



Convention on Biological Diversity

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**SUSTAINABLE OCEAN INITIATIVE REGIONAL CAPACITY-BUILDING
WORKSHOP FOR STATES OF THE ATLANTIC AND MEDITERRANEAN
COASTS OF AFRICA**
Dakar, Senegal, 10–13 February 2025

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1. Opening and Registration

The Sustainable Ocean Initiative regional capacity-building workshop for States of the Atlantic and Mediterranean coasts of Africa will be held in Dakar, Senegal from Monday, 10 February to Thursday, 13 February 2025. The meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, 10 February, and registration of participants will take place at the venue between 8:30 a.m. and 9:00 a.m.

2. Venue

The meeting will be held at:

Hotel Fleur de Lys Point E
Rue de Diourbel (Rue 1) X Rue des Ecrivains
Dakar, Senegal
Tel: +221 33 869 53 00 / 33 869 53 09
Web site: www.hotelfleurdelysdakar.com

3. Working languages of the meeting

The meeting will be held in French with English interpretation.

4. Meeting Documents



Documents will be made available at <https://www.cbd.int/meetings/SOI-WS-2025-01>.

In order to minimize the environmental footprint of the meeting and in line with the UN policy towards greener meetings, participants are kindly reminded to bring their own copies of the documents, or to use paperless versions, as there will be no extra copies made available on site during the meeting. WIFI access will be provided.

5. General information on access to Dakar

Dakar is serviced by the Blaise Diagne International Airport. The Fleur de Lys Point E hotel offers a pickup service, from the airport to the hotel, which costs as follows for each trip:

35000 FCFA per person.

27500 FCFA per person for two people travelling on the same flight.

20000 FCFA per person for three people or more travelling on the same flight.

Participants are strongly encouraged to arrange for pickup with the hotel before travelling.

6. Visa information



Participants requiring an entry visa for Senegal 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.

A list of countries that are exempt from visa for entry to Senegal for stays of less than 3 months is available on the web site of the Agence Sénégalaise de Promotion Touristique (in French) at: <https://www.visitezlesenegal.com/en/visa/>.

A list of relevant Senegalese diplomatic/consular missions abroad can be found on the web site of the Government of Senegal, Ministère de l'Intégration africaine et des Affaires étrangères at: <https://www.diplomatie.gouv.sn/services/les-consulats-du-senegal>.

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

7. Health information

A yellow fever vaccination certificate is required from travellers coming from countries with risk of yellow fever transmission. Also, hepatitis A and B vaccinations are recommended. The risk of Malaria exists throughout the year in the whole country and medication is recommended. Please ensure that you are up-to-date on your routine vaccines.

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

8. Hotel information

Participants are kindly reminded that they **must make their own hotel reservations and should do so as soon as possible.**

For convenience, we suggest that participants stay at the workshop venue, the Hotel Fleur de Lys Point E. The cost of a single room is FCFA 67.100 per night, including breakfast and tax (approx. US \$106). Please mention the name of the meeting when making reservations.

The hotel information is as follows:

Hotel Fleur de Lys Point E
Rue de Diourbel (Rue 1) X Rue des Ecrivains
Dakar, Senegal
Tel: +221 33 869 53 00 / 33 869 53 09
E-mail: sales@hotelfleurdelysdakar.com
Web site: www.hotelfleurdelysdakar.com

Further information on hotels and tourism in Senegal is available on the web site of the Ministry of Tourism of Senegal at the following link: <http://www.tourisme.gouv.sn/dakar/>

9. Payment of the Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA)

The DSA will be disbursed on the first day of the meeting in the form of a prepaid credit card (Swiss Bankers card). **Participants are kindly requested to bring their passports and boarding passes to the venue on the first day of the meeting.** These will be copied and returned to participants immediately. It is advisable that participants have some cash at hand to cover expenses that may occur

between their arrival and the moment at which the DSA is loaded on the cards. Please note that the funds take 24 hours or longer to be loaded on the cards.

IMPORTANT: If you were provided with a Swiss Bankers card for a previous meeting, please inform the Secretariat and bring it with you to the meeting (if it is still valid) so that it may be reused. Please make sure you remember the PIN, otherwise contact the bank to request that they reset the PIN.

Swiss Bankers Contacts:

Swiss Bankers Prepaid Services Ltd, Customer Service
(forgotten PIN numbers, card replacements or transaction claims)

Tel: +41-31 710 12 15

Email: info@swissbankers.ch

Opening hours:

Mon-Sun: 8.00-22.00 Swiss time. Closed on Swiss bank holidays.

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 (<http://worldweather.wmo.int/en/city.html?cityId=244>). Current weather conditions can be found at: <https://www.bbc.com/weather/>

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

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 18 December 2024 is US \$1 = CFA 626.35 and € 1 = CFA 655.96 (source: www.xe.com, rates are subject to change).

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 insurance for the period of participation prior to departure.
