



Convention on Biological Diversity

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ENGLISH ONLY

MEETING OF THE BIOSAFETY CLEARING-HOUSE INFORMAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Fourth meeting
Montreal, 17–18 November 2008

Information Note for Participants

QUICK LINKS (Control + click on icons for web page, click on page number to directly access text in document)

 Visa Information (pages 2, 5).
 Meeting Documents (page 2)
 Hotel Information (pages 3,6)
 Weather Information (page 3)
 Currency Information (page 4)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

1.	OPENING AND REGISTRATION.....	2
2.	VENUE	2
4.	DOCUMENTS	2
5.	GENERAL INFORMATION ON ACCESS TO MONTREAL	2
6.	VISA INFORMATION	2
	ANNEX A	5
7.	HOTEL INFORMATION	3
	ANNEX B	6
8.	PAYMENT OF THE DAILY SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCES (DSA)	3
10.	WEATHER AND TIME ZONE INFORMATION	3

1. Opening and registration

The fourth meeting of the Biosafety Clearing-House Informal Advisory Committee (BCH-IAC) will be held in Montreal from Monday, 17 to Tuesday, 18 November 2008.

The meeting will start at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, 17 November 2008, and registration will take place at the venue of the meeting at 9:00 a.m. the same day.

2. Venue

The meeting will be held at:

The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

413 St. Jacques Street West
Suite 800
Montreal, Quebec
Canada
Metro, line 2 – Orange - station Square-Victoria

3. Working language of the meeting

The meeting will be held in English only.

4. Documents



Documents are available on the Secretariat's web site at:

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=BCHIAC-04>

5. General information on access to Montreal



Montreal is serviced by Montreal-Trudeau International Airport (15 km from downtown). Taxis are available at the airport and there is a shuttle-bus service every 30 minutes.

Fares in Canadian dollars

Bus / Shuttles:	One way trip	Round trip
Montreal-Trudeau /Downtown	\$15	\$25
Taxis:		
Montreal-Trudeau /Downtown	\$38 Fixed rate	N.A.

6. Visa information



Participants from countries listed in **annex A** below require an entry visa for Canada and are strongly advised to contact the nearest Canadian 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, including a list of relevant Canadian diplomatic/consular missions abroad, is available on the website of the Canadian Citizenship and Immigration at: <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/information/offices/index.asp#international>.

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

7. Hotel information

Below is an indicative list of hotels (**Annex B**) located in the vicinity of the CBD Secretariat or next to a Metro (subway) station. Further information on hotels in Montreal is available at the following web-site:

<http://www.canadianhotelguide.com/ca/Quebec-hotels/Montreal-hotels.html>



Participants are kindly reminded that **they have to make their own hotel reservations as soon as possible**. To benefit from the special room rates some hotels are offering, please indicate that you will be attending a CBD meeting.

8. Payment of the Daily Subsistence Allowances (DSA)

Sponsored participants will receive their DSA on the first day of the meeting.

9. Official languages in Montreal

There are two official languages in Canada: English and French. French is the official language of Quebec; however English is widely spoken in Montreal.

10. Weather and time zone information



In November, temperatures in Montreal usually range between a maximum of +5°C in the daytime and a minimum of -5°C at night. The general weather conditions are cold, rainy with a possibility of light snow at this time of the year. You are advised to bring warm clothing. The standard time zone will be GMT – 5 hours. Current weather conditions can be found at: <http://www.worldweather.org/056/c00634.htm>

11. Electricity

120 volts, 60 Hertz. [Two-pin, flat and vertical and round earth connection].



12. Currency



The currency in Canada is the Canadian Dollar (CAD \$). The current exchange rate is US \$1 = CAD \$1.07 and (Euro) € 1 = CAD \$1.49.

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

COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES WHOSE CITIZENS REQUIRE VISAS IN ORDER TO ENTER CANADA AS VISITORS (AS LISTED ON THE WEBSITE OF CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION CANADA)

Citizens of the following countries and territories require a visa to **visit** or **transit** Canada:

A	E (cont'd)	M	S (Cont'd)
Afghanistan	Eritrea	Macao	Somalia
Albania	Ethiopia	Madagascar	South Africa
Algeria		Malawi	Sri Lanka
Angola	F	Malaysia	Sudan
Argentina	Fiji	Maldives	Suriname
Armenia		Mali	Syrian Arab Republic
Azerbaijan	G	Marshall Islands	
	Gabon	Mauritania	T
B	Gambia	Mauritius	Tajikistan
Bahrain	Georgia	Micronesia, Fed. States of	Tanzania, United Republic of
Bangladesh	Ghana	Moldova	Thailand
Belarus	Grenada	Mongolia	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Belize	Guatemala	Montenegro	Togo
Benin	Guinea	Morocco	Tonga
Bhutan	Guinea-Bissau	Mozambique	Trinidad and Tobago
Bolivia	Guyana	Myanmar	Tunisia
Bosnia and Herzegovina			Turkey
Brazil	H	N	Turkmenistan
Bulgaria	Haiti	Nauru	Tuvalu
Burkina Faso	Honduras	Nepal	
Burundi		Nicaragua	
	I	Niger	U
C	India	Nigeria	Uganda
Cambodia	Indonesia		Ukraine
Cameroon	Iran, Islamic Republic of	O	United Arab Emirates
Cape Verde	Iraq	Oman	Uruguay
Central African Republic	Israel		Uzbekistan
Chad	Ivory Coast	P	
Chile		Pakistan	V
China	J	Palau	Vanuatu
Colombia	Jamaica	Palestinian Authority	Venezuela
Comoros	Jordan	Panama	Viet Nam
Congo, Democratic Republic of the		Paraguay	
Congo, Republic of the	K	Peru	Y
Costa Rica	Kazakhstan	Philippines	Yemen
Croatia	Kenya		
Cuba	Kiribati	Q	Z
	Korea, Democratic People's Republic of	Qatar	Zambia
D	Kosovo		Zimbabwe
Djibouti	Kuwait	R	
Dominica	Kyrgyzstan	Romania	
Dominican Republic		Russian Federation	
	L	Rwanda	
E	Lao, People's Democratic Republic of	S	
East Timor	Lebanon	Sao Tomé e Príncipe	
Ecuador	Lesotho	Saudi Arabia	
Egypt	Liberia	Senegal	
El Salvador	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Serbia	
Equatorial Guinea		Seychelles	
		Sierra Leone	

Annex B

Rate of exchange: US \$1 = CAD \$1.07 and
€1 = CAD \$1.49

LIST OF HOTELS WITH INDICATIVE ROOM RATES IN CANADIAN DOLLARS PRICES DO NOT INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING TAXES: GST 5% + QST 7.5%

RATES ARE INDICATIVE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE

A. FIVE STAR HOTELS	Approximate room rates	Distance to the meeting venue	Remarks
1. Hotel Inter-Continental Montreal 360 St. Antoine Street West, Montreal Tel.: +1-514-847-8525 America toll free: +1-800 327-0200/361 3600 Fax: +1-514-847-8730 E-mail: montreal@interconti.com Web-site: www.montreal.interconti.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Superior room KB: \$165 Deluxe room: \$179 Business and Club rooms: \$219 	Same building as the SCBD office	Including breakfast and free internet access
2. Fairmont the Queen Elizabeth 900 Rene Levesque Blvd. West Montreal Tel: +1-514-861-3511 (ask for reservations) Global reservation Centre: 1-800-441-1414 Fax: +1-514-954-2258 E-mail: queenelizabethhotel@fairmont.com Web-site: www.fairmont.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fairmont: \$185 	About 10 minutes' walk	
B. FOUR-STAR HOTELS			
3. Delta Centre Ville 777 University Street Montreal Tel.: +1-514-879-1370 Fax: +1-514-879-1761 Web-site: www.deltahotels.com/bg3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Single: \$149 	About 5 minutes' walk	
4. Holiday Inn Select 99 Viger Street West Montreal Tel.: +1-514-878-9888 Fax: +1-514-878-6341 Web-site: www.ichotelsgroup.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Single or double: \$124 	About 10 minutes' walk	
5. Hôtel de la Montagne 1430 de la Montagne Street Montreal Tel.: +1-514-288-5656 Toll free in North America: + 1-800-361-6262 Fax : +1-514-288-9658 Web-site: www.hoteldelamontagne.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deluxe KB: \$155 Deluxe 2QB: \$175 Suite: \$225 	About 20 minutes' walk	
6. Square Phillips (Hotel & Suites) 1193 Place Phillips Montreal H3B 3C9 Tel. + 1-514-393-1193 Fax: + 1-514-393-1192 Web-site: www.squarephillips.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Studios: \$125 Junior suite 1 DB: \$135 Junior suite 1 KB: \$151 1 BR suite: \$158 2 BR suite: \$206 	About 10 minutes walk	

C. THREE-STAR HOTELS	Approximate room rates	Distance to the meeting venue	Remarks
7. Best Western 3407 Peel Street (corner of Peel and Sherbrooke Street) Montreal Tel: +1-514-288-4141 or Toll-free: +1-800-528-1234 Fax: +1-514-288-3021 Web-site: www.hotelvillemarie.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single: \$129 • Deluxe: \$144 • Junior Suite: \$169 	About 20 minutes' walk	Including breakfast
8. Holiday Inn & Express Suites EX Hotel suites le Faubourg 155 René-Lévesque Blvd. East Montreal Tel.: +1-514-448-7100 Toll free: +1-800-398-7100 Fax: +1-514-448-7101 E-mail : info@hotelfaubourg.com Web-site: www.hiemontreal.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single or double occupancy: \$134 	About 20 minutes' walk	
9. Hotel Le Dauphin 1025, De Bleury Montreal Tel: +1-514-788-3888 Fax: + 1-514-788-3889 E-mail: mtl_centre@hoteldauphin.ca Web-site: www.hoteldauphin.ca	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single or double occupancy: \$129 	About 10 minutes' walk	Including continental breakfast and free internet access
10. Hôtel Manoir des Alpes 1245 St. André Street Montreal Tel.: +1-514-845-9803 Fax : +1-514-845-9886 Web-site: www.hotelmanoirdesalpes.qc.ca	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single QB: \$75 	About 15 minutes' walk	Including breakfast
11. L'Appartement-in-Montréal 455 Sherbrooke Street West Montreal Tel.: +1-514-284-3634 Fax: +1-514-287-1431 Web-site: www.appartementhotel.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Studio: \$108 • 1 BR suite: \$128 • 2 BR suite: \$173 	About 20 minutes' walk	
12. La Tour Centre-Ville 400 René-Lévesque Blvd. W. Montreal Tel.: + 1-514-866-8861 Fax: + 1-514-866-7257 Web-site: www.hotelcentreville.com	Studio: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single: \$89 Small suite: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single: \$99 Large suite: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single: \$109 	About 15 minutes walk	
13. Travelodge 50, René-Lévesque Blvd. West Montreal Tel.: +1-514-874-9090 Fax: +1-514-874-0907 E-mail: reserve@travellodgemontreal.ca Web-site: www.travelodge.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single DB: \$89 • Single QB: \$99 	About 20 minutes' walk	Including continental breakfast
