



Convention on Biological Diversity

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ENGLISH ONLY

EXPERT MEETING ON THE MODALITIES OF
OPERATION OF THE ABS CLEARING HOUSE
Montreal, Canada, 11-14 April 2011

INFORMATION NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS

QUICK LINKS (Control + click on icons for web page, click on page number to directly access text in document)



Visa Information (pages 3, 5)



Currency Information (page 4)



Meeting Documents (page 2)



Hotel Information (3, 6)



Weather Information (page 3)

INFORMATION HIGHLIGHTS

1.	OPENING AND REGISTRATION.....	2
2.	VENUE	2
4.	DOCUMENTS	2
5.	GENERAL INFORMATION ON ACCESS TO MONTREAL	2
6.	VISA INFORMATION	3
	ANNEX A – COUNTRY LISTING	5
7.	HOTEL INFORMATION	3
	ANNEX B – HOTEL LISTING	6

9. OFFICIAL LANGUAGES 3

10. WEATHER AND TIME
ZONE

1. Opening and registration

The Expert Meeting on the Modalities of Operation of the ABS Clearing House will be held in Montreal from Monday, 11 April to Thursday, 14 April 2011.

The meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, 11 April 2011 and registration will take place at the venue of the meeting at 8:00 a.m. the same day.

2. Venue

The meeting will be held at:

The Palais des Congrès
301 Saint-Antoine West
Fifth floor, Rooms 525 A and 525 B
Montreal, Quebec
Metro: line 2 – Orange – station: Place D'Armes

3. Working language

The meeting will be held in English.

4. Documents

Participants are kindly reminded to bring their own copies of the documents for the meeting as there will be no extra copies made available on site. Pre-session documents will be on the Secretariat's web site as they become available:



<http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=EMABSCHM-01>

5. General information on access to Montreal



Montreal is serviced by Montreal-Trudeau International Airport (15 km from downtown). Taxis and a bus (no. 747) are available at the airport. The information on rates is as follows.

Bus / Shuttles:

Montreal-Trudeau Airport/
Downtown (several locations)
STM Express bus No. 747

One way trip

CDN \$8
(at the airport tickets are sold at the
International Currency Exchange (ICE)
counter on the international arrivals level)

Taxis:

Montreal-Trudeau /Downtown

CDN \$38 Fixed rate

6. Visa information



Participants from countries listed in **annex A** below require an entry visa for Canada and are strongly advised to contact the nearest Canadian diplomatic or consular mission **as soon as possible** in order to secure the required entry visa in a timely manner, prior to departure. **Please note that airline companies will not allow boarding in the absence of a valid visa.**

Information on visa procedures, including a list of relevant Canadian diplomatic/consular missions abroad, is available on the website of Canadian Citizenship and Immigration at: <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/information/offices/index.asp#international>.

To facilitate the issuance of visas, the Secretariat will issue upon request invitation letters to be attached to the visa applications.

7. Hotel information

Non Funded Participants: A block of rooms has been reserved at the LHOTEL Montreal, 262 Saint-Jacques West : Old Montreal / Toll Free : 1 888.451.9579 / Telephone :: (888) 451.9446 / Fax :: (514) 985.0059, Email: ventes@lhotelmontreal.com. Please kindly contact the hotel to make your own booking, the negotiated rate is \$115.00Cad plus tax and it includes breakfast and Internet access. If you seek alternative accommodation, please see (Annex B).

Funded Participants: The Secretariat has reserved and prepaid your accommodation at the LHOTEL Montreal, 262 Saint-Jacques West, Old Montreal based on your ticketed travel dates obtained from MKI and excluding any personal extensions.

Further information on hotels in Montreal is available at the following web site:

<http://www.tourisme-montreal.org/Accommodations>



8. Payment of the daily subsistence allowances (DSA)

The DSA will be paid to the sponsored participants on the first day of the meeting.

9. Official languages

There are two official languages in Canada: English and French. French is the official language of Quebec; however English is widely spoken in Montreal.

10. Weather and time zone information



In April, temperatures in Montreal usually range between a maximum of +11°C in the daytime and a minimum of -1°C at night. Current weather conditions in the area can be found at: <http://www.worldweather.org/056/c00634.htm>.

The standard time zone will be GMT/UTC -4 hours.

11. Electricity

The electrical currents are 120 volts, 60 Hertz a (two-pin flat and vertical with a ground connection).



12. Currency



The currency in Canada is the Canadian Dollar (CDN \$). The current exchange rate as at 24 February 2011 is US \$1 = CDN \$0.98 and (Euro) € 1 = CDN \$1.35.

13. Disclaimer

The CBD Secretariat disclaims all responsibility for medical, accident and travel insurance, for compensation for death or disability compensation, for loss of or damage to personal property and for any other loss that may be incurred during travel time or the period of participation. In this context, it is strongly recommended to secure international medical, accident and travel insurances for the period of participation prior to departure.

Annex A – Country Listing

COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES WHOSE CITIZENS REQUIRE VISAS IN ORDER TO ENTER CANADA AS VISITORS (AS LISTED ON THE WEBSITE OF CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION CANADA)

Citizens of the following countries and territories require a visa to **visit** or **transit** Canada:

A

Afghanistan
Albania
Algeria
Angola
Argentina
Armenia
Azerbaijan

B

Bahrain
Bangladesh
Belarus
Belize
Benin
Bhutan
Bolivia
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Brazil
Bulgaria
Burkina Faso
Burundi

C

Cambodia
Cameroon
Cape Verde
Central African Republic
Chad
Chile
China
Colombia
Comoros
Congo, Democratic
Republic of the
Congo, Republic of the
Costa Rica
Cuba
Czech Republic

D

Djibouti
Dominica
Dominican Republic

E

East Timor
Ecuador
Egypt
El Salvador
Equatorial Guinea

E (cont'd)

Eritrea
Ethiopia

F

Fiji

G

Gabon
Gambia
Georgia
Ghana
Grenada
Guatemala
Guinea
Guinea-Bissau
Guyana

H

Haiti
Honduras

I

India
Indonesia
Iran, Islamic Republic of
Iraq
Israel
Ivory Coast

J

Jamaica
Jordan

K

Kazakhstan
Kenya
Kiribati
Korea, Democratic People's
Republic of
Kuwait
Kyrgyzstan

L

Lao, People's Democratic
Republic of
Lebanon
Lesotho
Liberia
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
Lithuania

M

Macao
Madagascar
Malawi
Malaysia
Maldives
Mali
Marshall Islands
Mauritania
Mauritius
Mexico
Micronesia, Fed. States of
Moldova
Mongolia
Montenegro
Morocco
Mozambique
Myanmar

N

Nauru
Nepal
Nicaragua
Niger
Nigeria

O

Oman

P

Pakistan
Palau
Palestinian Authority
Panama
Paraguay
Peru
Philippines
Poland

Q

Qatar

R

Romania
Russian Federation
Rwanda

S

Sao Tomé e Príncipe
Saudi Arabia
Senegal
Serbia
Seychelles

S (Cont'd)

Sierra Leone
Somalia
South Africa
Sri Lanka
Sudan
Suriname
Syrian Arab Republic

T

Tajikistan
Tanzania, United Republic
of
Thailand
The former Yugoslav
Republic of Macedonia
Togo
Tonga
Trinidad and Tobago
Tunisia
Turkey
Turkmenistan
Tuvalu

U

Uganda
Ukraine
United Arab Emirates
Uruguay
Uzbekistan

V

Vanuatu
Venezuela
Viet Nam

Y

Yemen

Z

Zambia
Zimbabwe

Annex B – Hotel listing

LIST OF HOTELS WITH INDICATIVE ROOM RATES IN CANADIAN DOLLARS PRICES DO NOT INCLUDE THE APPLICABLE TAXES: GST 5% + QST 8.5%

RATES ARE INDICATIVE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE

A. FIVE STAR HOTELS	Room Rates	Distance to the meeting venue	Remarks
1. Hotel Inter-Continental Montreal 360 St-Antoine Street West Montreal, Quebec Tel.: +1-514-847-8525, option #3 Toll free in North America: +1-800-361-3600 Fax: +1-514-847-8730 E-mail: montreal@interconti.com ; yulhb-reservations@ihg.com Web site: http://www.ichotelsgroup.com/intercontinental/en/gb/reservations/dates-preferences/montreal	Please request the <u>SCBD</u> Rates at the time of booking. Jan – Apr: \$175.00 - \$195.00 May – Oct: \$180.00 - \$200.00 Nov – Dec: \$175.00 - \$195.00	1 minute walk	Rates Include: • High Speed Internet
2. Hyatt Regency Montreal 1255 Jeanne-Mance Montreal, Quebec, H5B 1E5 Tel: +1-514-982-1234 Fax: +1-514-841-2069 Web site: www.montreal.hyatt.com	Please request the <u>CBD/SCBD</u> rates at the time of booking. 1 Jan – 30 Apr: \$145.00 1 May – 31 Oct: \$180.00 1 Nov – 31 Dec: \$145.00	15 minutes' walk	Rates Include: • High Speed Internet
B. FOUR-STAR HOTELS			
3. Delta Centre Ville 777 University Street Montreal, Quebec Tel.: +1-514-879-1370 Fax: +1-514-879-1761 Web site for reservations: www.deltahotels.com/bg3	Please Request the <u>CBD</u> or <u>ICAO</u> rates at the time of booking. Jan – Apr: \$155.00 May – Oct: \$165.00 Nov – Dec: \$155.00	5 minute walk	Rates Include: • High Speed Internet
4. Holiday Inn Select 99 Viger Street West Montreal, Quebec Tel.: +1-514-878-9888 Fax: +1-514-878-6341 Web site: www.ichotelsgroup.com	Please request the <u>CBD</u>, <u>SCBD</u> or <u>UN</u> rates at the time of booking. Jan – Apr: \$109.00 May – Oct: \$125.00 Nov – Dec: \$110.00	1 minute walk	Rates Include: • High Speed Internet
5. Hôtel de la Montagne 1430 de la Montagne Street Montreal, Quebec Tel.: +1-514-288-5656 Toll free in North America: +1-800-361-6262 Fax: +1-514-288-9658 Web site: www.hoteldelamontagne.com	Please request <u>CBD</u> or <u>ICAO</u> rates at the time of booking. Jan – Apr \$149.00 May – Oct \$159.00 Nov – Apr \$155.00	20 minutes' walk	Rates Include: • High Speed Internet
6. Square Phillips (Hotel & Suites) 1193 Place Phillips Montreal, Quebec H3B 3C9 Tel. + 1-514-393-1193 Fax: + 1-514-393-1192 Web site: www.squarephillips.com	Please request <u>SCBD</u> rates at the time of booking. Daily and Weekly rates available. Jan-Apr: D:\$128.00/ W:\$119.00 May-Oct: D:\$147.00/ W:\$137.00 Nov-Dec: D:\$130.00/ W:\$121.00	15 minutes' walk	Rates Include: • Breakfast • Free Internet • Local calls
7. Embassy Suites 208 St-Antoine Street West Montreal, Quebec Tel: 514-288-8886 Fax: 514-288-8899 Web site: http://embassysuites1.hilton.com/en_US/es/hotel/YULDNES-Embassy-Suites-Montreal-Quebec/index.do	Please request <u>ICAO</u> rates at the time of booking. Rates are divided in two categories: Less than 2 weeks and more than 2 weeks From 1 day to 2 weeks: \$159.00 More than 2 weeks: \$129.00	15 minutes' walk	Rates Include: • Breakfast • High Speed Internet • Two Drinks Daily

B. FOUR-STAR HOTELS (continued)	Approximate room rates	Distance to the meeting venue	Remarks
8. Le Westin Montréal 270 St-Antoine West Montreal, Quebec Tel: 514-380-3333 Fax: 514-380-3332 Web site: http://www.westinmontreal.com/	Please request <u>ICAO</u> rates at the time of booking. Jan – Apr \$169.00 May – Oct \$179.00 Nov – Dec \$169.00	1 minute walk	Rates Include: • High Speed Internet
C. THREE-STAR HOTELS			
9. Best Western 3407 Peel Street (corner of Peel and Sherbrooke Street) Montreal, Quebec Tel: +1-514-288-4141 or Toll free in North America: +1-800-361-7791 Fax: +1-514-288-3021 Reservations: sam@hotelvillemarie.com Web site: www.hotelvillemarie.com	Please request <u>ICAO</u> rates at the time of booking. Nov – Apr: \$109.00 May – Oct: \$135.00	20 minutes' walk	Rates Include: • High Speed Internet
10. Hotel Le Dauphin 1025, De Bleury Montreal, Quebec Tel: +1-514-788-3888 Fax: +1-514-788-3889 E-mail: mtl_centre@hoteldauphin.ca Web site: www.hoteldauphin.ca	Please request <u>CBD</u> rates at the time of booking. Nov – Apr \$115.00 May – Oct \$129.00	1 minute walk	Rates Include: • Breakfast • High Speed Internet
11. Hôtel Manoir des Alpes 1245 St. André Street Montreal, Quebec Tel.: +1-514-845-9803 Fax : +1-514-845-9886 Web site: www.hotelmanoirdesalpes.qc.ca	Please request the <u>CBD</u> or <u>UN</u> rates at the time of booking Jan-Dec: \$75.00	15 minutes' walk	Rates Include: • Breakfast • High Speed Internet
12. L'Appartement-in-Montréal 455 Sherbrooke Street West Montreal, Quebec Tel.: +1-514-284-3634 Fax: +1-514-287-1431 Web site: www.appartementhotel.com	Please request <u>SCBD</u> rates at the time of booking. Daily and weekly rates available. Jan-Apr: D: \$111.00/W: \$100.00 May-Oct: D: \$125.00/W: \$108.00 Nov-Dec: D: \$112.00-W: \$101.00	15 minutes' walk	Rates Include: • Breakfast • High Speed Internet • Local calls
13. La Tour Centre-Ville 400 René-Lévesque Blvd. W. Montreal, Quebec Tel.: +1-514-866-8861 Fax: +1-514-866-7257 Email : sales@hotelcentreville.com Web site: www.hotelcentreville.com	Please request <u>CBD</u> rates at the time of booking. Jan – Apr \$75.00 May-Oct \$85.00 Nov-Dec \$75.00	10 minutes' walk	Rates Include: • High Speed Internet
14. Travelodge 50, René-Lévesque Blvd. West Montreal, Quebec Tel.: +1-514-874-9090 Fax: +1-514-874-0907 E-mail: reserve@travellodgemontréal.ca Web site: www.travelodge.com	Please request <u>CBD</u> rates at the time of booking. Jan – Apr \$75.00 May – Oct \$92.00 Nov – Dec \$75.00	15 minutes' walk	Rates Include: • High Speed Internet
15. L'HOTEL 262 St-Jacques Street West Montreal, Quebec, H2Y 1N1 Tel.: +1-514-985-0019 Fax.: +1-514-985-0059 http://lhotelmontreal-px.trvlclick.com/index.cfm	Please request <u>CBD</u> rate at the time of booking. Jan – Apr \$115.00 May-Oct \$135.00 Nov – Dec \$115.00	3 minutes' walk	Rates Include: • Breakfast • High Speed Internet
