



**Convention on
Biological Diversity**

Distr.
GENERAL
29 November 2007

ENGLISH ONLY

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN REGIONAL WORKSHOP
ON CAPACITY- BUILDING AND EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCES
ON RISK ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT OF LIVING
MODIFIED ORGANISMS

Bridgetown, Barbados, 10-12 December 2007

INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

1. Venue

The Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Workshop on Capacity-Building and Exchange of Experiences on Risk Assessment and Risk Management of Living Modified Organisms will be held in Bridgetown, Barbados from Monday, 10 December to Wednesday, 12 December 2007.

The meeting will take place at:

UN House, Marine Gardens
P.O. Box 631-C
Bridgetown, Barbados
West Indies
Tel: +1 (246) 467-6000
Fax: +1 (246) 429-2448
E-mail: registry.bb@undp.org
Website: www.bb.undp.org

The contact person in Bridgetown is: Leonard O'Garro

Tel.: +1 (246) 467-6167
Mob.: +1 (246) 233-3206
Fax.: +1 (246) 436-2812
E-mail: leonard.ogarro@unep.ch

2. Opening and registration

The Workshop will be opened at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, 10 December 2007. Registration will take place at the venue of the Workshop from 8:00 a.m. to 8.45 a.m. on the same day.

3. Working languages of the Workshop

The Workshop will be held in English and Spanish.

4. Documents

The main pre-session documents for the Workshop will be accessible at the Secretariat's web site at: <http://www.cbd.int/doc/meeting.asp?mtg=RWCBLAC-01>.

In order to minimize the environmental impacts of the Secretariat's processes, and to contribute to the Secretary-General's initiative for a C-Neutral UN, documents will be printed in limited numbers. Delegates are kindly requested to bring their copies to meetings and not to request additional copies.

5. Visa information

All visitors to Barbados require a valid passport. An entry visa is required for all nationals from countries that are not exempted from visa requirements to enter in Barbados. Participants are strongly advised to check with the nearest Barbados Diplomatic or Consular Mission regarding visa requirements in order to secure an entry visa prior to departure as airline companies may refuse boarding to passengers without a valid visa. Please check the following website for visa information: <http://www.foreign.gov.bb/pageselect.cfm?page=120>.

For participants coming from countries with no Barbados Embassy/Consular office, arrangements can be made for the visa to be issued at the airport upon the arrival. Those participants are advised to contact the following focal person, **as early as possible**, to allow sufficient time for the visa process.

Mrs. Marva Farmer
Immigration Department
Careenage House
Wharf Road
Bridgetown
Tel: +1 (246) 426-1011 (Ext. 2212)
Fax: +1 (246) 426-0819
E-mail: imm-dept@caribsurf.com

Visa requirements:

The necessary documents (<http://www.foreign.gov.bb/UserFiles/File/Requirements.pdf>):

- A valid passport or travel document
- The visa application form (Form J), completed in duplicate
- One recent passport size photograph
- Evidence of residence if applicant lives in a country other than his/her place of birth
- Application fee of US \$50 or US \$60 for multiple entries.

For any assistance on visa related issues, please contact the focal person listed above.

6. Access to Bridgetown

The city of Bridgetown is serviced by the Barbados Grantley Adams International Airport, which is located about 14 km southeast of Bridgetown city centre. Taxis are readily available for an equivalent of about US \$23 from the airport to any hotel in the city.

Please note that there is a departure tax of US \$27.50 per passenger who is over 12 years old. Most airlines now include this tax with the ticket. Check to see if your ticket included pre-payment of the tax.

7. Hotel information

Block hotel bookings has been made on behalf of all directly sponsored participants at Hotels Blue Orchids, Blue Horizon and PomMarine based on the available reasonable price. Participants wishing to stay at one of these hotels are advised to inform, as soon as possible, the contact person named in section 1 above in order to benefit from the special negotiated rate.

Contact information for other hotels close to the workshop venue can be found in the annex for participants who wish to make their own booking. It is highly recommended that participants make their hotel reservations as early as possible.

9. Currency and rate of exchange

The official currency is the Barbados dollar (BDS). The current exchange rate (as of November 2007) is 1US \$ = 2.02 BDS.

10. Credit Cards

Visa, MasterCard and American Express are accepted in most hotels, restaurants and shops. You may also use your credit card at most ATMs to get cash advances.

11. Official language

The country's official language is English. It is used in most hotels and restaurants and is fairly well understood and spoken by a large part of the population.

12. Time zone

Barbados falls in the Atlantic Time Zone and is GMT -4:00.

13. Weather conditions

During the month of December, the minimum temperature of Bridgetown is 23 °C and can reach a maximum of 28 °C. This time of the year is the rainy season. More information on weather is available at the following website: <http://www.wunderground.com/global/stations/78954.html>.

14. Voltage

The standard voltage in Barbados is 110 volts.

15. Disclaimer

The CBD Secretariat disclaims all responsibility for medical, accident and travel insurance, for compensation for death or disability, 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, prior to departure, international medical insurance for the period of participation.

Annex

LIST OF HOTELS CLOSE TO THE VENUE

1. The PomMarine Hotel (Hastings, Christ Church) – 2 minutes walk form UN House

Tel: +1 (246) 228-0900 / 0901

Fax: +1 (246) 228-0907

E-mail: pommarine@sunbeach.net

Website: <http://www.pommarine.com>

Hotel rates: US \$96.50 (Single); US \$114.00 (Double)

2. The Savannah Hotel (Hastings, Christ Church) –15 minutes walk from UN House

Tel: +1 (246) 435-9473

Fax: +1 (246) 228-4385

Website: www.gemsbarbados.com

Hotel rates: US \$150 (Corporate Rate; Single, incl. Breakfast)

3. Coconut Court Hotel (Hastings, Christ Church) –11 minutes walk from UN House

Tel: +1 (246) 427-1655

Fax: +1 (246) 429-1899

E-mail: ccourt@sunbeach.net

Website: www.coconut-court.com

Hotel rates: US \$106 (Single, incl. Breakfast)

4. The Amaryllis Beach Resort (Hastings, Christ Church) –13 minutes walk from UN House

Tel: +1 (246) 438-8888

Fax: +1 (246) 426-9566

E-mail: vacation@amaryllisbeachresort.com

Website: www.amaryllisbeachresort.com

Hotel rates: US \$178.00 - US \$203.00

Information about other hotels is available at the following site:

<http://www.barbados.org/hotname.htm>
