



**CONVENTION ON
BIOLOGICAL
DIVERSITY**

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ENGLISH ONLY

AD HOC TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUP ON
MARINE AND COASTAL PROTECTED
AREAS

First meeting

Leigh, New Zealand, 22-26 October 2001

Information for Participants

The first meeting of the Ad hoc Technical Expert Group on marine and coastal protected areas will be held from Monday, 22 October 2001 to Friday, 26 October 2001 at the Auckland University, Leigh, New Zealand.

Venue:

The Leigh Marine Laboratory
Auckland University
Goat Island Bay, Leigh, North Auckland
Telephone 64 9 422 6111
Fax: 64 9 422 6113

Registration

Registration of participants will commence at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, 26 October 2001.

The official opening of the meeting will be at 9:30 a.m. Other meeting times will be agreed upon by the group. The meeting will end at 5 pm, Friday 26 October.

Services to delegates

Participants will have access to e-mail and Internet services free-of-charge during the meeting. All meals will be arranged at the venue.

Accommodation information

The Government of New Zealand will arrange accommodation for participants. The participants should note that because the meeting will be held at a marine laboratory, the available accommodation will be somewhat more basic than the usual hotel accommodations common to most UN meetings. Participants with special needs regarding accommodation should discuss these with the organizers in New Zealand as soon as possible (please contact Ms. Paula Warren, e-mail: Pwarren@doc.govt.nz).

Transportation

Transportation from the airport to the accommodations will be provided for all participants. Please provide the organizers with your arrival and departure times as soon as possible.

Weather

The Auckland/Leigh area has a warm temperate maritime climate, with unpredictable weather. Temperatures are likely to range between 14 and 23 degrees Celsius, and rain is probable. New Zealand has high UV levels, and sun protection is recommended.

Electricity

230 volts / Australian plug.

Visas Requirements

Delegates are advised to check with the nearest New Zealand diplomatic or consular mission regarding visa and vaccination requirements. The organizers in New Zealand can provide an official letter in order to facilitate the visa application process.

Official language

The official language in New Zealand is English.

Currency

The currency in New Zealand is the New Zealand Dollar. The current exchange rate against the US dollar stands at approximately (as at 27 August) \$NZ1 for 43US cents. (\$1US = \$NZ2.30).

Credit cards

Major credit cards are accepted in most hotels, restaurants and shops.
