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The Secretary of State presents her compliments to Their Excellencies and Messieurs and Mesdames the Chiefs of Missions and has the honor to request indications of interest from foreign missions in relocating chanceries or establishing chancery annexes at a possible new International Chancery Center at the current location of the Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

Following the success of the International Chancery Center (“Chancery Center”), located in the District of Columbia near the intersection of Connecticut Avenue and Van Ness Street, the Department has long sought to establish a second location upon which to create a similar development. After many years of studying the viability of numerous locations throughout the District, the Department has concluded that the pending relocation of the Walter Reed Army Medical Center presents the first potentially viable option for undertaking a development of similar size and scale to the existing Chancery Center.

If successful, the entrance to the proposed new Chancery Center is on 16th Street, NW between Aspen Street and Alaska Avenue, facing Rock Creek Park.

DIPLOMATIC NOTE

In order for the Department to better understand and explore and promote the concept of a new Chancery Center, the Chiefs of Mission are requested to inform the Department's Office of Foreign Missions (OFM) of any serious interest in the possibility of relocating their chancery or a chancery annex to the current location of the Walter Reed Army Medical Center. The Department hopes to receive responses to this request before April 16, 2010. Responses can be delivered via facsimile to (202) 736-4145, via electronic mail at OFMTaxCustoms@state.gov or to OFM's Customer Service Center (3507 International Place, NW Washington, DC).

At this time, any expressions of interest by foreign missions for acquiring property at the proposed new Chancery Center will only be used by the Department to determine the viability and scope of this project.

If and when a definitive plan is concluded concerning the development of the proposed new Chancery Center, the Chiefs of Mission will be apprised of the process through which property at the site can be acquired.

Department of State,

Washington,



March 23, 2010.