



**Convention on
Biological Diversity**

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COORDINATION MEETING FOR GOVERNMENTS AND ORGANIZATIONS IMPLEMENTING AND/OR FUNDING BIOSAFETY CAPACITY-BUILDING ACTIVITIES






Eighth Meeting
Prague, Czech Republic, 12 - 14 March 2012

THE LIAISON GROUP ON CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR BIOSAFETY

Ninth Meeting
Prague, Czech Republic, 15 - 16 March 2012

Information Note for Participants

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1. Opening

The eighth Coordination Meeting for Governments and Organizations Implementing and/or Funding Biosafety Capacity-building Activities will be held in Prague, Czech Republic from Monday, 12 to Wednesday, 14 March 2012.

The meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, 12 March and registration will take place from 8:30 a.m. at the venue.

The ninth meeting of the Liaison Group on Capacity-building for Biosafety will be held in Prague, Czech Republic from Thursday, 15 to Friday, 16 March 2012.

The meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, 15 March and registration will take place from 8:30 a.m. at the venue.

2. Venue

The meetings will be held at:

Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic
Vrsovicke 65
100 10 Prague 10
Czech Republic
E-mail: info@mpz.cz
Web site: www.mzp.cz

3. Working language of the meetings

The meetings will be held in English.

4. Documents

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



Eighth Coordination Meeting for Governments and Organizations Implementing and/or Funding Biosafety Capacity-building Activities:
<http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=BSCMCB-08>

Ninth meeting of the Liaison Group on Capacity-building for Biosafety:
<http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=BSLGCB-09>

5. General information on access to Prague, Czech Republic



Prague is served by the Prague/Praha - Ruzyně International Airport which is approximately 16 km outside the city centre. Taxis are available outside the airport and cost about CZK 600-900 and the journey takes about 20-30 minutes. Buses also run from the airport to Metro stations and tickets can be purchased at the arrivals hall at a cost of about CZK 100 for a 24 hour pass,

additional costs are associated with number and size of luggage. Express buses are also available at the airport, go to “transportation information centre” at airport for details on bus transit.

6. Visa information



Participants from certain countries require a Schengen visa for the Czech Republic and are strongly advised to contact the nearest Czech 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 airlines will not allow boarding without a valid visa.

Information on visa procedures for entry into Czech Republic can be found on the web site of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic at: http://www.mzv.cz/jnp/en/information_for aliens/general visa information/index.html. A list of relevant Czech Republic diplomatic/consular missions abroad, is available on the same web site at: http://www.mzv.cz/jnp/en/diplomatic_missions/missions_of_the_czech_republic_abroad_1.html.

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

7. Hotel information

Participants are kindly reminded that **they have to make their own hotel reservations as soon as possible**. A listing of hotels in the vicinity of the meeting venue can be found below in Annex A.

Further information on hotels in Prague can be found on the following web sites: www.hotel.cz/praha-4 and www.booking.com/Praha

8. Payment of the Daily Subsistence Allowances (DSA)

Sponsored participants will receive their DSA on the first day of the meetings.

9. Official language in the Czech Republic

The official language in the Czech Republic is Czech. English is understood in some hotels and restaurants.

10. Weather and time zone information



In April, temperatures in Prague, Czech Republic range between a maximum of 8°C in the daytime and a minimum of -1°C at night. Current weather conditions can be found at: <http://www.worldweather.org/172/c00197.htm>.

The standard time zone is GMT/ UTC +1 hour.

11. Electricity

The electrical currents in Slovenia are 230 Volts, 50 Hertz, the plugs are as shown in the illustration below.



12. Currency



The currency in the Czech Republic is the Czech Koruna (CZK). The current exchange rate as at 23 January 2012 is US \$1 = 19.47 CZK and € 1 = 25.34 CZK.

13. Disclaimer

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

Annex A

Rates of exchange
 US \$1.00 = CZK 19.47 and
 € 1.00 = CZK 25.34.

LIST OF HOTELS WITH INDICATIVE ROOM RATES IN EUROS

RATES ARE INDICATIVE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE

HOTELS	Room rates (approx.)	Remarks
1. Iris Congress Hotel Vladivostocka 1539/2 100 10 Prague 10 Tel: +420 226 219 510 E-mail: info@eurostarsthalia.com Web site: www.hoteliris.cz	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single: €35.00 • Double: €50.00 	- Walking distance from the meeting venue - Price includes breakfast and taxes
2. Hotel Slavia Vladivostocka 1460/10 c 100 10 Praha 10 Tel: +420 267 312 471 E-mail: info@slaviahotel.com Web site: http://www.slaviahotel.com/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single: €35.00 – 50.00 • Double: €55.00 – 75.00 	- Walking distance from the meeting venue - Price includes breakfast
3. Mars Hotel Kubanske namesti 1333/6 100 10 Praha 10 Tel: +420 222 539 539 Web site: http://www.guideprague.com/mars/hotel-mars-prague.php	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single: €36.00 • Double: €42.00 	- Walking distance from the meeting venue - Price includes breakfast and taxes
4. Hotel Union Ostrcilovo nam. 462/4 128 00 Praha 2 Tel.: +420 261 214 812 Fax.: +420 261 214 820 E-mail: hotelunion@hotelunion.cz Web site: www.hotelunion.cz	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single: €99.00 • Double: €109.00 	- Not far (tram connection) can be recommended - Price includes breakfast and taxes
5. Hotel Adria Vaclavske nam. 26 CZ - 100 00 Prague Tel: +420 221 081 111 Fax +420 221 081 300 E-mail: accom@adria.cz Web site: www.hoteladria.cz	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single: €99.00 • Double: €109.00 	- Hotel in the centre – Venceslas Square - Price includes breakfast

Please note that some hotels offer discounts for early booking via internet.
