

URGENT NOTICE FOR ALL GUYANESE CITIZENS

REPUBLIC OF GUYANA PASSPORTS

The High Commission wishes to advise that the Government of Guyana, in keeping with requirements of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO), has phased out the issuance and renewal of handwritten (green cover) Republic of Guyana passports.

These passports have been replaced with five (5) year Machine Readable (blue cover) ones which allow for the following:

1. Fulfilment of Guyana's commitment to promote a common Caribbean identity;
2. The Guyanese traveller will benefit from a new passport which presents a stronger defence against identity theft, alteration, forgery and alien smuggling;
3. A travel document that will be internationally respected. It will facilitate hassle-free travelling around the world, as information will now be easily accessed from an international data-base. **(Please note that a machine readable passport does not entitle the passport holder to visa free travel. Persons intending to travel on their Guyana passport should confirm with the nearest Diplomatic/Consular Office of the country they are travelling to whether they require a visa or not).**

The High Commission would like to urge all citizens holding handwritten passports to take steps to have those passports replaced with machine readable passports.

Passport applications can be submitted to the High Commission. The advisory on the process and the application form are available on our website at www.guyanaclondon.co.uk/consularmatters.html or can be uplifted from the High Commission's Consular Section between the hours of 10:00 am and 2:30 pm.

**Guyana High Commission, London
29 November 2013**