



## Convention on Biological Diversity

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ENGLISH ONLY

WORKSHOP ON SYNERGIES AMONG THE  
BIODIVERSITY-RELATED CONVENTIONS  
Geneva, Switzerland, 8-11 February 2016

### INFORMATION NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS

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## 1. Opening and registration

The Workshop on synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions will be held in Geneva, Switzerland from Monday, 8 February to Thursday, 11 February 2016.

The meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, 8 February 2016 and registration will take place at the venue of the workshop at 8:30 a.m. the same day.

## 2. Venue

The meeting will be held at:

### **United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG)**

Palais des Nations

Plenary room - Room XXIV, Building E

Avenue de la Paix 8-14

1211 Geneva 10

Switzerland

Telephone: + 41 22 917 12 34 / + 41 22 917 22 14

Fax: + 41 22 917 01 23 / + 41 22 917 00 05

E-mail: [webmaster@unog.ch](mailto:webmaster@unog.ch)

Web-site: [www.unog.ch](http://www.unog.ch)

### Access to the venue

All delegates and conference participants at the Palais des Nations (UNOG) must enter through the **Pregny Gate** (refer to Map of the Palais des Nations in **Annex A** below).

A detailed map of the venue including visitor information for UNOG is available at:

[http://www.unog.ch/80256EDD006B8954/\(httpAssets\)/88FFDD768F055AECC1256F2A0052A3CC/\\$file/Palais+des+Nations+map.pdf](http://www.unog.ch/80256EDD006B8954/(httpAssets)/88FFDD768F055AECC1256F2A0052A3CC/$file/Palais+des+Nations+map.pdf)

The display of the conference badge is mandatory for admission to the UNOG Conference Centre including meeting rooms. Participants are also requested to have photo identification on their person when entering the UNOG Conference Centre. Participants are encouraged to arrive early to facilitate passage through the security gates and are advised to refrain from bringing large pieces of luggage to the site.

## 3. Working language of the meeting

The meeting will be held in English.

## 4. Documents



The meeting pre-session documents are available on the Secretariat's website at:  
<https://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=BRCWS-2016-01>

In order to minimize the environmental footprint of the meeting and in line with the UN policy towards greener meetings, participants are kindly reminded to bring their own copies of the pre-session documents as there will be no extra copies made available on site during the meeting.

## 5. General information on access to Geneva

Geneva is serviced by the Geneva Cointrin International Airport, which is about 5 kilometres from central Geneva. A free public transport ticket can be obtained at the airport. There are direct connections to the City centre by taxi, train and bus, as follows:

### 5.1 Taxi

Taxis are readily available at Geneva Airport. The trip to central Geneva takes approximately 15 minutes. Fares range from CHF 35.00-CHF45.00 (approx. €33-43).

### 5.2 Train

The airport railway station has direct access to the airport Check-in and Arrival levels. All trains stop at the Geneva-Cornavin station in the city centre and takes about 7 minutes (every 12 minutes). For information on the Swiss railway system and prices, please go to:  
<http://www.sbb.ch/en/index.htm>

### 5.3 Bus

There are a number of bus lines that service the Geneva Airport. The frequency and fares are as follows:

- a) **To Geneva Central Station and Place Bel Air:** Bus number 10 departs approximately every 10 minutes;
- b) **To Geneva (the United Nations building):** Bus number 5 departs approximately every 10 minutes.

You can pick up a free ticket for public transportation at the airport from the machine in the baggage collection area at the Arrivals level. This "Unireso" ticket, offered by Geneva International Airport, allows you to use public transport in Geneva for free for a period of 80 minutes.

Some hotels offer free shuttle service from the airport kindly request this information when making your reservations.

If you are staying at a hotel, the establishment will offer you the "[Geneva Transport Card](http://www.geneve-tourisme.ch/index.php?rubrique=0000000417&lang=eng)" that allows you to use public transport in Geneva free of charge during your stay. More information can be found at the following link: <http://www.geneve-tourisme.ch/index.php?rubrique=0000000417&lang=eng>

## 6. Visa information



Participants requiring a Schengen visa for Switzerland are strongly advised to contact the nearest Swiss diplomatic representation **as soon as possible** in order to secure the required entry visa in a timely manner, prior to departure.

Information on visa procedures, including a list of relevant Swiss diplomatic representations is provided below:

- The visa applications must be submitted to the Swiss Embassy/Consulate covering your place of residence;
- The visa application must be accompanied by the travel document, as well as further documents, if so required, which clearly indicate the purpose and circumstances of the intended stay or the intended transit;

For information on visa requirements, Swiss representations abroad and visa application forms, please go to the following web sites of the Swiss Federal Office of the State Secretariat for Migration (FEM):

- **Visa requirements**  
[http://www.bfm.admin.ch/content/bfm/en/home/themen/einreise/merkblatt\\_einreise.html](http://www.bfm.admin.ch/content/bfm/en/home/themen/einreise/merkblatt_einreise.html)
- **Visa application form**  
<http://www.bfm.admin.ch/bfm/en/home/themen/einreise/visumantragsformular.html>
- **Swiss diplomatic representations:** <http://www.eda.admin.ch/eda/en/home/rep.html>

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

## 7. Hotel information

### Hotel information

Participants are kindly requested to make their own hotel reservations. A list of a few nearby hotels can be found in Annex A below. When you stay in a hotel in Geneva, you will receive the ‘Geneva Transport Card’, which is card offered to you upon arrival, that allows you to use all the public transportation systems in Geneva for free.

Information on other hotels and other tourist information in the vicinity of the meeting venue can be found at the following link: <http://www.geneve-tourisme.ch/en/home/> .

## 8. Payment of the daily subsistence allowances (DSA)

The Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA) will be paid to sponsored participants on the first day of the meeting. Sponsored participants are asked to present their passports which will be photocopied and returned to them.

## 9. Official languages

The official languages are: French, German, Italian and Romansh. English and/or French is spoken in hotels and restaurants.

## 10. Weather and time zone information



In February, temperatures in Geneva usually range between a maximum of +6°C in the daytime and a minimum of -1°C at night. Please bring warm clothing. Current weather conditions in the area can be found at: <http://worldweather.wmo.int/en/city.html?cityId=193>.

The standard time in Geneva is GMT/UTC +1 hour.

## 11. Electricity

The electrical currents are 220 Volts, 50 Hertz. The type of sockets used is illustrated below:



## 12. Currency

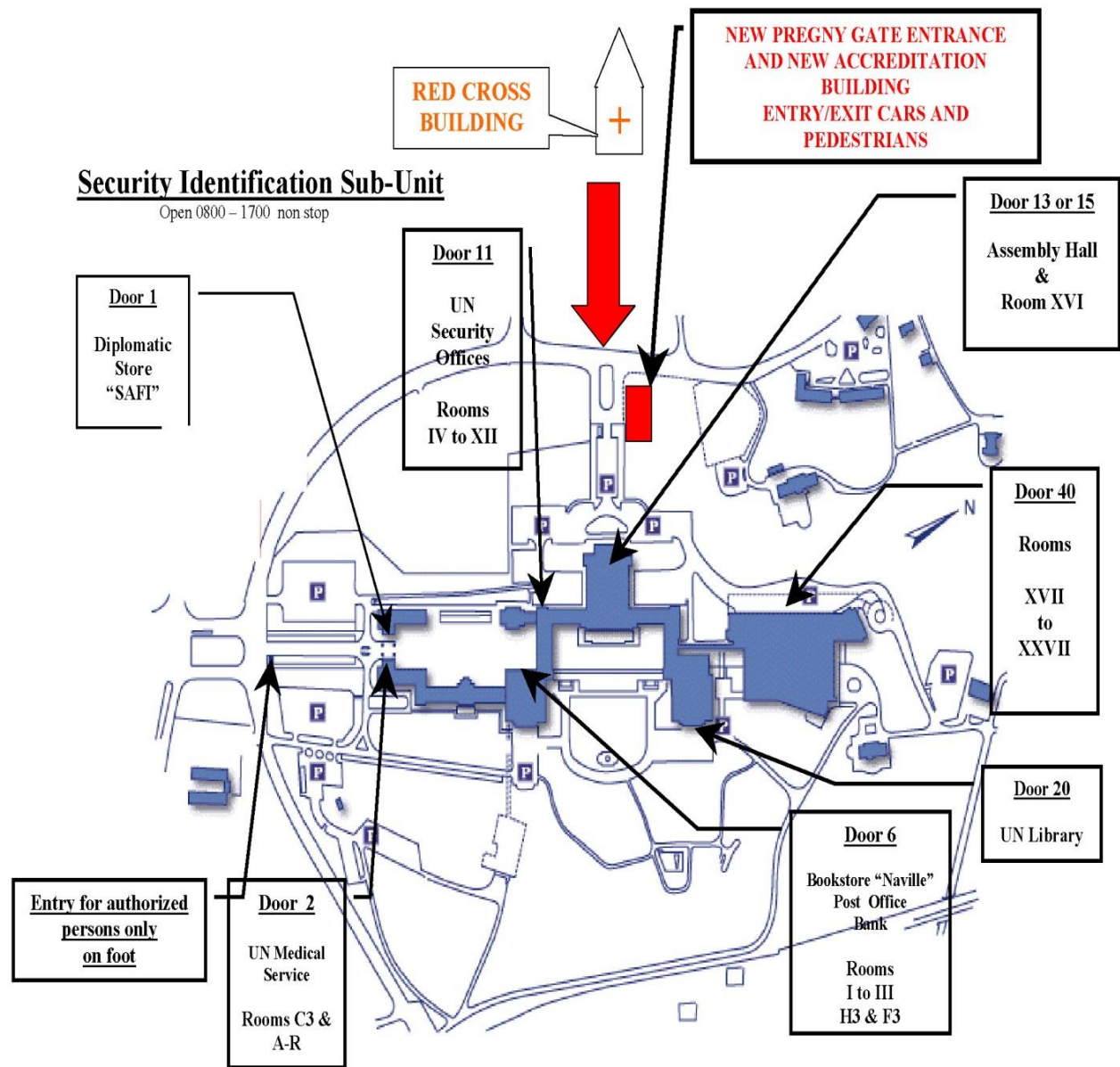


The currency in Switzerland is the Swiss Franc (CHF). The current exchange rate as at 3 December 2015 is US \$1 = CHF \$0.99 and €1 = CHF \$1.09 (source: [www.xe.com](http://www.xe.com), rates are subject to change).

## 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 - MAP OF THE PALAIS DES NATIONS



**ANNEX B - LIST OF HOTELS WITH INDICATIVE ROOM RATES  
IN THE VICINITY OF PALAIS DES NATIONS CONVENTION CENTRE**

(Room rates are subject to change)

<b>HOTELS</b>	<b>Approximate room rates (taxes NOT included)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
<b>1. Hotel Intercontinental</b> 7-9, Chemin du Petit-Saconnex CH-1211 Geneva 19 Telephone: + 41-(0)22-919-3261 Fax: + 41-(0)22-919 38 38 E-mail: <a href="mailto:inter-geneva@intercontinental-geneva.ch">inter-geneva@intercontinental-geneva.ch</a> Web site: <a href="https://www.ihg.com/hotels/us/en/reservation/">https://www.ihg.com/hotels/us/en/reservation/</a>	Single room: 335 CHF (€310)	Free WIFI
<b>2. Hôtel Eden Genève</b> 135 Rue de Lausanne 1202 Geneva, Switzerland Tel: +41 22 716 37 00 E-mail link : <a href="http://www.eden.ch/contact-hotel-in-Geneva">http://www.eden.ch/contact-hotel-in-Geneva</a> Web site: <a href="http://www.eden.ch/">http://www.eden.ch/</a>	Single room: 191 CHF (€176)	Free WIFI and breakfast
<b>3 Hôtel Mon Repos</b> 131 Rue de Lausanne 1202 Geneva, Switzerland Tel : +41-(0)22-909-3909 Europe toll free: 00-800-97-33-42-26 US & Canada toll free : +1-866-332-3590 Web site: <a href="http://www.monreposhotelgeneva.com/">http://www.monreposhotelgeneva.com/</a>	Single room: 191 CHF (€176)	Free WIFI
<b>4. Hotel Jade</b> 55 Rue Rothschild 1202 Geneva, Switzerland Tel. +41 (0)22-544-3838 Fax +41 (0)22-544-3899 Web site: <a href="http://www.hoteljadegeneva.com/">http://www.hoteljadegeneva.com/</a>	Single room: 193 CHF (€178)	Free WIFI (Early booking specials available)
<b>5. Hotel Kipling Manotel SA</b> 27 Rue de la Navigation 1201 Geneva, Switzerland Tel: +41-(0)22-544 4040 Fax: +41(0)22-544-4099 E-mail: <a href="mailto:kipling@manotel.com">kipling@manotel.com</a> Web site: <a href="http://www.hotelkiplinggeneva.com/">http://www.hotelkiplinggeneva.com/</a>	Single room: 193 CHF (€178)	Free WIFI (Early booking specials available)
<b>6. Hotel Auteuil</b> 33 Rue de Lausanne 1201 Geneva, Switzerland Tel. +41 (0)22-544-2222 Fax +41 (0)22-544-2299 E-mail link: <a href="http://www.hotelauteuilgeneva.com/en/contact-4">http://www.hotelauteuilgeneva.com/en/contact-4</a> Web site: <a href="http://www.hotelauteuilgeneva.com/">http://www.hotelauteuilgeneva.com/</a>	Single room: 210 CHF (€194)	Free WIFI (Early booking specials available)

HOTELS	Approximate room rates	Remarks
<b>7. Hotel Ibis Geneve Centre Nations</b> 33-35 Rue du Grand Pré 1201 Geneva, Switzerland Tel: (+41)22/9192030 Fax :(+41)22/9192040 E-mail: <a href="mailto:H8069@ACCOR.COM">H8069@ACCOR.COM</a> Web site: <a href="http://www.ibis.com/gb/hotel-8069-ibis-geneve-centre-nations/index.shtml">http://www.ibis.com/gb/hotel-8069-ibis-geneve-centre-nations/index.shtml</a>	Single room: 140 CHF (€130)	(Early booking specials available)
<b>8. Hotel Les Nations 3* fassbindhotels.ch</b> 62 Rue du Grand-Pré 1202 Geneva, Switzerland Tel: +42-(0)22-748-0808 Fax: +42 (0)22-748-0809 E-mail: <a href="mailto:nations@fhotels.ch">nations@fhotels.ch</a> Web site: <a href="http://fassbindhotels.ch/hotel/les-nations-geneve/">http://fassbindhotels.ch/hotel/les-nations-geneve/</a>	Single room: 140 CHF (€130)	Free WIFI
<b>9. Crowne Plaza Geneva</b> Avenue Louis Casai 75-77 Geneva - 1216, Switzerland Hotel Front Desk: +41-22-7103000 Fax: +41-22-7103100 E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@cpgva.ch">info@cpgva.ch</a> Web site: <a href="https://www.ihg.com/crowneplaza/hotels/us/en/geneva/">https://www.ihg.com/crowneplaza/hotels/us/en/geneva/</a>	Single room: 160 CHF (€148)	Free WIFI

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