violence by their spouses, family members or other criminals. The Regional Police Commander of Kagera cites outdated laws, customs and practices that aim to oppress women as the source of the problem. Kageran police officials are encouraging residents and travelers to use the Police Gender Unit to report gender-based crimes in the region. Although these crimes are generally confined to locals, travelers should be conscious of the potential for victimization.

**Karagwe**

The majority of threats to Westerners in Kagera and Karagwe are from armed robbery and the possibility of violence against women. There have been no terrorist attacks in the area, and the majority of violence involves illegal poaching, illegal immigration and crop theft. One particularly gruesome incident occurred in January 2013. Two police officers in Karagwe were lynched by an unruly mob after the officers were accused of working in the illegal ivory trade.

Illegal immigrants from neighboring Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi use the Kagera region as refuge and sanctuary. One of the preferred entry points for the illegal immigrants is the Murongo route within Karagwe. As a result, crimes such as cattle rustling, armed robbery, indiscriminate killings and land boundary disputes have specifically plagued the Karagwe district. Nearby wildlife reserves, such as the Kimisi forest, have been partially destroyed from poaching and migrant workers attempting to raise cattle. The government has conducted numerous operations to remove the estimated 32,000 illegal immigrants residing throughout the Kagera region. It is believed that since late summer 2013, the majority of illegals recorded in the national census have vacated the Kagera region and retreated to their countries of origin.
A security concern in Karagwe, and more broadly Kagera, is weapons smuggling. The Tanzanian military has been denying crucial supply routes through Karagwe over the past year. In one case, Tanzanian police arrested 67 suspected armed robbers and confiscated a number of weapons, including submachine guns, pistols and shotguns. As a result of this effort, travelers can expect to occasionally experience checkpoints and searches by government forces.

Possible Tourist Destinations in Tanzania

*Mara:*

The Mara region lies along the Kenya-Tanzania border and consists of the eastern-most portion of Lake Victoria as well as parts of the Serengeti – two of the most frequented tourist destinations in Tanzania. Security concerns in Mara are minimal, as the most prevalent criminal activities involve elephant poaching. There is little to no evidence suggesting that elephant poachers target travelers or safari goers traversing the area. That noted, there are reported incidents of safari guides robbing unsuspecting victims.

The Serengeti and the Mara region, more broadly, are also notorious for weapons trafficking. Authorities believe these weapons are primarily used for poaching purposes, but it does have locals in the Mara region concerned. Authorities are using a combination of house-to-house search operations and citizen cooperation to help reduce the number of illegal firearms entering the region.

On May 9, 2014, Tanzanian police confiscated a number of illegal firearms in the Mara region. The weapons consisted of pistols, shotguns, submachine guns and assault rifles in addition to 420 rounds of ammunition. According to official news sources, the number of illegal firearms in the Mara region is increasing.

Additional firearms were recovered in Musoma municipality when crates of bananas were inspected. Two submachine guns were found in one of the crates and two of the four smugglers shipping the crates were from Kenya. A mob formed, and two of the suspects were beaten to death before police could put the alleged smugglers into protective custody.
Arusha:

Arusha, due to it being a popular destination for foreigners, is a haven for pickpockets and bag snatchers. Avoid traveling at dusk or night on foot. The clock tower in the town’s center is a popular area for muggers.

On July 5, 2014, three men were gunned down by police in Arusha. The suspects died during a vehicle chase with the police, and a shotgun with ammunition was recovered from the bodies. Police were following them and suspected the individuals were planning to rob the Arusha Ceramic Center. The occupants of the vehicle in question were spooked by the tail and began firing at the police. Two were killed at the scene and the third succumbed to wounds upon arrival at the hospital.

The same day that this shooting occurred, an explosive device was thrown into the residence of Muslim leaders in Arusha, injuring several clerics. The clerics were preparing a trip to Dar es Salaam when a homemade explosive device was hurled into a window at the residence. Religious violence has been escalating in the Arusha area with nine people dying and more that 60 getting injured in attacks at political rallies, pubs and elsewhere. Bombings have also occurred in Arusha in April 2014 and June 2013.

Dar es Salaam and Zanzibar:

Areas such as Dar es Salaam and Zanzibar have seen increased religious tensions between Christian and Muslim populations. Religious violence has not affected foreigners as of yet, but other criminal concerns do exist. Exercise caution throughout the Coco Beach area of Touré Drive on Msasani Peninsula while in Dar es Salaam. There are regular reports of muggings, pick-pockets and thefts from cars. Crime occurs on this road regardless of time of day or whether you are on foot or in a vehicle. Only travel in areas where houses or buildings are located on both sides of the roadway. This decreases the likelihood you could get attacked by someone in hiding.

Zanzibar also suffers from pickpockets, assaults and bag snatchers. Violent crime has also targeted westerners in the past year. These incidents have included an acid attack against a Christian priest and British tourists; the rape of an American tourist by four culprits near a beach; and small bombings targeting Christian churches and bars. Always dress modestly and keep a
low profile, especially on Friday afternoons, the traditional time to attend mosque.

Security Recommendations:

Given al-Shabaab’s desire to attack transportation nodes in Uganda, Armada recommends consideration of Rwanda as an alternative point of entry during periods of heightened terrorist concern. If utilized, Armada warns against the use of public transportation but instead recommends the hiring of a local vetted security driver service.

Armada recommends against travel to Zanzibar and Arusha, Tanzania, as both locations have been recent recipients of bombings. In addition, an American female was raped in Zanzibar during daylight hours within the past year. Foreigners have also been targeted in violent home invasions in Arusha and Dar es Salaam. Higher crime rates in Dar es Salaam also lead Armada to stress extra vigilance if traveling to the capital city.

In the event of a deteriorating security situation in Karagwe, Armada recommends traveling to a nearby safe site to seek support. Depending on the nature of the incident, the closest police station may be the preferred location. If concerns regarding the reliability of the local police are an issue, Armada recommends traveling to Bukoba, the capital of Kagera. In Bukoba, there is a Tanzanian military presence, hospital, and hotels catering to foreign safari guests.

Armada advises all travelers to practice the following security awareness techniques:

- Be cognizant of your surroundings
- Avoid predictable patterns
- Do not dress extravagantly or wear expensive jewelry
- Travel in groups
- Use only trusted transportation nodes (arranged by western hotel, for example)
- Do not hail street cabs
- Prior to your trip, register with the U.S. Department of State’s Smart Traveler Enrollment Program - [https://step.state.gov/step/](https://step.state.gov/step/)
- Ensure you have proper vaccinations and have registered for travel insurance and medical evacuation coverage

Finally, all travelers should carry contact information for their home embassy, included below:
The United States Embassy in Rwanda

2657 Avenue de la Gendarmerie (Kacyiru)
P.O. Box 28
Kigali, Rwanda
Tel: (250) 25-259-6400
Fax: (250) 25-258-0325

The United States Embassy in Tanzania

686 Old Bagamoyo Road, (Msasani)
P.O. Box 9123
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
Tel: (255) 22-229-4000
Fax: (255) 22-229-4970 or 4971

The United States Embassy in Uganda

Plot 1577 Ggaba Road,
P.O. Box 7007,
Kampala, Uganda
Tel: (256) 41-430-6001
Fax: (256) 41-425-9794