



Convention on Biological Diversity

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ENGLISH ONLY

MEETING OF THE AD HOC TECHNICAL
EXPERT GROUP ON RISK ASSESSMENT AND
RISK MANAGEMENT OF LIVING MODIFIED
ORGANISMS
Brasilia, Brazil, 16-20 November 2015

INFORMATION NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS

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1. Opening and Registration

The Meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) on Risk Assessment and Risk Management of Living Modified Organisms will be held in Brasilia, Brazil, from 16 to 20 November 2015. The meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, 16 November 2015 and registration will take place at the venue of the meeting.

2. Venue

The meeting will be held at:

Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation

Esplanada dos Ministérios, Bloco E

5th floor (“Sala dos Conselhos”)

CEP 70067-900, Brasília – DF, Brazil

Tel: +55-61-2033-7500

Web: <http://www.mcti.gov.br> (in Portuguese)

3. Working language of the meeting

The meeting will be held in English.

4. Documents

Background documents will be available, in due course, at <http://bch.cbd.int/protocol/meetings/documents.shtml?eventid=5545>.

Participants are requested to bring their own copies of the background documents to the meeting as there will be no extra copies available on site.

5. General information on access to Brasilia, Brazil

Brasilia is serviced by the Brasilia International Airport – Presidente Juscelino Kubitschek (about 12 km from the city centre). Taxis are available at the airport. Please note that in Brasilia, taxi fares can only be paid in cash (local currency), credit cards are not accepted. The rate for the trip to the city centre is approximately 50 BRL (Approx. US \$20) and the journey takes approximately 15 minutes.

Local transportation companies recommended within the city:

- Rádio Taxi Alvorada. Contact telephone number: +55-61-3321-3030.
<http://www.radiotaxi33213030.com.br/>
- Rádio Taxi Shalom. Contact telephone number: +55-61-3321-8181.
<http://www.radiotaxi33218181.com.br/atendimento.html>

6. Visa information

Participants from countries listed in annex A **do not** require an entry visa for Brazil. Participants from all other countries are strongly advised to contact the nearest Brazilian diplomatic or consular mission **as soon as possible** in order to secure the required entry visa, including transit ones, in a timely manner, prior to departure. The visa application process can be lengthy, so please allow sufficient time to obtain your visa. **It should be noted that airline companies will not allow boarding in the absence of a valid visa.**

A list of relevant Brazilian diplomatic/consular missions abroad can be found at http://www.itamaraty.gov.br/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=3663&Itemid=112&lang=pt-BR (in Portuguese)

Information on visa procedures and the visa application form are available at: <https://scedv.serpro.gov.br/frscedv/indexIdiomaIngles.jsp?lang=eng>

7. Health information

In accordance to the World Health Organization procedures, Brazil is listed both as a country with risk of yellow fever transmission and a country requiring yellow fever vaccination for travellers coming from countries with risk of yellow fever transmission.

Therefore, in accordance to the regulations of the Ministry of Health, **participants who reside in or who have recently visited any of the countries listed under annex B** must possess an International Certificate of Vaccination or Revaccination against Yellow Fever, which will be required upon arrival in Brazil. The vaccination, valid for ten years, must have taken place at least 10 (ten) days prior to arrival in Brazil.

For more information or your vaccination requirements for Brazil, please consult a medical professional prior to your travel.

8. Hotel information

Please note that each participant must make her/his own accommodation arrangements. The organizers have negotiated preliminary room allocations with the hotel indicated below:

Golden Tulip Brasilia Alvorada

Shtn Trecho 1, Conj. 1B, Blocos A e B

Asa Norte, Brasília - DF, 70800-200, Brazil

Tel: +55-61-3424-7018

E-mail: reservas.df@goldentulip.com.br

Web: <http://www.goldentulip.com/en/hotels/golden-tulip-brasilia-alvorada>

Please indicate the reservation code “**CBD**” at the time of your reservation to benefit from the special “Tarifa Acordo” rate, as follows (cost of a 6 night stay from 15 to 21 November 2015):

- “Suíte Luxo Single” R\$ 1390 + 15% tax;
- “Suíte Luxo Double” R\$ 1550 + 15% tax

Participants are strongly encouraged to stay at the Golden Tulip Brasilia Alvorada as transportation between this hotel and the meeting venue will be offered by private bus. Participants staying elsewhere will be responsible for their own transportation to and from the meeting venue.

Participants will be requested to provide a credit card upon check-in at the hotel. Sponsored participants who wish to pay their hotel with their DSA (see below), are encouraged to bring enough cash (in Brazilian Real) to pay for part of their reservation at the time of the check-in given that the DSA will only be paid on Monday.

9. Payment of the daily subsistence allowance (DSA)

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

10. Official language in Brazil

The official language in Brazil is Portuguese, however, many people understand Spanish. English is spoken in some hotels and restaurants.

11. Weather and time zone information

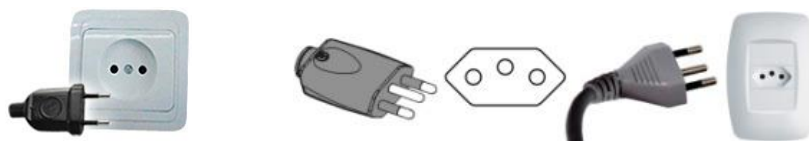
In November, temperatures in Brasilia range between a maximum of 27°C in the daytime and a minimum of 16°C at night. Brasilia is 1,158 metres above sea level. The rainy season is during the months of November through March. Please bring appropriate attire. Current weather conditions can be found at: <http://www.worldweather.org/136/c00290.htm>.

The standard time zone at the time of the meeting will be GMT/UTC - 3 hours. There is no daylight saving time at the moment. Time zone abbreviation: BRT – Brasília time.

12. Electricity

In Brasília, the voltage is 220 volts, 60 Hertz. Participants using their own electrical appliances are advised to check the voltage before use.

In general, the plugs are a two-pin type as shown in the figure below. However, it is highly recommended that participants bring their own adapters, because different types of electrical sockets are used in Brazil.



13. Currency and rate of exchange

The Brazilian currency is the Real (BRL). The current exchange rate as at 28 September 2015 is 1.00 USD = 4.10 BRL and 1 EUR = 4.60 BRL.

The Real is the only legal currency in Brazil and all payments for goods or services must be made in Real or by credit card. Visa and MasterCard are widely accepted by establishments in Brazil. Other international cards, such as Diners Card and American Express, are also accepted,

although the number of establishments may be fewer. Cash and traveller checks can be exchanged in banks, travel agencies and most hotels.

14. Disclaimer

The Brazilian Government and the CBD Secretariat disclaim 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. Along these lines, it is strongly recommended that participants make the proper arrangements for international medical/travel insurance with coverage for the entire period of their stay in Brazil prior to departure.

Annex A

Countries and territories whose citizens are not required to have a visa in order to enter Brazil as visitors (dates of stay vary)

Information is available at the following link

[http://sistemas.mre.gov.br/kitweb/datafiles/Toronto/en-us/file/qgrv-simples-ing-29_01_2015\(1\).pdf](http://sistemas.mre.gov.br/kitweb/datafiles/Toronto/en-us/file/qgrv-simples-ing-29_01_2015(1).pdf)

A

Albania
Andorra
Antigua and Barbuda
Argentina
Austria

B

Bahamas
Barbados
Belgium
Bolivia
Bosnia & Herzegovina
Bulgaria

C

Chile
Colombia
Costa Rica
Croatia
Cyprus
Czech Republic

D

Denmark

E

Ecuador
El Salvador
Estonia

F

Finland
France

G

Germany
Greece
Grenada
Guatemala
Guyana

H

Holy See
Honduras
Hungary

I

Iceland
Ireland
Israel
Italy

K

Korea, Republic of

L

Latvia
Liechtenstein
Lithuania
Luxembourg

M

Malaysia
Malta
Mexico
Monaco
Morocco

N

Namibia
Netherlands
New Zealand
Norway

P

Panama
Paraguay
Peru
Philippines
Poland
Portugal

R

Romania
Russian Federation

S

Saint Vincent and the
Grenadines
San Marino
Serbia
Singapore
Slovakia
Slovenia
South Africa
Spain
Suriname
Sweden
Switzerland

T

Thailand
Trinidad and Tobago
Tunisia
Turkey

U

Ukraine
United Kingdom of
Great Britain and
Northern Ireland
Uruguay

V

Venezuela

Annex B

Countries and territories whose citizens are required to present an international certificate of vaccination or revaccination against yellow fever

A

Angola

B

Benin
Bolivia
Burkina Faso
Burundi

C

Cameroon
Central African
Republic
Chad
Colombia
Congo
Cote d'Ivoire

D

Democratic Republic
of the Congo

E

Ecuador
Equatorial Guinea
Ethiopia

G

Gabon
Gambia
Ghana
Guinea
Guinea-Bissau
Guyana

K

Kenya

L

Liberia

M

Mali
Mauritania

N

Niger
Nigeria

P

Panama
Peru

R

Rwanda

S

Sao Tome & Principe
Senegal
Sierra Leone
Somalia
Sudan
Suriname

T

Tanzania
Togo
Trinidad and Tobago

U

Uganda

V

Venezuela