



United Nations Environment Programme

برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة • 联合国环境规划署

PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT • PROGRAMA DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA EL MEDIO AMBIENTE
ПРОГРАММА ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫХ НАЦИЙ ПО ОКРУЖАЮЩЕЙ СРЕДЕ

INFORMATION FOR DELEGATES

Twenty-Fifth Session of the Governing Council/

Global Ministerial Environment Forum

16-20 February 2009

UNEP Headquarters, United Nations Complex, Gigiri
Nairobi, Kenya

I. INFORMATION FOR THOSE TRAVELLING TO KENYA

1. General Information

Kenya is located on the eastern coast of Africa, right on the equator. It is a land of striking landscapes, ranging from snow-capped Mount Kenya to rich farmlands, barren deserts and tropical beaches. It borders Somalia, Ethiopia and Sudan in the north, Uganda in the west, Tanzania in the south, and the Indian Ocean in the east. Kenya's capital city is Nairobi. Other major cities are Mombasa, the main port on the Indian Ocean and Kisumu on Lake Victoria. The eight provinces of Kenya range in geographical size from the small Nairobi Province to the much larger eastern and Rift Valley provinces. Kenya's national parks are wildlife, marine and botanical sanctuaries set aside to conserve their unique species and for educational and recreational enjoyment by Kenyans and tourists.

2. Time Zone

Kenya is GMT + 0300 hours.

3. Visas

All travellers arriving in Kenya should have a valid passport. All visa applicants must ensure that every application is accompanied by two original photographs. Visa application forms must be completed in triplicate.

Kenya entry visas for nationals from Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Cameroon, Iraq, Lebanon, Jordan, Mali, Nigeria, North Korea, Senegal, Somalia, Syria Arab Republic and Tajikistan require special advance clearance by the Kenyan authorities. **Participants from this category of countries are advised that it is imperative that they submit their completed visa application form to UNEP two months prior to their departure** for transmission to Kenya Immigration Office in Nairobi. A copy of the visa application form (V.1) is attached for your use. Please also attach first pages of the passport reflecting Passport Number, country of nationality, your personal photograph and issue and expiry dates. Please fax or send scanned copies via e-mail to Mr. Jamil Ahmad, Secretary, Governing Council (Fax: 254 20 7623929; E-mail: sgc.sgb@unep.org).

4. Health

A yellow fever vaccination certificate is mandatory for travelers over one year of age coming from countries where yellow fever may occur. Angola, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Cameroon, Colombia, Ecuador, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Peru Sierra Leone and Sudan have been indicated as countries where yellow fever may occur, but no guarantees can be given that no certificates are required from other countries. Malaria risk exists throughout the year in Kenya, though there is little risk in Nairobi and the highlands.

5. Weather

The temperature in Nairobi, early February ranges between 16°C at night and 30°C during the day. It is expected to be dry.

6. Electricity

240 Volts.

7. Official Language

The official languages of the Republic of Kenya are English and Kiswahili.

8. Currency

The official currency of the Republic of Kenya is the Kenya Shilling (Ksh). The current exchange rate vis-à-vis the US dollar is approximately KShs.75 for one US dollar and KShs. 110 for one Euro.

9. Credit cards

Major credit cards are accepted in most hotels and restaurants in the city.

II. INFORMATION FOR DELEGATES

10. Venue

The meetings are held at the United Nations Office at Nairobi (UNON), United Nations Avenue, Gigiri, Nairobi. Tel.: (254-20) 7621234, Fax: (254-20) 7622726.

11. Registration of delegates

Delegates are invited to pre-register. All delegates are requested to register on arrival at the Visitors Pavillion. Registration will be open from 1.00 p.m. on Thursday, 12 February 2009 and will continue until 12.00 noon on Friday, 20 February 2009. Delegates are reminded that the list of participants is based on the information provided by them at the time of registration and that inclusion in the list of participants is conditional upon official registration. UN sponsored delegates are requested to obtain from the registration desk at the time of registration, information and procedures related to payment of their allowance.

12. Badges

Identity badges will be issued to participants upon registration. For security reasons, all delegates are requested to wear the badges at all times.

13. List of delegates

A print out of the relevant entries for each delegation will be available in the registration area as soon as possible. Delegates are requested to check the entries carefully and hand in any corrections to the registration desk.

14. NGO Registration and other facilities

NGOs should register at the Visitors Pavillion, NGO Desk. NGO registration will be open on Wednesday, 11, February 2009 from 8.00 a.m. and will continue until Friday, 20 February during meeting hours.

15. Media registration and other facilities

Media representatives are requested to register at the Media Centre located at the lower level of the library. The Media Centre will be open during meeting hours. Please have a valid press card and letter from your editor to facilitate the accreditation process. Nairobi-based journalists will be given badges upon presentation of their current UN security passes. For more information please contact Mr. Nick Nuttal (254-20) 7623084 or Ms. Anne-France White (254-20) 7623088.

III. MEETINGS

16. Reservation of Meeting Rooms and Office Space

Meeting rooms are available for Regional Groups every day before the regular scheduled meetings. Due to various drafting groups and special events, availability during lunch hours and after the regular meetings needs to be confirmed on a daily basis with Mr. Francisco Vasquez, Tel.: (254-2) 7623124. Alternative meeting rooms may have to be provided. Requests for office space, including exact equipment requirements can also be directed to Mr. Vasquez. Equipment will be provided at cost. Due to the very limited availability of office space, not all requests may be honored (first come, first served).

17. Interpretation

Simultaneous interpretation will be available for the official meetings in the following languages: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish. Interpretation will not be available for regional or group meetings.

18. Documentation

The main pre-session documents for the meetings are dispatched to the national focal points. Documents are also available at the UNEP website at <http://www.unep.org/gc/gc25/> . Delegates are kindly reminded to bring their own documents. For reasons of economy and with the objective to reduce use of paper, documents will be available in Nairobi only in limited numbers. Official documents will be available at the document distribution center behind the registration desk. Non-official documents are available from the specially dedicated area in the corridor next to the Delegate Lounge.

IV. SERVICES FOR DELEGATES

19. Internet Café, Wi-fi

Free Internet access is available from the Internet Café, located at the upper concourse in front of the travel agency. Wi-fi facility will be available in and around the conference area, lounges and meeting rooms.

20. Exhibitions

Exhibitions are on display in the upper and lower lobby. Exhibitors are requested to inform UNEP Division of Communications and Public Information (DCPI) as soon as possible about the exact requirements for their exhibition space (Mr. Steve Jackson, (254-20) 7623332. UN contracted clearing agents for exhibition materials and equipment: Urgent Cargo Handling Limited (254-20) 7624320).

21. Video-conferencing Facility

Video-conferencing facilities are available at cost from the special dedicated room on the lower concourse of the Sergio de Mello Library. For bookings please contact Mr. Workineh Nebiyu (254-20) 7622484.

22. Commissary

Access to the UN Commissary will be extended for the duration of the session to all heads and deputy heads of delegation of governments, United Nations and inter-governmental organizations after they have officially registered their participation. Commissary passes will be provided at the Registration Desk. The Commissary is situated on the lower concourse and will be open from 9 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. on weekdays and 9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. on Saturdays.

23. Hotel reservations, airport transfers and transport for delegates

Participants are kindly requested to make their own hotel reservations. A list of recommended hotels in Nairobi, the rates and indication of some complementary services (including transfers from the airport to the hotels) is available on the UNEP website <http://www.unep.org/gc/gc25/> Express Travel Agency, which has an office at the arrival hall at the airport, will offer transfers from the Airport to the hotels at a cost. Delegates can book, at cost, transport from their hotel to the UN conference center in Gigiri from a special transport desk located in the lobby of the conference center. For logistical arrangements, participants should send information on flights, dates of arrival and departure together with the name of hotel they intend to stay in, to Mr. Jamil Ahmad, Secretary, Governing Council (Fax: 254 20 7623929; E-mail: sgc.sgb@unep.org)

24. Travel Agencies

There are two UN travel agents at the UN complex, BCD Travel Agency and Express Travel. They will be open from 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. BCD Travel Agency (Tel.: 254-20-7622349/2389/2390/2, 2437-39/2492, Fax: 254-20-7622754) is located at the Lower Concourse,

next to the Kenya Commercial Bank, whereas Express Travel Agency (Tel.: 254-20-7623824/5, 4974/5, 4987/8, 4992/3, Fax: 254-20-7624990) is located at the Upper Concourse adjacent to the staff lounge. You may wish to contact them for all your travel needs be it return bookings, tours and safaris, airport transfers, etc.

25. First Aid

Emergency first aid will be available throughout the duration of the meetings. The services of a doctor will be obtainable if required. A nurse will be on duty during meeting hours, and can be contacted in Block F, room 117, Tel.: 254-20-7622267/8. An ambulance is available 24 hours a day.

26. Business Center

The Business Center, located at the Lower Concourse opposite the entrance to the Press Centre, will provide services at cost to delegates. Services available include: photocopying, word-processing, telephone and fax, mobile phones, rental of office and meeting room equipment, inter alia, Projectors, PC's, copiers, fax machines, etc.

27. Postal Services

The post office with telegram, telex, fax and international telephone facilities, will be open from 8.30 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. every day of the week except on Saturday and Sunday. During office hours, public phones are available inside the Post Office for which cash payments may be made at the counter. Pay phones, for use with phone-cards, may be purchased from the Post Office.

28. Courier Services

DHL office will be open from 8.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. every day of the week except Saturday and Sunday. DHL is located at the lower concourse, inside the Post Office adjacent to the Kenya Commercial Bank, UN Gigiri Branch. Their telephone extensions are 2579 and 2580.

29. Telephone Calls

Delegates are kindly requested to refrain from using telephones at the Registration Desk as they are for internal use by Secretariat staff only. Calls to the city can be made from the telephone facility near the post office and from the business center.

30. Banking Services

Branch of the Kenya Commercial Bank will be open on weekdays from 9.00 a.m. 4.00 p.m. daily.

31. Catering Services

There are two caterers on the UN Complex contracted to provide food and beverages for breakfast, lunch as well as snacks during coffee breaks for staff and visiting delegates participating in conferences. These caterers can also organize food and drinks for private functions, dinners and receptions:

CAFE ROYALE

Location: Central Area, Main Restaurant

Offers international cuisine, local dishes, steaks and French fries, snacks, salad bar, fresh fruits, yogurts, beverages, tea and coffee.

Delegate Lounge: Snacks, light lunches, pastries, beverages, tea and coffee.

Contact person - Amina
Telephone 254-20-7622463
E-mail: Cafe Royale/UNON/NBO/UNO
Cell No: 254-2-0735564547

CAZ CRÉOLE

Location: Old Cafeteria

Offers continental buffet on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. BBQ, including full salad bar on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Fresh sandwiches made to order (French bread or toasted). Assorted pastries and cakes, soups, full salad bar. Fresh fruit salads and yogurts. Beverages, tea and coffee.

Contact person: Gini
Telephone 254-20-7622647
E-mail: cazcreole777@gmail.com
Cellphone No: 254-2-733969748/254-2-725109097