



Delving Deeper

The following checklists are suggestions to help you think more deeply about your move. They can help ensure that, in all the upheaval, you don't forget something important. Many of these points will depend on the country you are moving from/to, and your personal situation, and you can add to them or make your own lists as applicable.

Pre-departure Checklist

- Adequate notice to your landlord or agent, if you are renting
- Postal Service - arrange to have your post re-directed
- Utility companies, phone/internet services, TV cable/satellite
- Schools (private schools may require advance notice)
- Your doctor - if you are on long-term medication, get a supply to tide you over the initial settling-in period
- Your dentist
- Obtain copies of medical records for you and your family
- Clubs
- Your lawyer
- Appoint a power of attorney to act in your absence, if appropriate/required
- Discontinue any publications you subscribe to/or inform of change of address
- Make arrangements for ongoing expenses in your home country including instalment payment plans and accounts with stores

Banking and Insurance

- Carry with you copies of the insurance forms for your shipment and for any items left in storage. Read the small print and make sure that you understand what kind of cover you have, especially for valuable antiques, works of art, etc.
- If you have other insurance policies (including endowments in respect of mortgage) advise the companies that you are moving, or cancel as appropriate.
- Inform your bank of your move. Some types of accounts do not permit an overseas address. Activate internet banking to manage accounts online.
- Make arrangements for ongoing expenses in your home country.
- Do not discontinue home country credit cards if you are concerned about losing your credit rating.
- Get copies of your car insurance records for the last five years. This might help you establish creditworthiness in the host country.

Personal Documentation

- ② Passports: make sure that everyone in the family has a valid travel document with more than 6 months left before expiration
- ② Visas: for the visa application process, check with the Relocation Focal Point if you are being posted to a country office, or HR Operations if relocating to the U.S., and allow enough time for possible delays
- ② Work permits (if applicable)
- ② International drivers' licenses
- ② Birth, marriage certificates, divorce/custody papers if applicable
- ② Medical records for all the family, including immunization records
- ② School reports of children
- ② Degrees, diplomas, and professional certification
- ② Wills and relevant documents
- ② Correct documentation for any pets traveling with you, such as travel and inoculation papers, etc.
- ② A good supply of passport photos for ID cards, etc., when you arrive

Thinking Destination

- ② What is unique and special about the country?
- ② What exciting travel and learning opportunities does the country offer?
- ② Customs, manners and culture of the country
- ② Salary/relocation package and benefits
- ② Employment/volunteering opportunities, work permits and tax considerations if you intend to work as an accompanying partner
- ② Security and safety
- ② Schooling
- ② Medical care and insurance coverage
- ② Housing options
- ② Possibility of power cuts/water shortages and how to manage them
- ② Driving laws and getting a local driving license
- ② How good is the internet connection?
- ② Languages used and opportunities for language instruction
- ② Information about pets - need for quarantine, etc.
- ② What do I need to bring for my family to be comfortable?
- ② Availability of medication locally, if on long-term medication
- ② Add your personal "must haves" to the list

Your Personal Transition

These questions are suggestions to help you, the accompanying partner, to prepare yourself mentally for the move. You might not be able to get answers to them all before moving, but being aware of them can help you focus on what to ask other WBG spouses when you get the chance.

- ② What does this place have to offer me?
- ② How will I find a new support system?
- ② What am I going to miss?
- ② How will I get around?
- ② How will I make time for myself?
- ② What will I/we do for relaxation and enjoyment?
- ② How will I find the best shops, get my hair cut, or go to the gym?
- ② How will I manage when my partner is away on mission?
- ② What can I bring to this new situation?