

**Convention on
Biological Diversity**

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AD HOC TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUP ON
SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS
(ARTICLE 26 OF THE CARTAGENA
PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY)
Vienna, Austria, 10-13 December 2019

Information Note for Participants

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1. Opening and registration

The Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Socio-economic Considerations (Article 26 of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety), will be held in Vienna, Austria, from Tuesday 10 to Friday 13 December 2019.

The meeting will start at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, 10 December 2019, and registration will take place at the venue of the workshop at 8:30 a.m. the same day.

2. Venue

The meeting will be held at:

Environment Agency Austria (Umweltbundesamt GmbH)
Spittelauer Lände 5
1090 Wien
Vienna, Austria
<http://www.umweltbundesamt.at>

Meeting room entrance: Ingen-Housz-Gasse 3, 1090 Vienna (around the corner from main building)

3. Working language

The meeting will be held in 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. Pre-session documents are available on the Secretariat's web site at:



<https://www.cbd.int/meetings/CP-SEC-AHTEG-2019-01>

5. General information on access to Vienna

⇒ **From/to Vienna International Airport (VIE)**

Information about airport transfer options can be found at
https://www.viennaairport.com/en/passengers/arrival__parking

City Airport Train – CAT

The CAT (City Airport Train) is a direct connection between Vienna Airport and the city centre with city check-in facilities. You can check in and obtain your boarding card at Wien-Mitte train station up to 24 hours prior to your departure (service not available for all carriers, you will find the complete list at www.cityairporttrain.com).

City Air Terminal: Wien Mitte

Travelling time: 16 minutes non-stop

Departures: every half hour

Price: 12 € single, 21 € return

Tickets can be booked and printed out directly on the CAT homepage www.cityairporttrain.com, or purchased from ticket vending machines or from the conductors on the train.

Train:

S7 railway line or the Railjet

The S7 railway line takes 25 minutes, and runs at 30-minute intervals, between Wien Mitte and the airport (with regular stops on the way).

Railjet (direction from/to Graz or Salzburg)

The Railjet to/from Graz or Salzburg takes 25 minutes, and runs hourly between Wien Hauptbahnhof (Vienna Main Station) and the airport.

Tickets: 4.80 € for a single ride.

Vienna Airportlines bus service

From Westbahnhof, Südbahnhof, Center (Morzinplatz/Schwedenplatz) to Vienna Airport

Service daily from 5.00 am – 0:20 am, approx. every 30 minutes, duration of trip approx. 20 minutes to Centre and 40 min to the train stations

One-way ticket: 8 €

(all tickets include 3 pieces of luggage)

The bus stop at Vienna International Airport is located directly in front of the arrivals and departures hall.

Taxi service:

Approximate price: 40 €

Approximate duration: 30–45 minutes

Radio taxis are entitled to ask for an additional return trip fee of 10 € to the airport.

⇒ **City Public Transport**

Online information on public transportation is available at <http://www.wienerlinien.at>

6. Visa information



All information pertaining to visas for Austria can be found at the following link of the Ministry of Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs of Austria:

<https://www.bmeia.gv.at/en/travel-stay/entry-and-residence-in-austria/entry-and-visa/>

7. Hotel information



Participants are kindly reminded that **they have to make their own hotel reservations as soon as possible**. A listing of hotels in the vicinity of the meeting venue can be found below in Annex A.

The rates quoted are special Ministry rates. Please request the “**Environment Agency**” (Umweltbundesamt GmbH) rates at the time of booking.

More information on hotels in Vienna can be found on the Official Tourism Web Site of the Government of Austria at the following link: <http://www.wien.info>

8. Travel and Payment of the Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA)

The DSA will be disbursed to sponsored participants on the first day of the meeting in the form of a prepaid credit card. For identification purposes, participants are kindly requested to bring their passports and boarding passes. It is advisable that participants have some cash at hand to cover expenses that may occur between their arrival and the moment at which their prepaid credit card is activated to access funds.

9. Official language in Austria

The official language in Austria is German. English is spoken in hotels and restaurants.

10. Weather and time zone information



In December temperatures in Vienna range between 3°C and -1°C. Please bring appropriate clothing for winter conditions.

The standard time zone is CET (Central European Time) which is and is equivalent to GMT/UTC +1 hour.

11. Electricity

The electrical currents in Austria are 230 Volts, 50 Hertz and plugs are as shown below.



12. Currency



The currency in Austria is the Euro (€). The current exchange rate as at 16 October is US \$1 = €0.9028 and € 1 = US \$ 1.10757. Currency exchange facilities are readily available in banks and hotels

13. 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.

Annex A: LIST OF HOTELS WITH INDICATIVE ROOM RATES IN EUROS

Hotels with special rates: please request “Umweltbundesamt Rates”

Name	Address	Tel	Contact/website	rate	<u>distance</u>
Hotel Bellevue	Althanstraße 5 1090 Vienna	+43 1 313 48 - 0	www.hotelbellevue.at	From 85 €	<u>5 min walking</u>
Hotel & Palais Strudlhof	Pasteurgasse 1 1090 Vienna	+43 1 319 25 22 - 0	www.strudlhof.at hotel@strudlhof.at	From 100 €	<u>10-15 min walking</u>
Hotel de France	Schottenring 3 1010 Vienna	+43 1 313 68 0	defrance@gerstner-hotels.at	From 110€	<u>15-20 min by Tram “D”</u>
Hotel Alpha	Buchfeldgasse 8 1080 Vienna	+43 1 403 52 91	alpha@gerstner-hotels.at	From 95 €	<u>Approx.. 20 min by underground line 2 and 4</u>

Other hotels in the vicinity (no special rates).

Name	Address	Tel	Contact/website	rate	<u>distance</u>
Hotel Mozart	Nordbergstrasse 4 1090 Vienna	+43 1 317 15 37	https://www.hotelmozart-vienna.at/ office@hotelmozart-vienna.at	From 65 €	<u>5 min walking</u>
H+ Hotel Vienna	Liechtensteinstraße 87-89, 1090 Wien	+43 1 3102 615	www.h-hotels.com	From 100 €	<u>10-15 min walking</u>
Hotel Boltzmann	Boltzmanngasse 8 1090 Wien	+43 1 354 500	www.hotelboltzmann.at info@hotelboltzmann.at	From 100€	<u>10-15 min walking</u>
