



An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Our Ref: Fol/Req/19/202

Date: 26th July 2019

Dear Ms. Wilson,

I refer to the request which you have made under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 for access to records held by this Department, as follows:

- 1. The dates each Irish Ambassador have been allocated to their current Embassy and when the term at each Embassy is due to end eg Irish Ambassador to Finland started at that Embassy in January 2016 and is due to finish at the Embassy in January 2020 etc.***
- 2. The dates each Irish Consulate General have been allocated to their current Consulate General Office and when the term at the Consulate General Office is due to finish eg Irish Consulate General in New York started at the Consulate in August 2016 and due to finish at Consulate in August 2020.***
- 3. The criteria used to decide the location of Each Ambassador and Consulate General when the posts are due to filled; Who have final say in deciding the locations eg Secretary General of DFAT or Minister.***

I refer also to the acknowledgement of your request which was sent to you on 4th July 2019.

Below is a list of Ambassadorial positions and start dates. While the standard posting for Heads of Missions is generally four years, for operational reasons, postings may be shorter or longer. Therefore, it is not possible to give definitive dates on when Ambassadors and Consulate Generals are due to return from their current positions.

<u>Mission</u>	<u>Start Date</u>
Abu Dhabi	Sep-18
Abuja (Chargé d'Affaires) temporary	Jun-19
Addis Ababa	Aug-17
Amman	Feb-19
Ankara	Feb-15
Athens	Jun-17
Atlanta	Jul-15
Armagh - North/South Ministerial Council Joint Secretariat	Aug-12
Austin CG	Aug-14
Bangkok	Aug-18
Beijing	Sep-17
Belfast - Irish Secretariat	Aug-17
Berlin	Aug-13
Berne	Aug-15
Bogota	Jan-19
Boston CG	May-19
Brasilia	Dec-18
Bratislava	Aug-17
Brussels Embassy	Aug-17
Brussels Perm Rep	Jan-17
Brussels Perm Rep	Sep-13
Bucharest	Sep-15
Budapest	Aug-15
Buenos Aires	May-18
Cairo	Aug-17
Canberra	Aug-16
Cardiff CG	Apr-19
Chicago CG	Dec-16
Copenhagen	Nov-14
Dar-es-Salaam	Aug-16
Edinburgh CG	Jul-19
Freetown	Aug-16
Geneva	Aug-17
Hanoi	Sep-15
Helsinki	Aug-17
Holy See	Sep-18
Hong Kong	Jul-18
Jakarta	Sep-18
Kampala	Aug-18
Kuala Lumpur	Jul-15
Lilongwe	Aug-16
Lisbon	Sep-15
Ljubljana	Aug-17

London	Aug-17
Lusaka	Sep-15
Luxembourg	Aug-14
Madrid	Aug-17
Maputo	Aug-18
Mexico	Aug-17
Moscow	Aug-15
Nairobi	Jun-19
New Delhi	Dec-15
New York CG	Aug-17
New York PMUN	Aug-17
Nicosia	Aug-17
Oslo	Aug-15
Ottawa	Aug-16
Paris Embassy	Aug-17
Paris OECD	Jul-16
Prague	Aug-15
Pretoria	Aug-14
Ramallah	Aug-16
Riga	Oct-15
Riyadh	Sep-18
Rome	Aug-17
San Francisco	Jul-17
Santiago	Feb-19
Sao Paulo CG	Aug-17
Seoul	Aug-17
Shanghai	Sep-15
Singapore	Aug-18
Sofia	Jul-16
Stockholm	Aug-17
Strasbourg	Jul-16
Sydney CG	Sep-18
Tallinn	Aug-18
Tel Aviv	Aug-15
The Hague	Nov-16
Tokyo	Aug-18
Valletta	Sep-18
Vancouver CG	Aug-18
Vienna Embassy	Jan-17
Vienna OSCE	Sep-16
Vilnius	Jul-14
Warsaw	Sep-18
Washington	Aug-17
Wellington	Jul-18
Zagreb	Sep-16

- In considering the staffing of Ireland's diplomatic representation overseas, a range of factors is taken into account including national political, economic and trade priorities, as well as the availability of supports.
- The Government, on foot of proposals made by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, nominates officers to Ambassadorial posts. The nominated Ambassadors are subsequently appointed by the President. The appointment of Consuls General are noted by the government. Generally, Irish diplomats, including Heads of Mission, are established career civil servants employed by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Right of Appeal

Should you wish to appeal this decision, you may do so in writing to the Freedom of Information Unit, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, 76-78 Harcourt Street, Dublin 2 or by email to foi@dfa.ie. A fee applies for an appeal for access to non-personal information; the level of this fee has been set at €30. For methods of payment, please contact FOI Unit at foi@dfa.ie, or 01-4082857.

You should make your appeal within 4 weeks (20 working days) from the date of this notification. However, the making of a late appeal may be permitted in appropriate circumstances. The appeal will involve a complete reconsideration of the matter by a more senior member of the staff of this Department.

Yours sincerely


Oonagh O'Reilly
Workforce Planning
HR-HQ