SUSTAINABLE OCEAN INITIATIVE (SOI) CAPACITY-BUILDING
WORKSHOP FOR WEST AFRICA
Dakar, Senegal, 4-8 February 2013

INFORMATION NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS

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1. **Opening and registration**

   The Sustainable Ocean Initiative (SOI) capacity-building workshop for West Africa will be held in Dakar, Senegal from Monday, 4 February to Friday, 8 February 2013.

   The workshop will start at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, 4 February 2013 and registration will take place at the venue of the workshop at 8:30 a.m. the same day.

2. **Venue**

   The workshop will be held at:

   **Hotel Ngor**
   Hotels Ngor Diarama
   B.P. 8092
   Dakar, Yoff, Senegal
   Tel: +221-33-820-27-24 / 10-05 / 01-45
   Fax: +221-33-820-27-23 / 11-80
   E-mail: ngordiarama@orange.sn; ngordiarama@hotmail.com
   Web site: http://www.hoteles-ngordiarama.com

3. **Working language**

   The workshop will be held in English and French with interpretation.

4. **Documents**

   Participants are kindly reminded to bring their own copies of the documents for the workshop 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=CBWSOI-WAFR-01](http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=CBWSOI-WAFR-01)

5. **General information on access to Dakar, Senegal**

   Dakar is serviced by the Dakar-Yoff - Leopol Sedar Senghor International Airport (9 km from downtown). The hotel is located about 4 km from the airport.

   Taxis are available and range from about 3,000 CFA – 4,000 CFA (US $5.00 - US $7.00) depending on arrival times.

6. **Visa information**

   Participants from countries listed below do not require an entry visa for Senegal, all others are strongly advised to contact the nearest Senegalese diplomatic or consular mission as soon as possible in order to secure the required entry visa in a timely manner, prior to departure.

   Information on visa procedures is available on the web site of Tourism Board of Senegal at: [http://www.sunugaal.com/sunugaal.asp](http://www.sunugaal.com/sunugaal.asp).
A list of relevant Senegalese diplomatic/consular missions abroad can be found on the web site of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Senegal at following link (in French): http://www.diplomatie.gouv.sn/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=65&Itemid=101

COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES WHOSE CITIZENS DO NOT REQUIRE VISAS IN ORDER TO ENTER SENEGAL AS VISITORS
(AS LISTED ON THE WEB SITE OF THE TOURISM BOARD OF SENEGAL)

ECOWAS (Economic Community of West African States) do not require visas (they are included below)

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Visa requirements are as follows:

- Valid passport (minimum of 6 months validity);
- Two completed application forms;
- Two (2) passport sized pictures attached per form;
- Return ticket, invitation or hotel booking;
- Visa fee as required.

To facilitate the issuance of visas, the Secretariat is issuing visa-assistance letters to be attached to the visa applications.

7. **Hotel information**

**Sponsored participants**

Accommodation including breakfast and lunch (conference package) is being arranged at the Hotel Ngor on behalf of all participants attending the workshop. Reservations will be made for sponsored participants for the duration of the meeting based on participant’s individual itinerary.

**Non-sponsored participants**

Non-sponsored participants wishing to benefit from the negotiated rate at the Ngor Hotel can contact the hotel directly, Ms. Philomène Badiane Foly, Ngor Hotel at ngordiarana@hotmail.com. The rate for a single room with breakfast is 66,000 CFA, approximately US $135.00.
Further information on hotels and tourism in Senegal is available at the following web site:

http://www.discoversenegal.com/

8. Health information

A yellow fever vaccination certificate is required from travellers coming from countries with risk of yellow fever transmission. Also, a meningitis vaccination is highly recommended if the traveler is arriving from or has recently traveled to an endemic area.

Risk of malaria exists throughout the year in the whole country. There is less risk from January through June in the central western regions.

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

9. Payment of the daily subsistence allowances (DSA)

Sponsored participants will receive the relevant DSA on the first day of the workshop.

10. Official language

The official language in Senegal is French: English is spoken in some hotels and restaurants.

11. Weather and time zone information

In February, temperatures in Dakar usually range between a maximum of +25°C in the daytime and a minimum of +18°C at night. Current weather conditions in the area can be found at: http://www.worldweather.org/048/c00244.htm.

There is no offset for the standard time zone which is equal to the GMT/UTC time zone.

12. Electricity

The electrical currents are 230 Volts, 50 Hertz as shown in the pictures below.

13. Currency

The currency in Senegal is the West African CFA Franc (Communauté Financière Africaine - CFA) (XOF). The current exchange rate as at 19 December 2012 is US $1 = CFA 494.72 and € 1 = CFA 655.96.
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, accident and travel insurances for the period of participation prior to departure.