

*Recent email correspondence between refugee advocate Marion Le and the Department of Immigration and Citizenship:*

Please find answers to your questions below which I hope answers all of your questions. We are currently processing the one-way travel document and I will let you know when this is complete so he can book his travel. As explained to the Mr AAAAAA in January Albanians can not apply for passports outside of Albania - this is why he will need to return on this document as his passport was stolen-lost.

Thanks

1. What is the actual status of the "one way" travel document that Albania will issue him.

A 'one way' travel document is an official instrument issued by the Albanian authorities to enable emergency travel from one place to Albania.

The document will enable travel and entry to Albania it is a single use document.

If your client wishes to travel again your client will need to organise an Albanian passport upon return to Albania.

2 Why is it that they will issues that document but not a passport which they are obliged to do under international law?

All passports need to be issued to Albanian's in-country. This occurred in 2009 after Albania changed to a bio-metric system of passport issuance. There is no facility to apply for a passport outside of Albania.

Your client would need to take any further matters regarding the issue of Albanian passports up with the appropriate Albanian authorities.

3 What monitoring / follow up will there be from Australia if he returns to Albania on the one way travel document?

The Australian Government does not monitor foreign citizens in their country of origin or anywhere else overseas. There will be no follow-up.

As Albania issues the document it is the possession of Albania and must be surrendered to the Albanian authorities at the completion of the journey (purpose) for which it was issued.

4 Do you have any written information in relation to the non-issuance of an Albanian passport to him and the issuance of the "one way" document by Albania?

No the Department of Immigration and Citizenship does not have written documentation regarding Albanian passport requirements.

Your client would need to contact the Albanian Embassy for details about their requirements for the issue of a passport.

5 Is he entitled to book on any airline for any destination using that document?

Yes, the travel document is recognised by all carriers. He will be able to use this document on any return flight to Albania.

However, he will not be able to enter other countries on route other than the transit areas during his return flight.

It is valid only for departure from Australia and entry into Albania.