



**CONVENTION ON
BIOLOGICAL
DIVERSITY**

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ENGLISH ONLY

**REGIONAL SYNERGY WORKSHOP FOR LATIN AMERICA AND
THE CARIBBEAN ON THE BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY OF
AGRO-ECOSYSTEMS WITHIN DRY AND SUB-HUMID LANDS**

Bolans Village, Antigua and Barbuda, 20–23 November 2006

INFORMATION NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS

1. Opening and registration

The Regional Synergy Workshop for Latin America and the Caribbean on the Biological Diversity of Agro-Ecosystems within Dry and Sub-Humid Lands will be held in Antigua and Barbuda from Monday, 20 to Thursday, 23 November 2006.

The Workshop will start at 9.30 a.m. on Monday, 20, November 2006 and registration will take place at the venue of the Workshop at 8.30 a.m. the same day.

2. Venue

The Workshop will be held at:

Jolly Beach Resort

Bolans Village

St. Mary's, Antigua

Telephone: + (268) 462 0061

Facsimile: + (268) 562 2302

Email info@jollybeachresort.com

3. Working language of the Workshop

The Workshop will be held in English.

4. Documents

Participants are kindly reminded to bring their own copies of the pre-session documents as there will be no extra copies made available on site during the Workshop.

Pre-session documents are available on the Secretariat's web site at:
<http://www.biodiv.org/doc/meeting.aspx?mtg=RWSYNLAC-01>

5. Visas and departure tax

The lists of countries whose nationals **do not require** or **require** a visa to enter Antigua and Barbuda is attached as an annex.

Participants requiring an entry visa to Antigua and Barbuda should contact, as early as possible, the diplomatic/consular missions of Antigua and Barbuda, the British Embassy/High commission or Commonwealth office to allow sufficient time for a visa to be issued sufficiently in advance before departure.

To download a visa application form and for more information on entry visas to Antigua and Barbuda, please go to:

http://www.antigua-barbuda.com/travel_tourism/information/passport_visa.asp

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

Participants requiring assistance on entry visas should contact the designated focal person, namely Ms. Carol-Faye George whose coordinates are as follows:

Ministry of Works, Transportation and Environment
#1 Prime Minister's Drive
St. John's Antigua, W.I.
Telephone: + 1 (268) 462-4625/562-2568
Fax: + 1 (268) 462-4625
Email: carolfayebg@yahoo.com

It should be noted that non-Caricom nationals will have to pay US\$ 20 or EC\$ 50. For Caricom nationals the tax is EC\$ 35.

6. Access to the hotel from the airport

The airport VC Bird International is approximately twelve miles from the Jolly Beach Resort hotel, the meeting venue for the Workshop.

The VC Bird International is serviced by taxis, which charge an average fare of EC\$ 80 (approx. US\$ 30) to the meeting venue. There is no bus service from the airport.

7. Hotel accommodation

A block booking has been made at the Jolly Beach Resort hotel (the meeting venue) on behalf of all participants in the Workshop. The hotel bills for the sponsored participants will be settled by the CBD Secretariat.

The negotiated room rate for a single room including breakfast, lunch, dinner and tax, is EC\$ 392 (approx. US\$ 147). All participants are kindly requested to directly contact the hotel, as soon as possible but **no later than 31 October 2006**, in order to confirm their reservations. Rooms that are not confirmed prior to the set deadline (**31 October 2006**) will be freed.

Non-funded participants **must** provide to the hotel, upon confirmation of their reservation, their credit card numbers and expiry date (see hotel coordinates under heading 2 above).

8. Payment of the Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA)

Sponsored participants will receive the cash portion of their DSA (20%) on the first day of the Workshop.

9. Currency and rate of exchange

Antigua and Barbuda's currency is the Eastern Caribbean dollar (EC\$). The current rate of exchange as of October 2006 is US\$ 1 = EC\$ 2.67 and Euro \$1 = EC\$ 3.41.

10. Credit Cards

Major credit cards (American Express, Visa, MasterCard) are accepted in most hotels and restaurants in Antigua and Barbuda.

11. Time zone

Antigua and Barbuda time in November will be GMT/UTC – 4 hours.

12. Weather conditions

During the month of November, the average temperature is 24°C in Antigua and Barbuda and can reach a maximum of 29-30°C. More information on weather is available at the following web site: <http://www.antiguamet.com/>.

For more information about Antigua and Barbuda, please go to www.antigua-barbuda.org

13. Voltage

110-220 volts, the plugs are two flat pins or three pins type.

14. 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

A. LIST OF COUNTRIES WHOSE NATIONALS DO NOT REQUIRE A VISA TO ENTER ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA (as per High Commission for Antigua and Barbuda web site)

Nota Bene: The visa application form has to be submitted by the applicant to the High Commission.

European Union countries which do not require visas

Austria	Belgium	Denmark
Finland	France	Germany
Greece	Ireland (Republic of)	Italy
Luxembourg	Netherlands	Portugal
Spain	Sweden	United Kingdom

Commonwealth countries which do not require visas

Australia	Bahamas	Barbados
Belize	Botswana	Brunei Darussalam
Canada	Cyprus	Dominica
Fiji	Grenada	Guyana
Jamaica	Kenya	Kiribati
Lesotho	Malaysia	Malawi
Maldives	Malta	Mauritius
Namibia	Nauru (special member)	New Zealand
Papua New Guinea	Samoa (Western)	Seychelles
Singapore	Solomon Islands	South Africa
St Kitts and Nevis	St Lucia	St Vincent and the Grenadines
Swaziland	Tanzania	Tonga
Trinidad and Tobago	Tuvalu (special member)	Uganda
United Kingdom	United Kingdom Overseas Territories	Vanuatu
Zambia		

B. OTHER COUNTRIES (EUROPEAN UNION, NON-EUROPEAN AND NON-COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES) WHICH DO NOT REQUIRE A VISA FOR ENTRY INTO ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA:

Albania	Argentina	Armenia
Azerbaijan	Belarus (Republic of)	Brazil
Bulgaria	Chile	Cuba
Estonia	Georgia (Republic of)	Hungary
Japan	Kazakhstan (Republic of)	Korea (South)
Kyrgyzstan	Liechtenstein	Lithuania

Malta	Mexico	Moldova
Monaco	Norway and Colonies	Peru
Poland	Romania	Russian Federation
Slovenia	South Korea	Surinam
Switzerland	Tajikistan	Turkey
Turkmenistan	Ukraine	United States of America
Uzbekistan	Venezuela	

C. CITIZENS OF COUNTRIES WHICH DO NOT APPEAR ON THE ABOVE LISTS, REQUIRE A VISA.

Please note that citizens of the following Commonwealth **countries now require a visa** for entry into Antigua and Barbuda:

Bangladesh, Cameroon, The Gambia, Ghana, India, Mozambique, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sierra Leone and Sri Lanka