A2LA is committed to providing its services when and where our customers require and/or request it. The A2LA Executive Committee discussed recent international issues and agreed that A2LA should never place our staff or assessors in harm’s way. Therefore, the A2LA position for both staff and assessors according to the United States Department of State website (http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/alertswarnings.html), is as follows:

**Travel Warning:** Staff and assessors may not travel to any economy where there is a travel warning recommending that non-essential travel not be undertaken because of a high risk of threats against Americans and United States interests or because of heightened health risks.

**Travel Alert:** Staff and assessors are permitted to travel under a Travel Alert and it is suggested that they register in the ‘Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP)’ on the State Department website (http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/go/step.html) prior to departing on any trip that is affected by a Travel Alert.

The information listed on the State Department website identifies whether the travel advisory applies to all of the economy or only to some parts off it. Travel can be undertaken to those areas where an adverse travel advisory does not apply.

If staff or assessor elects not to travel to an area under a Travel Alert they will not be expected to travel. A2LA does, however, have to balance client requirements against staff/assessor travel concerns. Other members of staff and/or assessors who are willing and able to travel to these areas may undertake the activity after consultation with A2LA Management.

A2LA Management will advise its customers of its travel policy if they are in the economies for which there are travel warnings and alerts. These customers will also be informed that these advisories may change from time to time and that A2LA will notify them of any changes that have an impact on the ability of A2LA staff and/or assessor to travel to that economy.

For organizations that are located in an area in which is currently listed under a Travel Warning and that are interested in obtaining A2LA accreditation, A2LA will not proceed with generating a cost estimate and will not process any new applications for accreditation as long as the Travel Warning is in effect.

For organizations that are located in an area in which is currently listed under a Travel Alert and that are interested in obtaining A2LA accreditation, A2LA will continue processing cost estimates but may be delayed in processing any new applications until a confirmation is obtained that A2LA has staff or assessors available to travel to that locale.

**NOTE:** A2LA reserves the right and obligation to refuse to handle applications from organizations located in most, if not all, of the countries listed on the U.S. Department of the Treasury ‘Sanctions’ website (http://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sanctions/Programs/Pages/Programs.aspx).
For currently accredited organizations, if a Travel Warning or Travel Alert goes into effect at the time of the scheduled renewal assessment and A2LA is unable to perform the assessment in the required timeframe, A2LA will only process a maximum six (6) month extension of accreditation, after which time the organization will be required to have its accreditation classified as “inactive” or to transfer its accreditation to another Accreditation Body that can travel to their locale.

For any queries about current US State Department advisories please visit the US State Department Alerts and Warnings website [http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/alertswarnings.html](http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/alertswarnings.html) or contact A2LA at [info@A2LA.org](mailto:info@A2LA.org).

### Document Revision History

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