



The GLOBE Program Management and UCAR Security Office have been closely following events in South Africa. We understand that there are concerns by participants in the GLE and GLOBE Annual Conference concerning personal safety. We share your concerns.

Based on independent assessments, we would like to share the following information with you. For the past several days the violence has subsided and appears to be under control in Cape Town and surrounding areas. We need to acknowledge that media reports have indicated that foreigners have been specifically targeted for violence. It is important to note that the targets are migrants from neighboring counties and not foreigners in general. It is highly unlikely that any GLE or AC participants would be targeted. Additionally, violence has been isolated to townships, economically impoverished neighborhoods and informal settlements, none of which we will visit. We have been advised that The Cape Town Police have put together a task team and have already deployed these additional forces to manage the situation.

Even prior to these events, GLOBE Management and the UCAR Security office had designed additional security measures beyond those provided by the University of Cape Town. These measures include private security forces assigned to GLE and AC events both on the University of Cape Town campus and during field trips to study natural environments. The dormitories will be secured 24 hours per day and totally locked down at night. The University of Cape Town security will also be patrolling the GLE events and the dorms. Finally, we will be coordinating all security measures with the Cape Town Police Department to insure complete integration of all security measures.

We will continue to follow these events, periodically update our on-going security plan and advise you of any changes in conditions. At this time we believe it is safe to proceed with the conferences. Please be assured that our top priority has been and always will be the personal safety of all attendees. We will both be on site throughout the conferences and will review security plans daily. If you have additional concerns or questions please feel free to contact us.

Best wishes, Steve Sadler and Emmett Wright

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