

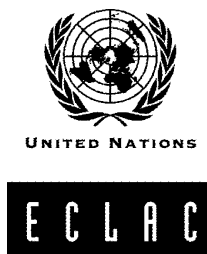
# IV Meeting of the negotiating committee of the regional agreement on access to information, participation and justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean

Santo Domingo, 9-12 August 2016

## FOURTH MEETING OF THE NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONAL AGREEMENT ON ACCESS TO INFORMATION, PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND JUSTICE IN ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Santo Domingo, 9-12 August 2016

### GENERAL INFORMATION



## PRESENTATION

The fourth meeting of the negotiating committee of the regional agreement on access to information, public participation and justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean will be held in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, from 9 to 12 August 2016.

The purpose of this document is to provide delegates with useful information to facilitate their work at this meeting.

The coordinators of this meeting will be pleased to answer any questions you may have concerning the logistics or organization of the event, whether before or during the session.

### 1. General information on the Dominican Republic

#### Location

The Dominican Republic occupies two thirds of the island of Hispaniola. Located between Cuba and Puerto Rico, it is one of the Caribbean's leading tourist destinations and an ideal place for investment and trade. The country is divided into 32 provinces and its capital is Santo Domingo.

#### Climate

The climate is tropical and the average temperature in Santo Domingo in August is around 30°C/82°F.

#### Official website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Dominican Republic:

<http://www.mirex.gob.do/>

#### Useful information

<b>CURRENCY</b>	The currency of the Dominican Republic is the Dominican peso. The exchange rate fluctuates between 44.40 pesos and 44.90 pesos to the United States dollar. Most commercial establishments accept international credit cards. Travellers may change dollars and euros into Dominican pesos at currency exchange bureaux at the airport or in commercial banks.
<b>LOCAL TIME</b>	UTC/GMT -4 hours.
<b>ELECTRICITY</b>	110 volts.
<b>AIRPORT TAX</b>	The fee for the airport tax/tourist card is US\$ 10.
<b>TIPPING</b>	All taxes and gratuities are included in the hotel room rate. However, an additional tip may be given if a specific service is felt to have been outstanding.
<b>TAXIS</b>	Delegates are advised to use radio taxis, such as those found at hotel entrances. Taxis charge according to the meter. Delegates are advised to ask the fare when booking a taxi or before getting into the vehicle.  Chauffeured car rental services, which charge according to the meter or time, are also available.

## 2. Meeting venue

The fourth meeting of the negotiating committee of the regional agreement on access to information, public participation and justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean will be held in the Caribe Conference Room of the Hotel Crowne Plaza Santo Domingo.

### HOTEL CROWNE PLAZA SANTO DOMINGO

Address: Avenida George Washington, 218  
Santo Domingo  
Telephone: (1-809) 221-0000  
Website: <http://www.crowneplaza.com/santodomingo>

## 3. Meeting coordination

The meeting will be organized by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Dominican Republic.

For substantive information on the meeting, please contact: Carlos de Miguel, Chief, Policies for Sustainable Development Unit, and Valeria Torres, Economic Affairs Officer, Sustainable Development and Human Settlements Division, ECLAC ([principio10.lac@cepal.org](mailto:principio10.lac@cepal.org), tel. (56) 2 2210 2224 and (56) 2 2210 2310).

For information on operational aspects of the meeting, please contact: María Paz Rivera ([mariapaz.rivera@cepal.org](mailto:mariapaz.rivera@cepal.org), tel. (56) 2 2210 2618).

## 4. Hotel reservations

The ECLAC Conference Services Unit has reserved a limited number of rooms at special rates in the hotel where the meeting is being held:

### HOTEL CROWNE PLAZA SANTO DOMINGO (5\*)

Standard single room: US\$ 110 plus 28% tax  
Standard double room: US\$ 120 plus 28% tax

(Rates include buffet breakfast, lunch and Internet)

Avenida George Washington, 218, Santo Domingo  
Telephone: (1-809) 221-1181  
Contact: Grisely Baez, Sales Manager  
E-mail [grisely.baez@ihq.com](mailto:grisely.baez@ihq.com)

<http://www.crowneplaza.com/santodomingo>

Reservations should be made directly with the hotel **by 1<sup>st</sup> August 2016**. After that date, the hotel reserves the right to modify the rate and cannot guarantee room availability. Please use the form on page 6 to make a reservation.

Delegates are responsible for their own reservations. It is therefore advisable to check that the hotel has processed your reservation and to request a reservation number or confirmation code.

A credit card number is required to hold the reservation. Hotels in the Dominican Republic apply a “no show” policy; cardholders may cancel reservations up to 24 hours in advance, failing which they will be charged for the first night. All delegates must settle their own hotel bill at the end of their stay.

## 5. Entry requirements for the Dominican Republic

Holders of regular, diplomatic or official passports should contact the embassy or consulate of the Dominican Republic in their country to request information on applicable entry requirements. Citizens of some countries do not require a visa to visit the Dominican Republic.

Information on entry requirements for the Dominican Republic may be consulted online at the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (in Spanish): <http://consuladord.com/contenidos.aspx?cid=82&lang=ES>.

Delegates are responsible for obtaining their own visas for entry into the Dominican Republic, if required.

## 6. Local transport

Conference participants are responsible for their own transportation between the airport and the hotel. Taxis are available at Las Américas International Airport. Delegates are advised to use SICHALA Taxi Company, which is authorized by the National District City Council. Please find below the contact information for this company and for the official taxi service of the hotel where the meeting will be held.

TAXI COMPANY	INTERNET RESERVATION PAGE	TELEPHONE	RATES: AIRPORT TO HOTEL/HOTEL TO AIRPORT
SICHALA	<a href="mailto:sichala.reservaciones@gmail.com">sichala.reservaciones@gmail.com</a>	809-549-0245	US\$ 40
TAXI CROWNE PLAZA	<a href="mailto:sdqha.instantsservices@ihg.com">sdqha.instantsservices@ihg.com</a>	809-221-0000	US\$ 40

As a basic security measure, participants are advised to take a taxi at the hotel entrance or request a radio taxi at the commercial establishment or tourist site they are visiting.

Participants entitled to transport services provided by their country’s diplomatic mission in the Dominican Republic should contact that mission directly.

## 7. Registration of participants

An online registration system will be available on the ECLAC website (<http://negociacionp10.cepal.org/4/en>) from **Monday, 27 June**.

Accreditation will begin at 8.30 a.m. on Monday, 8 August in the lobby of Onix Conference Room at the Hotel Crowne Plaza.

Participants will be issued with an identification badge, which, for security purposes, must be shown at all meetings.

For further information on accreditation, please contact Paula Warnken ([paula.warnken@cepal.org](mailto:paula.warnken@cepal.org), tel. (56) 2 2210 2651) or María Paz Rivera ([mariapaz.rivera@cepal.org](mailto:mariapaz.rivera@cepal.org), tel. (56) 2 2210 2618).

Online registration **does not exempt** delegations from the requirement of providing official notification of the name of the head of delegation and all accompanying members.

### **8. Opening session**

The opening session of the meeting will begin at 9.30 a.m. on Tuesday, 9 August.

### **9. Internet**

The offices and conference rooms set aside for the meeting will have wireless Internet access (Wi-Fi).

### **10. Languages**

The official languages of the meeting will be Spanish and English. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided.

### **11. Medical services**

The Government of the Dominican Republic will provide first aid services in case emergency medical assistance is required at the meeting venue.

### **12. Documents**

This will be a paper-smart meeting. All documents and official declarations will be available for consultation and download on the website: <http://negociacionp10.cepal.org/4/en>. Delegates are advised to bring their laptops, tablets or other mobile devices as a limited quantity of printed documents will be available.



**UNITED NATIONS**  
**FOURTH MEETING OF THE NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONAL AGREEMENT ON**  
**ACCESS TO INFORMATION, PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND JUSTICE IN ENVIRONMENTAL**  
**MATTERS IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, 9-12 August 2016

**HOTEL RESERVATION REQUEST FORM**

First name:		Last Name:	
Head of delegation <input type="checkbox"/>	Delegate <input type="checkbox"/>	Observer <input type="checkbox"/>	Special guest <input type="checkbox"/>
Official title:			
Organization or institution:			
Address:			
City:		Country:	
Telephone:	Fax:	E-mail:	

Hotel information:

<b>HOTEL CROWNE PLAZA SANTO DOMINGO (5*)</b> Av. George Washington, 218 Santo Domingo Telephone: (1-809) 221-1181  Standard single <input type="checkbox"/> US\$ 110 * Standard double <input type="checkbox"/> US\$ 120 *  * Plus 28% tax. Includes buffet breakfast, lunch and Internet. E-mail: Grisely Báez, Sales Manager  Contact: <a href="mailto:grisely.baez@ihg.com">grisely.baez@ihg.com</a>		
Date of arrival:	Flight number:	Time (approx):
Date of departure:	Flight number:	Time (approx):

I authorize use of the following credit card to secure my reservation:

American Express <input type="checkbox"/>	Master Card <input type="checkbox"/>	Visa <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <input type="checkbox"/>
Credit card number and security code:			Expiration date:

Reservations should be made directly with the hotel **by 1<sup>st</sup> August**. Delegates are responsible for their own reservations. It is advisable to check that the hotel has processed your request and to ask for a reservation number or confirmation code. To guarantee reservations, delegates are required to indicate their flight number and time and date of arrival in and departure from the Dominican Republic, as well as credit card details.