



Convention on Biological Diversity

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ENGLISH ONLY

ARCTIC REGIONAL WORKSHOP TO FACILITATE
THE DESCRIPTION OF ECOLOGICALLY OR BIOLOGICALLY
SIGNIFICANT MARINE AREAS (EBSAS)
Helsinki, Finland, 3-7 March 2014

Information Note for Participants

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1. Opening

The Arctic Regional Workshop to Facilitate the Description of Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas (EBSAs) will be held in Helsinki, Finland from Monday, 3 March to Friday, 7 March 2014.

The workshop will start at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, 3 March, and registration will take place from 8:30 a.m. at the workshop venue.

2. Venue

The meeting will be held at:

Helsinki Congress Paasitorni (see Annex A for map)

Paasivuorenkatu 5 A

00530 Helsinki, Finland

Tel. +358 (0)9 7089 61

Website: <http://www.paasitorni.fi/en/visitors/paasitorni-your-service>

3. Working language of the workshop

The meeting will be held in English.

4. Documents

Participants are kindly reminded to bring their own copies of the documents for the workshop as there will be no extra copies made available on site during the workshop. Documents are available on the workshop web page:



<http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=EBSAWS-2014-01>

5. General information on access to Helsinki, Finland



Helsinki is serviced by the Helsinki Vantaa Airport (19 km north of Helsinki city centre). Participants staying at the Scandic Paasi or Hilton Strand may take Finnair City Bus from the airport to the city centre (Helsinki railway station); from there, they can take a taxi or tram (3, 6 or 9) to these hotels. Another bus from the airport to city centre is the local bus 615. Bus 615 has a stop very close to the Scandic Paasi and Hilton Strand in the Hakaniemi district (see Annex A for map). Participants who are staying at Hotel Arthur can take either bus to the Helsinki railway station, and walk from there. Both busses depart from the airport every 20 minutes. More information on local transportation can be found at <http://www.reittiopas.com/>. Taxis are available outside the arrivals hall at a cost of about €30-35 to the city centre, and the journey takes about 30 minutes.

6. Visa information



Participants requiring a visa for Finland (Schengen visa) are strongly advised to contact the nearest Finnish diplomatic or consular mission **as soon as possible** in order to secure the required entry visa in a timely manner, prior to departure.

A list of relevant Finnish diplomatic/consular missions abroad is available on the web site of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland at <http://formin.finland.fi/public/default.aspx?nodeid=15131&contentlan=2&culture=en-US>.

Information on application procedures for a Finnish visa can be found at following link: <http://formin-origin.finland.fi/Public/default.aspx?contentid=80711&nodeid=35334&contentlan=2&culture=en-US>.

To facilitate the issuance of visas, the Secretariat will issue, upon request, visa-assistance letters to be attached to the visa applications.

7. **Hotel information**

Participants are kindly reminded that **they must make their own hotel reservations**. It is advisable to reserve rooms as soon as possible as there are many other events taking place in the city at that time. Participants may avail themselves of the special rates offered by the hotels listed below by contacting the hotels directly. See Annex I for a map of hotels.

- 1) **Scandic Paasi** (adjoining the conference venue Paasitorni)
Paasivuorenkatu 5
00530 Helsinki, Finland
Tel.: +358 9 2311700
E-mail: paasi@scandichotels.com
Web site: <http://www.scandichotels.com/Hotels/Finland/Helsinki/Scandic-Paasi/#.Us-YjI2EEXw>

Room rates:

141 € single room / night (taxes and breakfast included)

161 € double room / night (taxes and breakfast included)

Reservations should be made through the hotel

(e-mail paasi@scandichotels.com or phone: +358 9 2311700)

by using reservation code **YMP030614** until **16th of February 2014**.

- 2) **Hilton Helsinki Strand** (walking distance from the conference venue Paasitorni)
John Stenbergin ranta 4
00530 Helsinki, Finland
Tel.: +358 9 393 51
Fax: +358 9 3935 3255
E-mail: helsinkistrand@hilton.com
Web site: www.hilton.fi/helsinki-strand

Room rates:

136,20 € single room / night (taxes and breakfast included)

156,20 € double room / night (taxes and breakfast included)

Reservations should be made through the Internet at www.helsinki.strand.hilton.com

Reservation code is **G1YMPA** (group/convention code on the website)

Reservation can also be made by phone + 358 9 393 51 or by email

helsinkistrand@hilton.com until **25th of February 2014.**

3) **Hotel Arthur** (walking distance from the conference venue Paasitorni)

Vuorikatu 19

00100 Helsinki, Finland

Tel.: +358 9 173 441

Fax: +358 9 626 880

E-mail reception@hotelarthur.fi

Web site www.hotelarthur.fi/en

Room rates:

95,80 € single room / night (taxes and breakfast included)

116 € double room / night (taxes and breakfast included)

Reservations should be made through the sales (email sales@hotelarthur.fi or phone: +358 9 1734 4200) or through the hotel (email reception@hotelarthur.fi or by phone +358 9 173 441)

by using reservation code **EBSA**

until **15th of February 2014.**

Further information on hotels in Helsinki can be found on the Official Travel Site of Finland at the following link: <http://www.visitfinland.com/>

8. Payment of the daily subsistence allowance (DSA)

Sponsored participants will receive their DSA on the first day of the workshop.

9. Official languages in Finland

The official languages in Finland are Finnish and Swedish.

10. Weather and time zone information



In March, temperatures in Helsinki usually range between a maximum of +1°C in the daytime and a minimum of - 6°C at night but much colder temperatures can occur. Please bring warm clothing for cold temperatures. Current weather conditions can be found at: <http://www.visithelsinki.fi/en/come/welcome-helsinki/climate-and-weather-in-helsinki>

The standard time zone is GMT/ UTC +2 hours.

11. Electricity

The electrical currents in Finland are 230 Volts, 50 Hertz, the plugs are as shown in the illustration below.



12. Currency



The currency in Finland is the Euro (€). The current exchange rate as at 29 January 2014 is US \$1.00 = €0.73 and €1.00 = US \$1.36 (source: www.xe.com).

13. Disclaimer

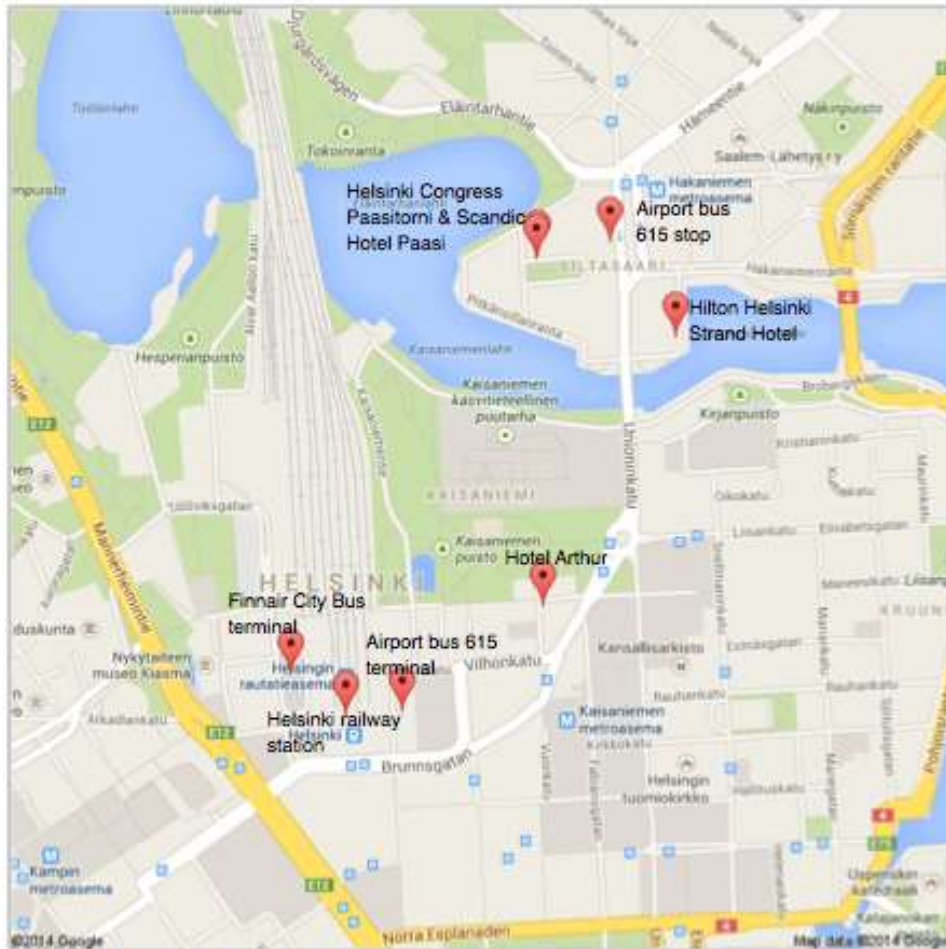
The CBD Secretariat disclaims all responsibilities for medical, accident and travel insurances, for compensation for death or disability compensation, for loss of or damage to personal property and for any other losses that may be incurred during travel time or the period of participation. In this context, it is strongly recommended that participants will secure international medical, accident and travel insurances for the period of participation prior to departure.

Annex A

The map is also found at the following link: <http://goo.gl/maps/39zNz>



<http://goo.gl/maps/39zNz>



Arctic Regional EBSA workshop Helsinki, March 3-7, 2014

Julkisen - 6 näyttökertaa
Luontopäivämäärä: tam 16 · Kirjoittanut suomalaiset · Päivitetty 2 tuntia sitten

-  Helsinki Congress Paasitomi
-  Scandic Hotel Paasi
-  Hilton Helsinki Strand Hotel
-  Hotel Arthur
-  Helsinki Railway station
-  Finnair City Bus terminal
-  Airport bus 615 bus stop (closest to the congress venue Helsinki Congress Paasitomi) Route of the bus 615 ends at the railway station.