



Convention on Biological Diversity

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ENGLISH ONLY

REGIONAL WORKSHOP FOR AFRICA ON THE REVIEW
OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK
ON PROTECTED AREAS
Grand Bassam, Côte d'Ivoire, 6 - 9 October 2009

Information Note for Participants

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1. Opening and registration

The Regional Workshop for Africa on the Review of Implementation of the Programme of Work on Protected Areas will be in Grand Bassam, Côte d'Ivoire from Tuesday, 6 October to Friday, 9 October 2009.

The workshop will start at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, 6 October 2009, and registration will take place at the venue of the workshop at 8:30 a.m. on the same day.

2. Venue

The workshop will be held at:

N'SA Hotel

Route de Bonoua

B.P. 756 Grand Bassam, Cote d'Ivoire

Tel: +1-225-21-31-28-00/01/02/03/04/05

Fax: +1-225-21-30-13-52

E-mail: sylvie_enam@yahoo.fr

Web site: <http://www.nsahotel.ci/index.html>

3. Working language of the workshop

The workshop will be held in English and French.

4. Documents

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



<http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=WSPOWPA-AFR-01>

5. General information on access to Grand Bassam, Côte d'Ivoire

Grand-Bassam is located close to Abidjan and is serviced by the Abidjan International Airport (Felix Houphouet Boigny) (about 23 km from Grand-Bassam). There will be a shuttle bus provided from the airport to the hotel and vice versa at no cost to the participants. Taxis are also available at the airport; select the orange coloured taxis with official fare displays only. The fare is approximately 5,000 CFA (approx. US \$12.00) and the duration of the journey is approximately 20-30 minutes.

6. Visa information

Participants from countries listed below do not require an entry visa for Côte d'Ivoire, all other countries require visas. Participants are advised to contact the nearest Côte d'Ivoire diplomatic or consular mission **as soon as possible** in order to secure the required entry visa in a timely manner, prior to departure. It should be noted that some airline companies will not allow boarding in the

absence of a valid visa. If you should encounter problems in obtaining your visa, or if you have to travel to obtain your visa, kindly contact lisa.janishevski@cbd.int.

Information on visa procedures, including a list of relevant Côte d'Ivoire diplomatic/consular missions abroad, is available on the web site of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Ministère des Affaires Étrangères) available in French only at: <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.ci/visa.php>.

**COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES WHOSE CITIZENS DO NOT REQUIRE VISAS IN ORDER TO ENTER
COTE D'IVOIRE AS VISITORS
(AS LISTED ON THE WEBSITE OF THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OF COTE D'IVOIRE)**

Benin	Central African Republic	Guinea
Burkina Faso	Congo	Guinea-Bissau
Cape Verde	Gambia	

Please attach the letter issued by the Secretariat to your visa application..

7. Health Information

Travellers to Côte d'Ivoire require a yellow fever vaccination certificate for travellers over 1 year of age. Also, there is a Malaria risk, prevention is recommended—predominantly due to *P. falciparum* which exists throughout the year in the whole country. Hepatitis A and B vaccinations are also recommended. Details are available on the web site of the World Health Organization at: <http://apps.who.int/tools/geoserver/www/ith/index.html>. For more information, please consult a medical professional with regard to the vaccination requirements for your travel.

8. Hotel information

The Secretariat has made a block booking on behalf of all participants. Please see details as listed below:

Sponsored participants

A block booking has been made at the N'SA Hotel for sponsored participants, the cost of the room, breakfast and lunch is included in the rate which will be covered by the Secretariat. All extras, such as telephone, room upgrade, bar, laundry, e-mail, restaurant, etc. are at their own costs and must be settled upon checking out.

Non-sponsored participants

Non-sponsored must confirm their reservation at the N'Sa Hotel. The negotiated rate for the workshop is 42,000 CFA (approx. US \$95.00) which includes accommodation, breakfast and lunch. Please send your arrival and departure information to the contacts listed below **no later than 25 September 2009**.

Contact information for hotel reservations:

Mme Sylvie Enam

Tel: +1-225-21-31-28-00/01/02/03/04/05

Fax: +1-225-21-30-13-52

E-mail: sylvie_enam@yahoo.fr with copy to lisa.janishevski@cbd.int

Non-sponsored participants that wish to stay at another hotel in Grand Bassam may consult the web site of the Ministry of Tourism at the following link:

<http://www.tourisme.gouv.ci/ci/mt.php>



9. Payment of the Daily Subsistence Allowances (DSA)

Sponsored participants will receive a portion of their DSA to cover dinner and incidentals on the first day of the meeting.

10. Official language in Côte d'Ivoire

The official language in Côte d'Ivoire is French.

11. Weather and time zone information



In October, temperatures in Abidjan usually range between a maximum of +31°C in the daytime and a minimum of +22°C at night. The general weather conditions for this time of year are rainy during the month of October. Current weather conditions can be found at: <http://www.timeanddate.com/weather/cote-divoire/abidjan>.

There is no time zone change for Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire from GMT/UTC (it remains the same).

12. Electricity

The electrical currents are 220 Volts, 50 Hertz and the type of plugs is as illustrated below (two round plugs and with ground connection).



13. Currency



The currency in Côte d'Ivoire is the West African Franc, CFA – XOF (Francs CFA). The current exchange rate as at 15 September is US \$1 = \$449.01 CFA and € 1 = \$655.96 CFA.

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.
