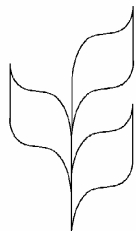




CBD



CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Distr.
General

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ENGLISH ONLY

AD HOC TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUP ON RISK ASSESSMENT UNDER THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY

First meeting

Rome, 15-18 November 2005

INFORMATION NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS

1. Opening and registration

The first meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety will be held in Rome from Tuesday, 15 to Friday, 18 November 2005.

The meeting will start at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, 15 November 2005, and registration will take place at the meeting venue at 9.30 a.m.

2. Meeting venue

The meeting will be held in Rome at:

The Roma Eventi Piazza di Spagna Conference Centre
Via Alibert 5/A (area Piazza di Spagna)
Tel and fax: +39-06-36019016
Email info@roma-eventi.com.

The Conference Centre can be reached by Metro from Stazione Termini, line A, direction Battistini, station Spagna. The journey takes about 20 minutes.

3. Working language of the meeting

The meeting will be held in English only.

4. Documents

Participants are kindly reminded to bring their own copies of the pre-session documents for the meeting, as they will be available at the meeting venue in limited quantities only.

5. Visas and vaccination requirements

Attached, as **annexes I and II**, are lists of countries whose citizens **require** or **do not require** visas to enter Italy. No vaccinations are required to enter Italy. Also attached, as **annex III**, is a list of countries where there is no Italian diplomatic or consular missions, with the respective European countries that will act on behalf of the Government of Italy on visa-related issues.

Participants are advised to check with the nearest Italian diplomatic or consular missions regarding visa requirements. The local organizers in Italy can provide upon request an official letter in order to facilitate the visa application process.

In case of any difficulty or query on visa-related matters, participants should directly contact the designated focal person, namely Dr. Stefano Bernassola, at the following e-mail address or fax number:

dpn-biosicurezza@minambiente.it

Fax : +39-06-57228390.

6. Access to Rome

Rome is serviced by Fiumicino International Airport. Taxis and trains are available at the airport terminal. It takes about 30 minutes to reach the city of Rome. Fares are as follows:

- Single ticket costs approx. 10 euros on direct trains from Fiumicino airport to Rome (line Leonardo Express). Train operate from 5 a.m. to 11 p.m. depart for Stazione Termini every half hour. For more details, please go to: <http://www.trenitalia.com/en/index.html>;
- Taxis cost 30 to 50 euros, depending on the final destination. Taxis operate on 24 hour basis.

7. Hotel accommodation

Attached, as **annex IV**, is a list of hotels with indicative room rates. Participants in the meeting are kindly reminded that they are responsible for making their own hotel accommodation arrangements at hotels of their choice. It should be noted that the local organizers made no special arrangements with the hotels listed under this annex.

For more information on hotels in Rome, please visit the website <http://www.rome-hotels-reservation.com>.

8. Services to participants

Participants will have access to their e-mails, free of charge, at work stations situated within the meeting venue. Other services, such as banks, restaurants, public telephones, etc. are available in

the immediate vicinity of the meeting venue. Please see map attached hereto, as **annex V**.

A dinner reception will be hosted by the Ministry of Environment on Wednesday, 16 November 2005.

9. Official language

The official language in Italy is Italian. However English is widely spoken in hotels and restaurants.

10. Time zone

Rome local time in November is GMT + 1 hour.

11. Weather

Temperatures in Rome for the month of November vary between 7° and 16° Celsius . More information on the weather can be found at: <http://www.eurometeo.com/english/home>.

12. Voltage

Italy uses a 220 volt system (50 Hz per second) and a standard European non-grounded socket.

13. Currency exchange rate

The currency is the Euro (€). The current exchange rate is approximately 0.81 Euro to one United States dollar (US\$).

14. Credit cards

Major credit cards are accepted in most hotels, restaurants and shops.

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 I

COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES WHOSE CITIZENS **REQUIRE** AN ENTRY VISA FOR ITALY (As provided by the Italian Government)

A

Afghanistan,
Albania,
Algeria,
Angola,
Antigua and Barbuda,
Armenia,
Azerbaijan,

B

Bahamas,
Bahrain,
Bangladesh,
Barbados,
Belarus,
Belize,
Benin,
Bhutan,
Bosnia and Herzegovina,
Botswana,
Bulgaria,
Burkina Faso,
Burundi,

C

Cambodia,
Cameroon,
Cape Verde,
Central African Republic,
Chad,
China,
Colombia,
Comoro Islands,
Congo,
Congo (Democratic Republic),
Côte d'Ivoire,
Cuba,

D

Djibouti,
Dominica,
Dominican Republic,

E

East Timor,
Ecuador,
Egypt,
Eritrea,
Ethiopia,

F

Fiji,

G

Gabon,
Gambia,
Georgia,
Ghana,
Granada,
Guinea,
Guinea Bissau,
Guyana,

H

Haiti,

I

India,
Indonesia,
Iran (Islamic Republic of),
Iraq,

J

Jamaica,
Jordan,

K

Kazakhstan,
Kenya,
Kyrgyzstan,
Kiribati,
Korea, North
Kuwait,

L

Laos,
Lebanon,
Lesotho,
Liberia,
Libya,

M

Macedonia (The former Yugoslav Republic of),
Madagascar,
Malawi,
Maldives,
Mali,
Marshall Islands,
Mauritania,
Mauritius,
Micronesia,
Moldova,
Mongolia,
Morocco,
Mozambique,
Myanmar,

N

Namibia,
Nauru,
Nepal,
Niger,
Nigeria,
Northern Marianas,

O

Oman,

P

Pakistan,
Palau,
Papua New Guinea,
Peru,
Philippines,

Q

Qatar,

R

Romania,
Russia,
Rwanda,

S

Saint Kitts and Nevis,
Saint Lucia,
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines,
Samoa,
Solomon,
Sao Tome and Principe,
Saudi Arabia,
Senegal,
Serbia-Montenegro
Seychelles,
Sierra Leone,
Somalia,

S (Cont'd)

South Africa,
Sri Lanka,
Sudan,
Suriname,
Swaziland,
Syria,

T

Tajikistan,
Tanzania,
Thailand,
Togo,
Tonga,
Trinidad and Tobago,
Tunisia,
Turkey,
Turkmenistan,
Tuvalu,

U

Uganda,
Ukraine,
United Arab Emirates,
Uzbekistan,

V

Vanuatu,
Vietnam,

Y

Yemen,

Z

Zambia,
Zimbabwe.

Annex II

NATIONALS OF THE FOLLOWING COUNTRIES **DO NOT REQUIRE** A VISA FOR VISITS UP TO A MAXIMUM OF 90 DAYS, FOR TOURISM, ON MISSIONS, BUSINESS, AND INVITATIONS OR TO TAKE PART IN SPORTS EVENTS

A

Andorra,
Argentina,
Australia,

B

Bolivia,
Brazil,
Brunei,
Bulgaria,

C

Canada,
Chile,
Costa Rica,
Croatia,

E

El Salvador,

G

Guatemala,

H

Honduras,

I

Israel,

J

Japan,

K

Korea, South

M

Malaysia,
Mexico,
Monaco,

N

New Zealand,
Nicaragua,

P

Panama,
Paraguay,

R

Romania,

S

Singapore,

U

United States,
Uruguay,

V

Venezuela.

Annex III

**LIST OF COUNTRIES ACTING ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT OF
ITALY FOR THE ISSUANCE OF ENTRY VISAS IN COUNTRIES WHERE
THERE IS NO ITALIAN DIPLOMATIC OR CONSULAR
REPRESENTATIONS**

Countries with no Italian representation	Countries acting on behalf of Italy
BENIN	FRANCE
BOTSWANA	FRANCE
BURKINA FASO	FRANCE
BURUNDI	BELGIUM
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC	FRANCE
CHAD	FRANCE
COMOROS	FRANCE
NORTH KOREA	SWEDEN
HAITI	FRANCE
JAMAICA	GERMANY
DJIBOUTI	FRANCE
GUINEA	FRANCE
KYRGYZSTAN	GERMANY
LAOS	GERMANY
MALI	FRANCE
MAURITANIA	SPAIN
MAURITIUS	FRANCE
NEPAL	FRANCE
NIGER	FRANCE
PAPUA NEW GUINEA	FRANCE
SANTA LUCIA	FRANCE
SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE	PORTUGAL
SEYCHELLES	FRANCE
RWANDA	GERMANY
SURINAME	NETHERLANDS
TAJIKISTAN	GERMANY
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO	GERMANY
TURKMENISTAN	GERMANY
VANUATU	FRANCE

Annex IV
LIST OF HOTELS WITH INDICATIVE ROOM RATES

All hotels are from walking distances to the Conference Centre, unless otherwise indicated.

A. Three star Hotels

1. Hotel Manfredi (walking distance to the Conference Centre)

Via Margutta, 61 tel. +39 06 3207676; fax +39 06 3207736;

E-mail: info@hotelmanfredi.it

Room rates valid from 15 to 30 November 2005

Single/bb: 165 - 20% = 132 €

Double for single use/bb: 200 -20% = 160 €

1mstandard with bb: 176 €

1msuperiore con bb: 192 €

2. Hotel Forte (walking distance to the Conference Centre)

Via Margutta, 61

Tel.+39 06 3207625

Fax +39-063202707

E-mail: forte@venere.it

Only 8 rooms available 15-18 November 2005

Double for single use/bb: 120 €

single/bb: 100 €

3. Hotel Giada Rome Italy (in the vicinity of Metro station Termini)

Via Principe Amedeo, 9

Tel: +39-06-4885863 - 4740646 – 4883650

Fax: +39-06-4820344

E-mail: hotelgiada@travel.it

Single/bb min.: 98.07 € max. 108.39 €

Double/bb min.: 113.56 € max. 144.53 €

4. Hotel Augustea: (walking distance to the Conference Centre)

Via Nazionale, 251

Tel. +39 06 4883589

Fax: +39 06 48913021

E-mail: infopatria@hotelaugustea.it

Single/bb min.: 100 € max. 140€

Double/bb min.: 120 € max. 190 €

5. Hotel Abruzzi: (20 minutes' walk to the Conference Centre)

P.zza della Rotonda (Pantheon),69

Tel. +39 06 6792021

Fax +39 06 69788076

E-mail: info@hotelabruzzo.it

Single/bb min. 115 € max. 155€

Double/bb min.: 135 € max. 195 €

6. Hotel Miami: (walking distance to the Conference Centre)

Via Nazionale, 230

Tel. +39 06 4817180

Fax +39 06 484562

E-mail: miamihtl@tin.it

Single/bb min. 42 € max. 155 €

Double/bb min. 42 € max. 259 €

7. Hotel della Torre Argentina: (20 minutes' walk to the Conference Centre)

C.so Vittorio Emanuele II, 102

Tel. +39 06 6833886

Fax +39 06 68801641

E-mail: info@dellatorreargentina.com

Single/bb min. 105 € max. 155 €

Double/bb min.: 135 € max. 225 €

B. Two stars Hotels

8. Hotel Planet (in the vicinity of Metro station Termini)

Via Milazzo, 3

Tel.: + 39 06 4958232

Fax: +39 06 4454251

Single/bb min.: 60 € max. 110 €

Double/bb min.: 70 € max. 120 €

E-mail: info@hotelplanetroma.com

9. Hotel Santa Prassede (10 minutes' walk from Metro station Termini)

Via di Santa Prassede, 25

Tel.: +39 06 4814850

Fax: +39 06 4746859

E-mail: info@hotelsantaprasse.de.it

Single/bb min.: 60 € max. 100 €

Double/bb min.: 85 € max. 140 €

10. Hotel Giardino (about 20 minutes' walk to the Conference Centre)

Via XXIV Maggio, 51

Tel +39 06 6794584

Fax +39 06 6795155

E-mail: hotel_giardino@libero.it

Single/bb min.: 50 € max. 100 €

Double/bb min. 70 € max. 145 €

For more information on hotels, please go to: <http://www.rome-hotels-reservation.com/Hotels-In-Rome-by-rating/3-Star-Rome-Hotels.html>

Annex V

MAP SHOWING THE MEETING VENUE

Meeting venue: “Roma Eventi Piazza di Spagna Conference Centre” in via Alibert 5/A, identified on the map by a star. The Conference Centre can be reached by Metro from Stazione Termini, line A, direction Battistini, station Spagna.

Tel and fax: +39-06-36019016, email info@roma-eventi.com

