



Convention on Biological Diversity

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ENGLISH ONLY

INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL EXPERT WORKSHOP
ON IDENTIFYING, ACCESSING, COMPILING AND
AGGREGATING DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL
BIODIVERSITY-RELATED INVESTMENTS AND IMPACTS
Mexico City, Mexico, 5-7 May 2015

INFORMATION NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS

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<http://www.visitmexico.com/en/mexico-city>

1. Opening and registration

The CBD International technical expert workshop on identifying, accessing, compiling and aggregating domestic and international biodiversity-related investments and impacts will take place in Mexico City, Mexico from Tuesday, 5 May to Thursday, 7 May 2015.

The workshop will start at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, 5 May 2015, and registration will take place at the workshop venue at 8:30 a.m. the same day.

2. Venue

The workshop will be held in two locations: On **Tuesday, 5 May only**, the venue has changed and will be as follows:

Fiesta Inn Centro Histórico Conference Room A

Av. Juárez #76, Col. Centro,
Delegación Cuauhtémoc,
06010,
Distrito Federal, México

Web site: <http://www.fiestainn.com/es/mx-ciudad-de-mexico/hotel-centro-historico>

On **6 and 7 May 2015** the meeting will take place as originally schedule at the following address:

Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores de México

Salón José María Morelos (Plenary)

Avenida Juárez #20

Col. Centro

06010

México, D.F., México

Tel: +(55) 3686-5100

Web site: <http://www.sre.gob.mx/index.php>

Sessions will take place on the first floor of the Ministry in the following rooms:

- Salón José María Morelos (Plenary)
- Salón Paula Alegría
- Salón Francisco I. Madero

The allocation of the rooms to the individual sessions will be announced in due course.

3. **Working language**

The workshop and any associated events will be held in English.

4. **Documents**



The workshop meeting documents will be available on the Secretariat's website at: <http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=RMEM-2015-01> as they become available.

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

5. **Access to Mexico D.F. and transportation**



Mexico City is serviced by Mexico City International Airport “Benito Juárez” which is about 6.5 km from the city centre.

Participants are responsible for their transportation arrangements while in Mexico City. Taxi services are the most secure option when travelling within Mexico City. At the airport, these services can be found in Terminal 1 and 2 upon arrival. All tariffs should be easily identifiable and have been previously approved by the Ministry of Communication and Transport (Secretaría de Comunicaciones y Transportes, SCT). For further information, please visit:

<http://www.aicm.com.mx/pasajeros/transporte/taxis>

6. **Visa information**



Participants must complete all visa formalities prior to entering the country. Please note that **the Mexican government does not issue visas upon arrival.**

Citizens from countries listed in Annex I below are strongly advised to contact the nearest Mexican diplomatic or consular mission as soon as possible, in order to secure entry in a timely manner.

Information on visa procedures is available on the web site of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico at (in Spanish) at: <http://serviciosconsulares.sre.gob.mx/index.php/visas?layout=edit&id=102>.

The requirements are shown below (in English).

If you require a visa to enter Mexico please contact your nearest Mexican consulate/embassy and present the following information:

- Your Passport
- Photograph
- Your Letter of Invitation
- The visa fee
- Proof of economic solvency

The link for the visa application form in English (also available in Spanish) is: <http://serviciosconsulares.sre.gob.mx/images/stories/dgsc/pdf/Solicitudingles2.pdf>

A list of relevant Mexican diplomatic/consular missions abroad: <http://proteccionconsular.sre.gob.mx/index.php/situaciones-comunes?id=117>

List on foreign Embassies and Consulates in Mexico:

http://www.inm.gob.mx/index.php/page/Embajadas_Consulados/en.html

A foreign citizen in possession of the following documents will not require a Mexican visa:

- a) Certified proof of permanent residence in Canada, the United States, Japan, the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland, as well as any country that is a part of the Schengen Area.
- b) A valid visa from the United States of America.
- c) A Mexican approved APEC Business Travel Card.

In case of any doubt, kindly consult directly with the Embassy/Consulate in your country/region for the most up-to-date information on visa requirements.

7. Hotel information

A listing of recommended hotels close to the workshop venue is available in Annex B below. **Participants are kindly requested to make their own hotel reservations.**

Additional information regarding hotels in Mexico City and other general information are available on the web site of the Ministry of Tourism:

<http://www.visitmexico.com/en/mexico-city/>



8. Payment of the daily subsistence allowance (DSA)

The DSA will be disbursed to funded participants on the first day of the workshop. For identification purposes, **these participants are kindly requested to bring their passports**, which will be photocopied and returned to them.

9. Official language

The official language in the Mexico is Spanish. English is spoken in some hotels and restaurants.

10. Weather, dress code, and time zone



In May, temperatures in Mexico City usually range between a maximum of 25°C (77°F) in the daytime and a minimum of 12°C (53°F) at night.

During the day: typically sunny with a chance of showers.

During the evening: typically cloudy, with a chance of thunderstorms.

Current weather conditions in the area can be found at:
<http://worldweather.wmo.int/en/city.html?cityId=279>.

The dress code for all meetings will be *business casual*.

The standard time zone is GMT/UTC -6 hours.

11. Electricity

The electrical currents are 120 volts, 60 Hertz. The plugs used are as shown in the illustration below.



12. Currency



The currency in Mexico is the Mexican Peso (MXN). The current exchange rate as at 7 April 2015 is US \$1 = \$14.90 MXN and € 1 = \$16.11 MXN (rates are subject to change). American dollars, Canadian dollars and Euros are most commonly accepted in Currency Exchange Offices. It is recommended that all participants exchange currency at the airport in order to pay for transport services from the hotel to the airport.

For further information, please visit: <http://www.banxico.org.mx/dyn/portal-mercado-cambiario/index.html>

13. International Phone Calls

In order to make a call to Mexico City from abroad, one must dial the country code (52) as well as the area code (55) after the applicable long distance code (001 for Canada and the United States of North America, 00 for all other countries).

The national long distance code is 01.

It is recommended that participants purchase international calling cards in close-by convenience stores.

14. Emergency Numbers

066 – Police and Ambulance Services

065 – Red Cross

078 – Roadside Assistance and Tourist Information.

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 – Visa Information

List of countries requiring a visa in order to enter Mexico:

http://www.inm.gob.mx/index.php/page/Paises_Visa/en.html

List of countries not requiring a visa in order to enter Mexico:

http://www.inm.gob.mx/index.php/page/Paises_No_Visa/en.html

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

A	Eritrea	M	Sierra Leone
Afghanistan	Ethiopia	Madagascar	Soloman Islands
Albania		Malawi	Somalia
Algeria		Maldives	South Africa
Angola	F	Mali	Sri Lanka
Antigua and Barbuda	Fiji	Mauritania	Sudan
Armenia		Mauritius	Suriname
Azerbaijan	G	Moldova	Swaziland
	Gabon	Mongolia	Syrian Arab Republic
B	Gambia	Montenegro	
Bahrain	Georgia	Morocco	T
Bangladesh	Ghana	Mozambique	Tajikistan
Belarus	Grenada	Myanmar	Tanzania, United Republic of
Benin	Guatemala		Thailand
Bhutan	Guinea	N	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Bolivia	Guinea-Bissau	Namibia	Togo
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Guyana	Nauru	Tonga
Botswana		Nepal	Tunisia
Brunei Darussalam	H	Nicaragua	Turkey
Burkina Faso	Haiti	Niger	Turkmenistan
Burundi	Honduras	Nigeria	Tuvalu
		O	
C	I	Oman	U
Cabo Verde	India		Uganda
Cambodia	Indonesia	P	Ukraine
Cameroon	Iran, Islamic Republic of	Pakistan	United Arab Emirates
Central African Republic	Iraq	Palestinian Authority	Uzbekistan
Chad		Papua New Guinea	
China	J	Philippines	
Comoros	Jordan		V
Congo, Democratic Republic of the		Q	Vanuatu
Congo, Republic of the	K	Qatar	Viet Nam
Costa Rica	Kazakhstan		
Cote d'Ivoire	Kenya	R	Y
Cuba	Kiribati	Russian Federation	Yemen
	Korea, Democratic People's Republic of	Rwanda	
D	Kuwait		Z
Djibouti	Kyrgyzstan	S	Zambia
Dominica		Saint Lucia	Zimbabwe
Dominican Republic	L	Saint Kitts and Nevis	
	Lao, People's Democratic Republic of	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	
E	Lebanon	Samoa	
East Timor	Lesotho	Sao Tomé e Príncipe	
Ecuador	Liberia	Saudi Arabia	
Egypt	Libya	Senegal	
El Salvador		Serbia	
Equatorial Guinea		Seychelles	

Annex B – Hotel listing

Below is a listing of recommended hotels near the workshop venue

- **Fiesta Inn**
Centro Histórico
(Av. Juárez #76, Col. Centro, Delegación Cuauhtémoc, 06010, Distrito Federal, México):
Web site: <http://www.fiestainn.com/es/mx-ciudad-de-mexico/hotel-centro-historico>
- **Hilton México City Reforma**
Avenida Juárez 70,
Col. Centro, CP06010
Tel: +52-55-5130-5300
Web site:
<http://www3.hilton.com/en/hotels/distrito-federal/hilton-mexico-city-reforma-MEXRFHH/index.html>
- **Howard Johnson / Hotel Alameda**
Revillagigedo No. 23,
Col. Centro, C.P. 06050
Tel: +52-55-5518-1150
Web site:
http://www.wyndhamhotelgroup.com/hotels/mexico/mexico-city/howard-johnson-hotel-alameda-mexico-city/hotel-overview?hotel_id=45211&cid=whg_la_ggl_br&wid=ps:br_whg&002=2212240&004=9776909411&005=26581849500&006=33613897211&007=Search&008=&025=c&026
- **Boutique Hotel Cortes**
Av. Hidalgo 85
Esq. Paseo de la Reforma, Col. Centro, C.P. 06300
Tel: +52-55-5518-2181
Web site: <http://www.boutiquehoteldecortes.com/>
- **Downtown Mexico**
Isabel la Católica,
No. 30, Col. Centro, 06010
Tel: +52-55-5130-6830
Web site: <http://www.downtownmexico.com/>
