



HIGHLIGHTS

Office of Inspector General

United States Department of State

ISP-I-23-09

What OIG Inspected

OIG inspected the executive direction, policy and program implementation, foreign assistance, resource management, and information management operations of Embassy Abuja. The inspection included Consulate General Lagos.

What OIG Recommends

OIG made 40 recommendations: 37 recommendations to Embassy Abuja, 1 recommendation to the Bureau of Administration, 1 recommendation to the Bureau of Consular Affairs, and 1 to the Bureau of Overseas Buildings Operations. In its comments on the draft report, the Department concurred with 37 recommendations, partially concurred with 1 recommendation, and disagreed with 2 recommendations. OIG considers 39 recommendations resolved and 1 recommendation unresolved. The Department's response to each recommendation, and OIG's reply, can be found in the Recommendations section of this report. The Department's formal responses are reprinted in their entirety in Appendix B.

June 2023

OFFICE OF INSPECTIONS

BUREAU OF AFRICAN AFFAIRS

Inspection of Embassy Abuja and Constituent Post, Nigeria

What OIG Found

- The Ambassador and the Deputy Chief of Mission maintained appropriate communications and led Mission Nigeria in a strategic and attentive manner consistent with Department of State leadership and management principles.
- The mission's Political and Economic Sections collaborated with other agencies to advance the embassy's Integrated Country Strategy and other Department priorities.
- Mission Nigeria did not meet Department standards for documenting the monitoring and evaluation of federal assistance awards.
- The Consular Sections at Embassy Abuja and Consulate General Lagos were focused on resolving the long backlogs for nonimmigrant visas.
- Consular personnel were not fully prepared to respond to a crisis due to a lack of training and insufficient attention on crisis planning.
- The U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief enabled more than 643,000 Nigerian residents to receive treatment despite challenges that arose due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Gaps in the oversight of Mission Nigeria's management operations created shortcomings in bulk fuel management, property management, fire protection, travel management, human resources, and government vehicle operations.
- The Department lacked guidance for the management and operation of watercraft used in an official transportation program, such as the one at Consulate General Lagos.
- Spotlight on Success: During the COVID-19 pandemic, staff from Mission Nigeria's American Spaces and EducationUSA used virtual outreach to increase the number of Nigerian students studying in the United States.