



Convention on Biological Diversity

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WORKSHOP ON THE AMAZON REGIONAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY
Quito, Ecuador, 11-12 July 2011

AND

REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON THE UPDATING AND REVISION OF
NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGIES AND ACTION PLANS
(NBSAP) FOR SOUTH AMERICA
Quito, Ecuador, 13-15 July 2011

INFORMATION NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS

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1. Opening and registration

The Workshop on the Amazon Regional Biodiversity Strategy will be held in Quito, Ecuador from Monday, 11 July to Tuesday, 12 July 2011. The workshop will start at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, 11 July 2011 and registration will take place at the venue of the workshop at 8:00 a.m. the same day.

The Regional Workshop on the updating and revision of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAP) for South America will be held in Quito, Ecuador from Wednesday, 13 July to Friday, 15 July 2011. The workshop will start at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, 13 July 2011 and registration will take place at the venue of the workshop at 8:00 a.m. the same day. The workshop should conclude at about 5:30 p.m. on 15 July 2011.

2. Venue

The workshop will be held at:

**Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, Comercio e Integración
República del Ecuador**

Carrión E1-76 y Av. 10 de Agosto
Quito, Ecuador
Tel: +(593 2) 299-3200

Please note that the hotel recommended below is walking distance from the meeting venue.

3. Working language

The workshop will be held in Spanish with interpretation into 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. Pre-session documents are on the Secretariat's web site at the links of each meeting listed below:

The Workshop on the Amazon Regional Biodiversity Strategy:

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=CBWNBSAP-AMAZON-02>

The Regional Workshop on the updating and revision of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAP) for South America:

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=CBWNBSAP-SAM-02>

5. General information on access to Quito, Ecuador

Quito is serviced by the Mariscal Sucre International Airport (8 km from downtown). Taxis are available at the airport, the cost is approximately US \$5-10 and the journey takes about 20-30 minutes. Take only official taxis, clearly identified by a sticker on the windshield and by

their number painted on the side. There is an airport shuttle service available from the Hilton Colon Quito, however, a reservation is required for the service.

6. Visa information



Participants from countries listed in **annex A** below require an entry visa for Ecuador and are strongly advised to contact the nearest Ecuadorian 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 Ecuadorian diplomatic/consular missions abroad is available on the web site: <http://www.embassyconsulates.com/ecuador-embassy/all-embassy-worldwide.html>

Information on visa procedures, is available on the web site of the Ministry of External Relations, Commerce and Integration of Ecuador (in Spanish only) at: <http://www.mmrree.gob.ec/servicios/visas.asp>. The visa application form is at the following link: http://www.mmrree.gob.ec/servicios/solicitud_visas.pdf

Visa requirements are as follows:

- Valid passport (minimum of 6 months validity);
- Completed visa application form;
- Two (2) passport sized pictures;
- Copy of return ticket;
- Copy of invitation;
- Visa fee if required.

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

7. Health information

The International travel, health and vaccination requirements for travel to Ecuador can be obtained from the World Health Organization (WHO) web site: <http://apps.who.int/tools/geoserver/www/ith/index.html>. There are vaccinations that are recommended.

A yellow fever vaccination certificate is required from travellers over one year of age travelling to the following provinces east of the Andes at altitudes below 2300 m: Morona-Santiago, Napo, Orellana, Pastaza, Sucumbios and Zamora-Chinchi (see Map). Generally not recommended for travellers whose itineraries are limited to the following provinces west of the Andes and at altitudes below 2300 m: Esmeraldas, Guayas, Los Rios and Manabi, and designated areas of Azuay, Bolivar, Canar, Carchi, Chimborazo, Cotopaxi, El Oro, Imbabura, Loja, Pichincha and Tungurahua (see Map). Not recommended for travellers whose itineraries are limited to all areas above 2300 m altitude, the cities of Guayaquil and Quito, and the Galápagos Islands.

There is a risk of Malaria which exists throughout the year at altitudes below 1500 metres, with moderate transmission risk in coastal provinces. There is no risk in Guayaquil, Quito and other cities of the inter-Andean region.

For more information, please consult a medical professional with regard to the vaccination requirements for your travel.

8. Hotel information

Sponsored participants

A block booking has been made on behalf of all sponsored participants attending both workshops at the Hilton Colon Quito Hotel (see details below). Reservations will be made for sponsored participants for the duration of the workshops based on the participant's individual itinerary.

Non-sponsored participants

Non-sponsored participants may wish to avail themselves of the special rate at US \$81.00 for a single room, US \$90 for a double room, which includes breakfast and a tourist tax of US \$2.00 per day (VAT and service tax not included). Participants are required to contact the hotel directly referring to the workshops. The contact person's coordinates are listed below.

Ms. Alexandra Martínez
Government Account Manager
Hilton Colon Quito Hotel
Av. Amazonas N. 1914 y Patria avenida 1
Quito, Ecuador
Telephone: +(593 2) 2560-666 / 2561-333
Fax: +(593 2) 2563-903
E-mail: alexandra.martinez@hiltoncolon.com

9. Payment of the daily subsistence allowances (DSA)

The DSA will be paid to the sponsored participants on the first day of the workshop.

10. Official language

The official language in Ecuador is Spanish.

11. Weather and time zone information



In July, which is the driest month, average temperatures in Quito usually range between a maximum of +19°C in the daytime and a minimum of +9°C at night. Current weather conditions in the area can be found at: <http://www.inamhi.gov.ec/pronostico/manana.htm> (in Spanish).

The standard time zone will be GMT/UTC -5 hours.

12. Electricity

The electrical currents are 120 volts, 60 Hertz a two-pin flat and vertical with a ground connection as shown in the illustration below.



13. Currency



The currency in Ecuador is the US Dollar. The current exchange rate as at 27 June 2011 is US \$1 = € 0.70 and € 1 = US \$1.43.

14. 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 REQUIRE VISAS IN ORDER TO ENTER ECUADORAS VISITORS (AS LISTED ON THE WEB SITE OF THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, COMMERCE AND INTEGRATION OF ECUADOR)

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

A

Afghanistan
Algeria
Angola
Antigua and Barbuda
Australia
Austria

B

Bahrain
Belgium
Belize
Botswana
Brunei Darussalam
Bulgaria
Burkina Faso
Burundi

C

Canada
Cambodia
Cameroon
Central African Republic
Chad
China
Congo, Democratic
Republic of the
Congo, Republic of the
Costa Rica
Croatia
Cuba
Cyprus
Czech Republic

D

Djibouti
Denmark

E

Egypt
El Salvador
Estonia
Ethiopia

F

Finland
France

G

Gabon
Gambia
Georgia
Germany
Ghana
Greece
Guatemala
Guinea

H

Haiti
Holy See
Hungary

I

India
Indonesia
Iran, Islamic Republic of
Iraq
Ireland
Italy

J

Japan
Jordan

K

Kenya
Kuwait

L

Lao, People's Democratic
Republic of
Latvia
Lebanon
Lesotho
Lithuania
Luxembourg

M

Madagascar
Malawi
Malta
Mexico
Monaco
Morocco

N

Namibia
Netherlands
New Zealand
Nicaragua
Niger
Nigeria
Norway

P

Pakistan
Palestinian Authority
Panama
Poland
Portugal

R

Romania
Russian Federation
Rwanda

S

Sao Tomé e Príncipe
Senegal
Sierra Leone
Slovakia
Slovenia
Somalia
Spain
Sudan
Sweden
Switzerland
Syrian Arab Republic

T

Tajikistan
Tanzania, United Republic
of
Thailand
The former Yugoslav
Republic of Macedonia
Tunisia
Turkmenistan

U

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

V

Venezuela
Viet Nam

Y

Yemen

Z

Zambia
Zimbabwe

