



Convention on Biological Diversity

Distr.
GENERAL






17 December 2010

ENGLISH ONLY

FIRST MEETING ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN OF ACTION ON SUB-NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS, CITIES AND OTHER LOCAL AUTHORITIES FOR BIODIVERSITY 2011-2020
Montpellier, France, 17 – 19 January 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 (page 2)
 Meeting Documents (page 2)
 Hotel Information (page 3)
 Weather Information (page 4)
 Currency Information (page 4)

INFORMATION HIGHLIGHTS

1. OPENING AND REGISTRATION.....	2
2. VENUE	2
4. DOCUMENTS	2
5. GENERAL INFORMATION ON ACCESS TO MONTPELLIER, FRANCE.....	2
6. VISA INFORMATION	2
7. HOTEL AND OTHER INFORMATION	3
10. WEATHER AND TIME ZONE INFORMATION	4

1. Opening and registration

First meeting on the Implementation of the Plan of Action on Sub-National Governments, Cities and Other Local Authorities for Biodiversity 2011-2020 will be held in Montpellier, France from Monday, 17 to Wednesday, 19 January 2011.

The meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, 17 January 2011, and registration will take place at the venue of the meeting at 8:30 a.m. the same day.

2. Venue

The meeting will be held at:

Maison des relations internationales

14, rue descente en Barrat

(at the end of the Esplanade Charles de Gaulle)

34000 Montpellier, France

Telephone: +33 (0) 4 6734 7071 / 7011

Fax: +33 (0) 4 6734 5902

3. Working language

The meeting will be held in English and French (simultaneous interpretation will be available during the whole meeting).

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=IPA-SNGCOLA-01>

5. General information on access to Montpellier, France



Montpellier is serviced by the Montpellier Mediterranee International Airport (8 km from the city centre).

Buses run between the airport and the Bus Station/Gare Routière into the city every 30 minutes "Navette Centre Ville" and the fare is approximately is €5.00 each way. All regular flights are covered by the shuttle except early morning and late evening. Taxis are also available at the airport at the Arrivals Hall exit, gate A at an approximate cost of €20.00.

6. Visa information



Participants requiring an entry visa for France (Schengen visa) are **strongly** advised to contact the nearest French Diplomatic/Consular representations in order to secure, in a timely

manner, the required entry visa, prior to departure. It should be noted that airlines will deny boarding in the absence of a valid visa.

Information on visa related issues is available on the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) of France at http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/france_159/entering-france_2045/getting-visa_2046/do-you-need-visa_1559.html, a highlight of which is provided below along with a list of visa requirements for visa applications.

- (a) Application form for a short-stay visa. The link to the English form is as follows: <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/IMG/pdf/visagb.pdf> (PDF in English);
- (b) Recent passport-sized photograph (maximum of 3);
- (c) Valid travel document (valid for at least three months longer than the visa applied for);
- (d) Ticket for the entire outward and return journey;
- (e) Documentary evidence of your means of support during your stay and accommodation;
- (f) Proof of travel and repatriation insurance.

Note: The above Information applies to holders of ordinary passports. Holders of diplomatic or official passports, or any other travel document, are kindly requested to contact French diplomatic or consular representations to obtain relevant information.

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

7. **Hotel and other information**



Hotel information

Participants are kindly requested to make their own hotel reservations. Information on hotels and other tourist information in the vicinity of the meeting venue can be found at the following link: <http://www.ot-montpellier.fr/reservez-en-ligne>.

This above-mentioned web site contains an on-line hotel reservation system. Please select the location closest to the meeting venue in the drop down menu: “Railway Station / City Center / Corum”.

Transportation and Tourist information

There is a transportation/discount tourist card available: “Montpellier City Card” which gives visitors free access to public transportation including discounts on tourist attractions. You will receive your Montpellier City Card when you present your reservation confirmation upon arrival at the Montpellier Tourist Office located at 30, allée Jean de Lattre de Tassigny - 34000 Montpellier.

8. Weather and time zone information



In January, temperatures in the Montpellier area usually range between a maximum of +11°C in the daytime and a minimum of +3°C at night. Current weather conditions in the area can be found at: <http://www.worldweather.org/062/c01055.htm> (Marseille).

The standard time zone will be GMT/UTC +1 hour.

9. Electricity

The electrical currents are 230 volts, 50 Hertz. The type of sockets used is illustrated below:



10. Currency



The currency in France is the Euro (€). The current exchange rate as at 15 December 2010 is US \$1 = € 0.76 and 1 € = US \$1.32.

11. 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.
