



**Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Abuja**

**Press Release**

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**UPDATE ON EVACUATION OF NIGERIAN NATIONALS FROM SOUTH AFRICA**

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs wishes to inform that the first batch of Nigerian nationals that will be evacuated from the Republic of South Africa due to Xenophobic attacks will depart the Oliver Thambo International Airport in Johannesburg on Wednesday night, and the expected time of arrival at the Murtala Mohammed International Airport in Lagos is 5.00am on Thursday morning.

The evacuation operation will be undertaken by Air Peace Airlines. The Federal Government of Nigeria has fully funded the evacuation exercise; consequently, all affected Nigerians will be repatriated at no cost to them.

The Ministry further wishes to assure the public that the Federal Government, through relevant Ministries, Departments and Agencies, has put in place the necessary reception and support arrangements for the returnees. Upon arrival, the evacuees will undergo documentation and profiling procedures and will receive the appropriate assistance and support before being reunited with their families.

**Signed:**

**Kimiebi Imomotimi Ebienfa, anipr  
Spokesperson  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Abuja  
Tuesday, 9 June 2026**