



Convention on Biological Diversity

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**CAPACITY-BUILDING WORKSHOP FOR LATIN AMERICA
ON THE RESTORATION OF FORESTS AND OTHER
ECOSYSTEMS TO SUPPORT THE ACHIEVEMENT
OF THE AICHI BIODIVERSITY TARGETS**
Bogota, Colombia, 4-8 April 2016

INFORMATION NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS

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1. Opening and registration

The Capacity-building workshop for Latin America on the restoration of forests and other ecosystems to support the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets will be held in Bogota, Colombia from Monday, 4 April to Friday, 8 April 2016.

The meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, 4 April 2016 and registration will take place at the venue of the workshop at 8:30 a.m. the same day.

2. Venue

The meeting will be held at:

The Dann Carlton Bogotá Hotel

Avenida 15 N° 103-60

Bogotá, Colombia

Tel: + (57) (1) 635-0010

Web site: <http://en.hotelbogotadanncarlton.com/>

3. Working language of the meeting

The workshop will be held in English and Spanish with simultaneous interpretation.

4. Documents



The meeting documents are available on the Secretariat's website at:

<https://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=ECRWS-2016-01>

In order to minimize the environmental footprint of the meeting and in line with the UN policy towards greener meetings, participants are kindly reminded to bring their own copies of documents as there will be no extra copies made available on site during the meeting.

5. General information on access to Bogota

Bogotá is serviced by the El Dorado International Airport (13 km from downtown). Taxis are available at the airport at a cost of about US \$6.00-10.00 and the journey takes about 30-40 minutes. It is recommended to book taxi within the arrivals terminal to pay fixed rates. There is no airport pick up provided for this workshop.

6. Visa information



Participants from countries listed in **annex A** below **do not** require an entry visa for Colombia and all other participants are strongly advised to contact the nearest Colombian 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 is available on the web site of the Ministry of Tourism of Colombia at: <http://www.colombia.travel/en/practical-information/visa>

A list of relevant Colombia diplomatic/consular missions abroad, is available on the web site of the Ministry of External Relations of Colombia (in Spanish) at:

<https://tramites.cancilleria.gov.co/ciudadano/directorio/Misiones/enExterior.aspx>
and; the Embassy of Colombia (in English) at:
http://colombiaemb.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=108&Itemid=131.

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

7. Health requirements

Colombia is on the list of Countries and Territories in the Americas with active Zika Virus Transmission. The Zika virus is transmitted to people through the bite of an infected mosquito, the same mosquito that transmits dengue, chikungunya and yellow fever. However, sexual transmission of Zika virus has been described in 2 cases, and the presence of the Zika virus in semen in 1 additional case.

It is recommended follow the basic precautions to protect yourself from mosquito bites. Use insect repellent containing DEET regularly; wear clothes (preferably light-coloured) that cover as much of the body as possible (long sleeves and pants); use physical barriers such as window screens, closed doors and windows; and sleeping under mosquito nets.

Note for pregnant women: The Zika virus poses a risk throughout a women's pregnancy and can be passed from a pregnant woman to her fetus during pregnancy or at delivery. However, based on the available evidence, Zika virus infection in a woman who is not pregnant would not pose a risk for birth defects in future pregnancies after the virus has cleared from her blood.

Additional information can be found on the web sites of the World Health Organization and the Centre for Disease Control.

WHO: <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/zika/en/>

CDC: <http://www.cdc.gov/zika/prevention/>

8. Hotel information

A block booking has been made and paid for at the Dann Carlton Bogotá Hotel (meeting venue) on behalf of all sponsored participants according to your flight arrangements. A special meeting package rate has been arranged, which includes a single room, breakfast and lunch. Please note that all personal expenses including laundry, phone calls, room services, etc., will be paid by participants upon check out.

The Dann Carlton Bogotá Hotel

Avenida 15 N° 103-60

Bogotá, Colombia

Tel: + (57) (1) 635-0010

Web site: <http://en.hotelbogotadanncarlton.com/>

Non-sponsored participants may wish to avail themselves of a special rate for the hotel. More information on this rate will be provided by e-mail to the relevant participants.

Information on other hotels and other tourist information in the vicinity of the meeting venue can be found at the following link: <http://bogotaturismo.gov.co/en>

9. Field Trip

Participants will be invited to a field visit on Wednesday, 6 April 2016 outside of the city. Participants are requested to wear comfortable clothing and shoes. More information about the field trip will be shared with participants in due course/at the venue.

10. Payment of the daily subsistence allowances (DSA)

The relevant portion of the Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA) will be paid to sponsored participants during the meeting. **Sponsored participants are asked to present their passports which will be photocopied and returned to them.**

11. Official languages

The official language in Colombia is Spanish. English is understood in some hotels and restaurants.

12. Weather and time zone information



In April temperatures in Bogota usually range between a maximum of +16°C in the daytime and a minimum of +8°C at night. The months of April and May usually have the highest amounts of rain. Please bring appropriate clothing. Current weather conditions in the area can be found at: <http://worldweather.wmo.int/en/city.html?cityId=157>.

The standard time zone is GMT/UTC -5 hours.

13. Electricity

The electrical currents in Colombia are 110-120 volts, 60 Hertz a (two-pin flat and vertical with a ground connection).



14. Currency



The currency in Colombia is the Colombian Peso (COP). The current exchange rate as at 7 March 2016 is US \$1 = COP 3,143.69 and (Euro) € 1 = COP 3,460.86 (source: www.xe.com, rates are subject to change).

15. 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 DO NOT REQUIRE VISAS IN ORDER TO ENTER COLOMBIA AS VISITORS (AS LISTED ON THE WEB SITE OF THE EMBASSY OF COLOMBIA)

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

A

Andorra
Antigua and Barbuda
Argentina
Australia
Austria
Azerbaijan

B

Bahamas
Barbados
Belgium
Belize
Bhutan
Bolivia
Brazil
Brunei-Darussalam
Bulgaria

C

Canada
Chile
Costa Rica
Croatia
Cyprus
Czech Republic

D

Denmark
Dominica
Dominican Republic

E

Ecuador
El Salvador
Estonia

F

Fiji
Finland
France

G

Georgia
Grenada
Greece
Guatemala
Guyana

H

Holy See
Honduras
Hungary

I

Iceland
Indonesia
Ireland
Israel
Italy

J

Jamaica
Japan

K

Kazakhstan
Korea, Republic of

L

Latvia
Liechtenstein
Lithuania
Luxembourg

M

Malaysia
Malta
Marshall Islands
Mexico
Micronesia, Federated States of
Monaco

N

Netherlands
New Zealand
Norway

P

Palau
Panama
Papua New Guinea
Paraguay
Peru
Poland
Portugal

R

Romania
Russian Federation

S

Saint Kitts and Nevis
Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Samoa
San Marino
Singapore
Slovakia
Slovenia
Solomon Islands
South Africa
Spain
Suriname
Sweden
Switzerland

T

Trinidad and Tobago
Turkey

U

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
United Arab Emirates
United States of America
Uruguay

V

Venezuela