



Convention on Biological Diversity

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REGIONAL CAPACITY-BUILDING WORKSHOP FOR WEST AFRICA ON NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGIES AND ACTION PLANS AND MAINSTREAMING OF BIODIVERSITY

Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso
29 September – 3 October 2008

INFORMATION NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS

1. VENUE

The regional workshop for countries of West Africa, Comoros, and Djibouti, on capacity-building for national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) and mainstreaming biodiversity into sectoral and cross-sectoral plans and policies at the national and regional level, will be held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, from 29 September through 3 October 2008.

The workshop will take place at the offices of the Commission of l'Union Economique et Monétaire Ouest Africaine (UEMOA) in Ouagadougou.

l'Union Economique et Monétaire Ouest Africaine (UEMOA)
Avenue du Professeur Joseph KI-ZERBO
01 BP 543 Ouagadougou 01
Burkina Faso
<http://www.uemoa.int/index.htm>

Internet and fax facilities are available at the hotel. Further details are available at:
http://www.soritelfaso.bf/index_2.htm

2. HOTEL BOOKING AND AIRPORT TRANSFERS

A block booking has been made on behalf of all **sponsored** participants at the SORITEL HOTEL in Ouagadougou. Participants are not required to confirm their reservation with the hotel (reservations will be confirmed with the hotel by the Secretariat's contact persons in Ouagadougou upon finalization of the participant's flight itinerary).

Hotel Soritel
Angle: 370 Av. Du Dr Kwame N'Krumah
216 Av. Waogyandé
Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso
Tel: (226) 50 33 04 78 / 50 33 05 79

Transportation from the airport to the hotel will be provided.

More information on the hotel is available at: http://www.soritelfaso.bf/index_2.htm

Non-sponsored participants may request that a hotel booking be made for them or may make their own hotel bookings. In the case of non-sponsored participants, payment of hotel accommodation is the responsibility of the participant.

3. CONTACT PERSONS

The contact persons in Burkina Faso are:

Flights:

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4. OPENING AND REGISTRATION

The opening of the workshop will be at 9h00 on Monday, 29 September 2008. Registration will begin at 08h30 on the same day.

5. WORKING LANGUAGE OF THE WORKSHOP

This workshop will be conducted in French, with English translation for Anglophone participants.

6. DOCUMENTS

Documents for the workshop are available on the Secretariat's web site at: <http://www.cbd.int/nbsap/workshops/west-africa.shtml>

7. VISAS

Persons entering Burkina Faso will need to have a valid passport and required visas. Participants who are not able to obtain visas beforehand should ensure that they have their letter of invitation to the workshop on hand and cash to pay for the visa (50 000 Francs CFA will be sufficient however the amount varies according to the country of origin).

Further information on visa requirements is available at: <http://www.mae.gov.bf/SiteMae/infos-burkina/venir-burkina.html#passeports>

8. HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

An international certificate of vaccination for yellow fever is required upon arrival from all countries. Recommended vaccinations include Hepatitis A and B, typhoid, polio, meningococcal diseases and rabies. Participants are also advised to take antimalarial drugs (Chemoprophylaxis) and to use insect repellent sprays and creams.

Further information is available on the World Health Organization website at: <http://www.who.int/ith/countries/bfa/en/> and <http://www.who.int/ith/countries/vaccination/en/index.html>

9. PAYMENT OF DAILY SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE (DSA)

A relevant portion of the DSA will be paid to sponsored participants by the Secretariat on the first day of the workshop.

10. CURRENCY AND RATE OF EXCHANGE

The Central Africa CFA Franc is the official currency of Burkina Faso. A currency converter is available at: <http://www.xe.com/ucc/>. Foreign currencies and traveller's cheques can be exchanged at banks, bureaux de change and airports, railway stations, ports and major hotels in Burkina Faso at the official exchange rates.

11. CREDIT CARDS

American Express, Diners Club, MasterCard and Visa are widely accepted in Burkina Faso, as are international traveller's cheques in Stirling Pounds, Euro, US Dollars.

12. OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

French is the official language of Burkina Faso.

13. TIME ZONE

Burkina Faso falls within GMT/UTC +0 (see <http://www.worldtimezone.com/>).

14. WEATHER CONDITIONS

A current weather report is available at:

<http://weather.weatherbug.com/Burkina%20Faso/Ouagadougou-weather.html?zcode=z6286>

15. CLOTHING FOR FIELD VISIT

As a field visit is planned, participants are strongly advised to bring appropriate clothing. Participants may also wish to include some long-sleeved shirts or blouses that provide greater protection against possible insect bites. Participants are recommended to use insect repellent sprays and creams.

16. VOLTAGE

The electrical current is 220 volts, 50Hz. Round two-pin attachment plugs are in use (view images at <http://www.kropla.com!/c.htm> and <http://www.kropla.com!/e.htm>).

17. 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 that participants secure, prior to departure, international travel and medical insurance for the period of travel and participation.
