



Convention on Biological Diversity

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ENGLISH ONLY

INFORMAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE
BIOSAFETY CLEARING-HOUSE (BCH-IAC)
Seventh meeting
Montreal, Canada, 28 March -30 March 2012

INFORMATION NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS

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1. Opening and registration

The Seventh meeting of the Informal Advisory Committee on the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH-IAC) will be held in Montreal from Wednesday, 28 March to Friday, 30 March 2012.

The meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, 28 March 2012 and registration will take place at the venue of the meeting at 8:00 a.m. the same day.

2. Venue

The meeting will be held at:

The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

413, St-Jacques Street West

Suite 800

Montréal, Québec

Canada, H2Y 1N9

Tel: 514-288-2220

Fax: 514-288-6588

Metro station Square-Victoria, line no. 2 – Orange

3. Working language

The meeting will be held in English.

4. Documents

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



<http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=BCHIAC-07>

5. General information on access to Montreal



Montreal is serviced by Montreal-Trudeau International Airport (15 km from downtown). Taxis and a bus (no. 747) are available at the airport. The information on rates is as follows.

Bus / Shuttles:

Montreal-Trudeau Airport/
Downtown (several locations)
STM Express bus No. 747

One way trip

CDN \$8
(at the airport tickets are sold at the
International Currency Exchange (ICE)
counter on the international arrivals level)

Taxis:

Montreal-Trudeau /Downtown

CDN \$40 Fixed rate

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. **Please note that airline companies will not allow boarding in the absence of a valid visa.**

Information on visa procedures, including a list of relevant Canadian diplomatic/consular missions abroad, is available on the website of 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

Participants are kindly reminded that **they have to make their own hotel reservations as soon as possible.**

Below is an indicative list of hotels (**Annex B**) located in the vicinity of the CBD Secretariat or close to a Metro (subway) station. To benefit from the special room rates some hotels are offering please request the rates according to the listing in the annex.

Further information on hotels in Montreal is available at the following web site:

<http://www.tourisme-montreal.org/Accommodations>



8. Payment of the daily subsistence allowances (DSA)

The DSA will be paid to the sponsored participants on the first day of the meeting.

9. Official languages

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 March, temperatures in Montreal usually range between a maximum of +1°C in the daytime and a minimum of -8°C at night. Please bring appropriate warm clothing, as there is snow at this time of the year. Current weather conditions in the area can be found at: <http://www.worldweather.org/056/c00634.htm>.

The standard time zone will be GMT/UTC -4 hours.

11. Electricity

The electrical currents are 120 volts, 60 Hertz a (two-pin flat and vertical with a ground connection) as shown below.



12. Currency



The currency in Canada is the Canadian Dollar (CDN \$). The current exchange rate as at 14 March 2012 is US \$1 = CDN \$0.99 and € 1 = CDN \$1.29.

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, accident and travel insurances for the period of participation prior to departure.

Annex A – Country Listing

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

Rate of exchange: US \$1 = CDN \$0.99 and
€1 = CDN \$1.29

Annex B – Hotel Listing

LIST OF HOTELS WITH INDICATIVE ROOM RATES IN CANADIAN DOLLARS PRICES DO NOT INCLUDE THE APPLICABLE TAXES: GST 5% + QST 9.5%

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, Quebec Tel.: +1-514-847-8525, option #3 America toll free: 1-800 361 3600 Fax: +1-514-847-8730 E-mail: montreal@interconti.com ; yulhb-reservations@ihg.com Web site: http://www.ichotelsgroup.com/intercontinental/en/gb/reservations/dates-preferences/montreal	Please request the <u>SCBD</u> or <u>ICAO</u> Rates at the time of booking. Jan – Apr \$159.00 1 King Bed May – Oct \$189.00 1 King Bed Nov – Dec \$159.00 1 King Bed	1 minute walk	Rates include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> High speed internet
2. Hyatt Regency Montreal 1255 Jeanne-Mance, Montreal, Quebec, H5B 1E5 Tel: +1-514- 982-1234 Fax: +1-514-841-2069 Web site: www.montreal.hyatt.com	Please request the <u>CBD/SCBD</u> rates at the time of booking or #78642 for online bookings. Jan – Apr \$145.00 May – Oct \$180.00 Nov – Dec \$145.00	15 minutes' walk	Rates include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> High speed internet
B. FOUR-STAR HOTELS			
3. Delta Centre Ville 777 University Street Montreal, Quebec Tel.: +1-514-879-1370 Fax: +1-514-879-1761 Web link for reservations: www.deltahotels.com/bg3	Please Request the <u>CBD</u> or <u>ICAO</u> rates at the time of booking. Jan – Dec \$155.00 Single Jan – Dec \$175.00 Double	5 minutes' walk	Rates include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> High speed internet Breakfast
4. Holiday Inn Select 99 Viger Street West Montreal, Quebec Tel.: +1-514-878-9888 Fax: +1-514-878-6341 Web site: www.ichotelsgroup.com	Please request the <u>CBD/SCBD</u> or <u>UN</u> rates at the time of booking. Jan - Apr \$125.00 May – Oct \$149.00 Nov – Dec \$125.00	5 minutes' walk	Rates include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> High speed internet
5. Hôtel de la Montagne 1430 de la Montagne Street Montreal, Quebec Tel.: +1-514-288-5656 Toll free in North America: + 1-800-361-6262 Fax: +1-514-288-9658 Web site: www.hoteldelamontagne.com	Please request <u>CBD</u> or <u>ICAO</u> rates at the time of booking. Jan - Dec \$155.00 1 King Bed Jan - Dec \$185.00 2 Queen Beds	15 minutes' walk	Rates include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> High speed internet
6. Square Phillips (Hotel & Suites) 1193 Place Phillips Montreal, Quebec H3B 3C9 Tel. +1-514-393-1193 Fax: +1-514-393-1192 Web site: www.squarephillips.com	Please request <u>SCBD</u> rates at the time of booking. Daily (D) and weekly (W) rates available. Studio: Jan-Apr (D \$130.00-W \$121.00) May-Oct (D \$149.00-W \$133.00) Nov-Dec (D \$132.00-W \$123.00) (rates for other rooms sizes are available, contact hotel directly)	9 minutes' walk	Rates include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Breakfast Free internet Local calls
7. Embassy Suites 208 St-Antoine West Montreal, Quebec Tel: +1-514-288-8886 Fax: +1-514-288-8899 Web site: http://embassysuites1.hilton.com/en_US/es/hotel/YUL_DNES-Embassy-Suites-Montreal-Quebec/index.do	Please request <u>ICAO</u> rates at the time of booking. Rates are divided in two: under 2 weeks and over 2 weeks. Under 2 weeks, \$159.00 Over 2 Weeks, \$129.00	15 minutes' walk	Rates include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Breakfast High speed internet Two drinks daily

B. FOUR-STAR HOTELS (continued)	Approximate room rates	Distance to the meeting venue	Remarks
8. Le Westin Montréal 270 St-Antoine West Montreal, Quebec Tel: +1-514-380-3333 Fax: +1-514-380-3332 Web site: http://www.westinmontreal.com/	Please request <u>ICAO</u> rates at the time of booking. Jan – Apr \$159.00 May – Oct \$179.00 Nov – Dec \$159.00	2 minutes' walk	Rates include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High speed internet
C. THREE-STAR HOTELS			
9. Best Western 3407 Peel Street (corner of Peel and Sherbrooke Street) Montreal, Quebec Tel: +1-514-288-4141 or Toll-free: +1-800-361-7791(Canada &U.S.A.) Fax: +1-514-288-3021 Reservations: sam@hotelvillemarie.com Web site: www.hotelvillemarie.com	Please request <u>ICAO</u> rates at the time of booking. Nov – Apr \$109.00 May – Oct \$135.00	20 minutes' walk	Rates include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High speed internet
10. 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	Please request <u>CBD</u> rates at the time of booking. Nov – Apr \$115.00 May – Oct \$129.00	2 minutes' walk	Rates include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast • High speed internet
11. L'Appartement-in-Montréal 455 Sherbrooke Street West Montreal, Quebec Tel.: +1-514-284-3634 Fax: +1-514-287-1431 Web site: www.appartementhotel.com	Please request <u>SCBD</u> rates at the time of booking. Daily (D) and weekly (W) rates available. Studio: Jan – Apr (D\$112.00-W\$101.00) May –Oct (D\$125.00-W\$108.00) Nov – Dec (D\$112.00-W\$101.00) (rates for other rooms sizes are available, contact hotel directly)	15 minutes' walk	Rates include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast • High speed internet • Local calls
12. Travelodge 50, René-Lévesque Blvd. West Montreal, Quebec Tel.: +1-514-874-9090 Fax: +1-514-874-0907 E-mail: reserve@travellodgemontreal.ca Web site: www.travelodge.com	Please request <u>CBD</u> rates at the time of booking. Jan – Apr \$73.00 May – Oct \$93.00 Nov – Dec \$73.00	15 minutes' walk	Rates include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High speed internet
13. L'HOTEL 262 St Jacques West Montreal, QC H2Y 1N1 Tel.: +1-514-985-0019 Fax.: +1-514-985-0059 Web site: http://www.lhotelmontreal.com/	Please request <u>CBD</u> rate at the time of booking. Jan – Apr \$115.00 May-Oct \$135.00 Nov – Dec \$115.00	2 minutes' walk	Rates include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast • High speed internet
