



Secretariat

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26 December 1997

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INFORMATION CIRCULAR\*

To: Members of the staff at the Assistant Secretary-General level and above  
at Headquarters

From: The Under-Secretary-General for Administration and Management

Subject: INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR SENIOR OFFICIALS ENTITLED TO  
DIPLOMATIC PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES\*\*

1. The purpose of the present information circular is to inform the staff at the Assistant Secretary-General and Under-Secretary-General levels and officers of equivalent rank of insurance requirements relating to the short-term operation of motor vehicles in the United States by senior officials of the United Nations, and by their dependants, entitled to diplomatic privileges and immunities under article V, section 19, of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations.<sup>1</sup>

2. The United States Mission to the United Nations has recently advised the Secretariat of the following requirements in this respect:

(a) Senior officials of the United Nations and their dependants who have driver's licences issued by the Department of State must, prior to the operation of a rental vehicle, have liability coverage equal to the Department of State's mandated levels for car registration: \$100,000/\$300,000/\$100,000 split limits or \$300,000 combined single limit;

(b) If these persons already possess liability coverage for the operation of a rental vehicle through their existing policies with respect to their vehicles registered with the Department of State, they nonetheless should ensure that a current liability policy would be available to satisfy any valid claims in the event of an accident involving a vehicle they have rented;

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\* The present circular will be in effect until further notice.

\*\* Personnel Manual index No. 13095.

(c) Senior officials and dependants who have not registered a vehicle with the Department of State and do not have the mandated level of liability insurance are required to obtain it prior to the operation of a rental vehicle;

(d) If the senior official or dependant would be covered while operating a rental vehicle under a current liability policy for United Nations-owned and registered vehicles, such official or dependant is not required to obtain duplicate insurance;

(e) In case senior officials and dependants holding driver's licences issued by the Department of State do not carry the required amount of insurance when operating a rental vehicle, their licences will be considered invalid and, therefore, they will be operating that vehicle illegally;

(f) If valid claims are not satisfied in any case involving a traffic accident or injury, the Department of State would intend to request an appropriate waiver of immunity.

3. It is expected that senior officials and their dependants entitled to diplomatic privileges and immunities in the host country will conform to the above-stated requirements.

Notes

<sup>1</sup> United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. I, No. 4, p. 16.

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