

**From:** [REDACTED] (Sensitive)

**Sent:** 25 March 2015 10:46

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Cc:** [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] (Sensitive); [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] (Sensitive)

**Subject:** Meeting with Tour Operators & British Embassy

Hi [REDACTED]

The Ambassador and Deputy Ambassador here met with tour operators on Monday and yesterday in Hammamet and Sousse. The meetings were extremely useful for us in understanding in-resort operators concerns/issues following the Bardo attacks. I hope we were able to answer a number of their questions. Operators will no doubt be able to provide a more detailed account to you about what they took away, but the main messages we picked up were:

- Understanding that another attack in Tunisia in the near future would be extremely damaging for tourism here
- Unclear at the moment the impact on bookings; some evidence of impact on German tourists; Polish tourists have made a number of cancellations; less evidence of British cancellations; all likely to know more in about 2/3 weeks
- There has been a visible increase in local security around resorts, but there are concerns that this needs to be sustainable and ongoing and not drop off; security of resorts and tourist sites to help prevent a future attack is the most important issue for all right now
- Overall view is that UK media has focused less attention overall on the attacks than in France; and this is likely to have a corresponding impact on bookings
- Our current Travel Advice is right for operators at the moment; in response to direct questions from us, there are no specific issues with the current wording which is causing issues for them or their guests in resort
- Continuing concerns about airport security at regional airports, particularly Enfidha
- Lack of clear communication between Tunisian authorities and tour operators since the Bardo attacks have made things more difficult; regular communication with British Embassy is important and would like this to continue

On Travel Advice, my impression from discussing with you on the phone was that ABTA may have a slightly different view from a London perspective that in-resort operators. Please do let me know if you have any questions or queries on this. On facilitating better dialogue between Tunisians and tour operators, the Ambassador is meeting with Minister of Tourism and others in the coming days. I would be keen to ensure ABTA are included as we plan this activity, so I will be in touch with more in the coming week I hope.

I have sent over the social media we have done on since, which you are welcome to replay if useful for your messaging.

Please do let me know if anything here is unclear or needs clarifying here.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | Consular Regional Operations Manager for North Africa | HM Consul Morocco  
Telephone: [REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED] [mailto:[REDACTED]]  
**Sent:** 24 March 2015 10:23  
**To:** [REDACTED] (Sensitive)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Tweet OFFICIAL

Thanks for the update [REDACTED], look forward to hearing more later

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED] [mailto:[REDACTED]]  
**Sent:** 24 March 2015 08:35  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Fw: Tweet OFFICIAL

CLASSIFICATION:OFFICIAL

Hi [REDACTED]

Just wanted to let you know that had first meeting with tour ops here yesterday, will let you know outcomes later after today's meeting.

Hamish tweeted about the meeting, along with a couple of photos. Please see below.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

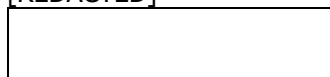
**From:** [REDACTED][mailto:[REDACTED]]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 23, 2015 09:55 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Tweet

<https://twitter.com/HamishCowell/status/580082354531799040>

Many thanks,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

Visit <http://www.gov.uk/fco> for British foreign policy news and travel advice and <http://blogs.fco.gov.uk> to read our blogs.

This email (with any attachments) is intended for the attention of the addressee(s) only. If you are not the intended recipient, please inform the sender straight away before deleting the message without copying, distributing or disclosing its contents to any other person or organisation. Unauthorised use, disclosure, storage or copying is not permitted. Any views or opinions expressed in this e-mail do not necessarily reflect the FCO's policy. The FCO keeps and uses information in line with the Data Protection Act 1998. Personal information may be released to other UK government departments and public authorities. All messages sent and received by members of the Foreign & Commonwealth Office and its missions overseas may be automatically logged, monitored and/or recorded in accordance with the Telecommunications (Lawful Business Practice) (Interception of Communications) Regulations 2000.

\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*