Information Note for Participants

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1. **Opening and registration**

   The Regional Workshop on the Inter-Linkages between Human Health and Biodiversity in the Americas will be held in Manaus, Brazil from Tuesday, 4 to Thursday, 6 September 2012.

   The meeting will start at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, 4 September, and registration will take place at the meeting venue at 9:00 a.m. the same day.

2. **Venue**

   The workshop will be held at:

   **Tropical Manaus Hotel**
   Av. Coronel Teixeira
   1320, Ponta Negra
   Manaus - AM,
   Cep: 69037-000
   Brazil
   Tel: (55) 92 2123-5000
   Email: eventos.thm@tropicalhotel.com.br
   Website: [http://www.tropicalmanaus.com.br/](http://www.tropicalmanaus.com.br/)

   Kindly note that arrangements for hotel accommodations of **ALL sponsored participants** will be made by the CBD.

3. **Working language of the workshop**

   The meeting will be held in Spanish and English.

4. **Documents**

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

   [http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=WSHB-AM-01](http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=WSHB-AM-01)

5. **General information on access to Manaus, Brazil**

   Manaus is serviced by the Brigadeiro Eduardo Gomes–Manaus International Airport (approximately 10 km from downtown Manaus). The Tropical Manaus Hotel is located approximately 10 km from the airport. Axis are available at the airport and cost about R $60 to the hotel.

6. **Visa information**

   Participants from countries listed below **do not** require an entry visa for Brazil. Participants from all other countries are strongly advised to contact the nearest Brazilian diplomatic or consular mission **as soon as possible** in order to secure the required entry visa in a
timely manner, prior to departure. The visa application process can be lengthy, so please allow sufficient time. Some airline companies will not allow boarding without a valid visa.

A list of relevant information on visa procedures and Brazilian diplomatic/consular missions abroad is available on the web site of the Ministry of External Relations as follows:

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<th>Visa procedures:</th>
<th><a href="https://scedv.serpro.gov.br/frscedm/">https://scedv.serpro.gov.br/frscedm/</a>;</th>
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COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES WHOSE CITIZENS DO NOT REQUIRE A VISA IN ORDER TO ENTER BRAZIL AS VISITORS

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

7. Health Requirements

Travellers to Brazil require a yellow fever vaccination certification if you have been or have passed through any country with risk of yellow fever transmission, or going to areas outside of Manaus.

Malaria is present in most forested areas below 900 m within the nine states of the “Amazonia” region and also occurs on the periphery of some large cities. Malaria prevention is recommended for Manaus.

For more information or your vaccination requirements for Brazil, please consult a medical professional with regard to the vaccination requirements for your travel.

8. Hotel information

Accommodation will be provided at the workshop venue (Tropical Manaus). Details are provided above (section 2).

Sponsored Participants:
A prepaid booking, which includes breakfast, has been made for sponsored participants. Lunch will also be provided to participants for the duration of the workshop. The hotel booking has been made according to flight itineraries.

Non-sponsored:
Non-sponsored participants may wish to book at the Tropical Manaus. Non-sponsored participants must make their own reservations and are requested by contacting the hotel directly at the following e-mail address: reservas@ponteshoteis.com.br; gruposreservas@ponteshoteis.com.br

Information on hotels and tourism in Manaus is available at the web site of the Ministry of Tourism of Brazil: http://www.braziltour.com/

9. Payment of the Daily Subsistence Allowances (DSA)

Sponsored participants will receive their relevant residual DSA on the first day of the meeting.

10. Official languages in Manaus, Brazil

The official language in Brazil is Portuguese. However, English and Spanish are spoken and understood in hotels and restaurants.
11. Weather and time zone information

In September, temperatures in Manaus range between a maximum of 33°C in the daytime and a minimum of 23°C at night. The rainy season is during the months from December to March. Please bring appropriate clothing. Current weather conditions can be found at: http://www.worldweather.org/136/c01073.htm.

The standard time zone is GMT/UTC - 3 hours.

12. Electricity

The most common electrical currents Brazil are 127 and 220 volts, 60 Hertz. Electrical outlets, plugs and sockets are illustrated below.

13. Currency

The currency in Brazil is the Brazilian Real/Reais (R$). The current exchange rate as at 15 August 2012 is US $1.00 = R$2.00 and €1.00 = R$2.48.

14. 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 insurance for the period of participation prior to departure.