



**FIFTH 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**

**Santiago, 21-25 November 2016**

**GENERAL INFORMATION**



UNITED NATIONS



## INTRODUCTION

The fifth 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 Santiago from 21 to 25 November 2016.

This document is intended to provide delegates with useful information to facilitate their work at the meeting.

The meeting coordinators will be available to answer any questions concerning logistical or organizational matters that you may wish to ask before or during the event.

### 1. General information on Chile

#### Geographical location

Chile is located in the extreme south-west of South America. The capital city is Santiago and the country has a total population of approximately 18 million. It is located between the Pacific Ocean and the Andes mountains, and its long, thin territory is divided into 15 administrative regions.

#### The capital city

Santiago is the capital of Chile, and its broader metropolitan region is home to seven million inhabitants. It has a Mediterranean climate and well-defined seasons, with rainy winters (from May to September) with minimum temperatures as low as 0°C, and dry summers (from November to March) with highs of around 30°C. Evenings are cool and relative humidity is low.

It is suggested that visitors drink bottled mineral water, since tap water, although safe to drink, may not agree with those not accustomed to it.

As in all big cities, it is advisable to avoid wearing expensive jewellery and to be careful with handbags and briefcases.

#### Useful information

<b>LOCAL CURRENCY</b>	The national currency is the Chilean peso (\$). The exchange rate is approximately 668 pesos to the dollar (August 2016).
<b>LOCAL TIME</b>	UTC/GMT -3 (at the date of the meeting).
<b>ELECTRICITY</b>	220 volts, 50 Hertz (AC).
<b>AIRPORT TAX</b>	Airport tax is included in ticket prices.
<b>TIPPING</b>	Tipping is usual practice in Chile, as in many other parts of the world. It is customary to leave a tip of about 10% of the total bill in restaurants.

## 2. Meeting venue

The fifth 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 Celso Furtado conference room at ECLAC headquarters, located at Av. Dag Hammarskjöld 3477, Vitacura, Santiago. There is an alternative entrance at Av. Alonso de Córdova 3170.

## 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 Chile.

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 with special rates for ECLAC at the following hotel:

- Hotel Director (\*\*\*\*), Av. Vitacura 3600, Tel: (+56) 2 2389 1956  
Single room: 140 dólares (includes breakfast and internet)  
Contact: María Eliana Puga y Patricia Crisóstomo, Reservations Department  
Email: [reservas@director.cl](mailto:reservas@director.cl) / [reservaciones@director.cl](mailto:reservaciones@director.cl)  
Código grupo: 716164  
Fecha Deadline: 20 de octubre, 2016
- Apart Hotel Rent a Home, El Bosque Norte, Ebro 2799, Tel: (+56) 2233-9726, 2234-2314  
Habitación simple: 90 dólares (incluye desayuno e internet Transfer in - out)  
Atn: María Ramírez/Carla Benavides  
Email: [reservas@rentahome.cl](mailto:reservas@rentahome.cl)  
Código grupo: 49974  
Fecha Deadline: 20 de octubre, 2016

These rates do not include value added tax (VAT) of 19%. Guests who pay in dollars using cash, travellers' cheques or an international credit card are exempt from payment of VAT.

Requests for reservations should be addressed directly to the hotel by the deadline given on the hotel reservation form attached. After this date, the hotel reserves the right to change the rate and cannot guarantee that rooms will be available.

*To maintain the special ECLAC rate, hotel reservations must be requested personally, not through agencies or other means. Delegates are responsible for their own reservations. You are advised to check that the hotel has processed your reservation and to request a reservation number or confirmation code.*

*The hotel requires your flight number and date of arrival in and departure from Chile, as well as credit card details, in order to guarantee the reservation. Please complete in full the attached reservation form, which requests all the required details.*

## 5. Visas and entry requirements for Chile

Participants must be in possession of a passport valid for at least six months beyond the date of entry into Chile.

Delegates from countries whose citizens require a visa to enter Chile should apply for one in advance at their nearest Chilean embassy or consulate.

To find out whether you require a visa, go to the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chile (<http://chileabroad.gov.cl/consulados/>) and click on the name of your country to find the contact details of your nearest Chilean embassy or consulate.

## 6. Transport from the airport to Santiago

The companies Transvip and Transfer Delfos operate minivan services from the airport, offering passenger transportation to different areas of the city. Each van can transport 10 to 12 passengers, at an approximate cost of US\$ 15 per person. Visitors preferring to take a taxi are advised to use the firms Taxi Oficial or Transvip, which are also located at the airport; fares to the city vary between US\$ 35 and US\$ 40 depending on the destination.

Santiago's public transport system includes buses, taxis and five subway lines. Taxi fares are metered and, in general, drivers do not expect tips.

## 7. Registration

The online registration system for participants is available on the ECLAC website (<http://negociacionp10.cepal.org/5/en>).

Registration of delegates will take place at the hall entrance of the Celso Furtado conference room on Monday 21 November, starting at 8.30 a.m.

Participants will be issued with identification badges which, for security purposes, must be visible and shown at all meetings.

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

Online registration **does not exempt** delegations from the requirement to provide 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 9.00 a.m. on Monday 21 November.

## 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. 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/5/en>. Delegates are advised to bring their laptops, tablets or other mobile devices as a limited quantity of printed documents will be available.

## 12. Facilities and services at ECLAC

<b>Travel agency</b>	Flight reservations and confirmations are handled by Carlson Wagonlit Travel, located on the first basement level of the ECLAC building (office 1S7).
<b>Bank</b>	A branch of Banco de Chile is located on the first basement level. It is open to the public from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Foreign currency may be exchanged from 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.
<b>Food and beverages</b>	ECLAC has a cafeteria and a coffee shop, which are open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Food and drinks must be paid for directly by participants.
<b>Medical services</b>	First aid is provided by the ECLAC Medical Service, located on the ground floor of the main building (office Z-210), telephone extension 2333. It is open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 2.30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

## 13. Interesting places to visit in Santiago

<b>Pueblito Los Dominicos</b>	A handicraft village located close to the foot of the Andes towards the east of the city of Santiago. It offers a diverse
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selection of traditional and contemporary crafts, including furniture, textiles and paintings.

**Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes**

The fine arts museum is a major centre for the arts in Chile. It is situated in Santiago's Parque Forestal.

**Museo de Arte Precolombino**

This museum is at the cutting edge in terms of preserving, displaying and studying the continent's pre-Columbian artistic legacy. It has an extensive collection of art from ancient cultures, such as the Incas and Diaguitas. It is located in downtown Santiago.

**Teatro Municipal de Santiago**

Built in 1857, Santiago's municipal theatre is a national monument of renowned architectural beauty. It is one of the foremost cultural centres in Chile and hosts performances of opera, ballet and concerts.

**Palacio de La Moneda**

The Government Palace, located in downtown Santiago, is the only building of the pure Italian neoclassical style in Latin America. Its cultural centre provides the venue for a range of national and international visual and audiovisual exhibitions.

**Plaza de Armas**

Located at the heart of Santiago, this square has been the civic centre since colonial times. The cathedral in the square is a national monument and has an interesting museum, whose main attraction is its library containing manuscripts by key figures from Chile's history. Other major historical buildings on the Plaza de Armas are the Municipality of Santiago and the central post office.

**Barrio Bellavista**

This district, with its unique urban identity, combines a large variety of handicrafts and clothing shops with a wide range of restaurants serving diverse specialties of international cuisine. Bellavista nestles between the northern bank of the Mapocho River and the foot of San Cristóbal Hill. Its exotic architecture makes it feel like a kind of open-air museum. A stroll along its streets offers the visitor a potpourri of art galleries, theatres, lapis lazuli jewellery shops, restaurants and parks, including the city zoo.



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**HOTEL RESERVATION REQUEST FORM**

<b>Nombre/Name:</b>		<b>Apellido/Last Name:</b>	
<b>Dirección/Address:</b>			
<b>Ciudad/City:</b>		<b>País/Country:</b>	
<b>Teléfono/ Phone:</b>		<b>Fax:</b>	<b>Correo electrónico/E-Mail:</b>
<b>Hotel Director (****)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Av. Vitacura 3600 Tel: (+56) 2 2389 1956 <b>Habitación simple: 140 dólares</b> <b>(Incluye desayuno e internet)</b>  <b>Atn: María Eliana Puga,</b> <b>Departamento de Reservas</b> <a href="mailto:reservas@director.cl">reservas@director.cl</a>  <b>Código grupo: 716164</b> <b>Fecha Deadline: 20 de octubre, 2016</b>		<b>Apart Hotel Rent a Home</b> <input type="checkbox"/> El Bosque Norte, Ebro 2799 Tel: (+56) 2233-9726 2234-2314 <b>Habitación simple: 90 dólares</b> <b>(incluye desayuno e internet</b> <b>Transfer in - out)</b>  <b>Atn:María Ramírez/Carla Benavides</b> <b>reservas@rentahome.cl</b>  <b>Código grupo: 49974</b> <b>Fecha Deadline: 20 de octubre, 2016</b>	
<b>Fecha de llegada al país:</b> <b>Date of arrival:</b>		<b>Nº de vuelo:</b> <b>Flight Nº:</b>	
<b>Fecha de salida del país:</b> <b>Date of departure:</b>		<b>Nº de vuelo:</b> <b>Flight Nº:</b>	

**Autorizo el uso de la siguiente tarjeta de crédito a fin de garantizar mi reserva de hotel/  
I authorize the use of my credit card to guarantee my hotel reservation:**

<b>American Express</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Master Card</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Visa</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Otra/Other</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Nº de tarjeta de crédito/Credit card Nº:</b>			
<b>Fecha de vencimiento:</b> <b>Date of expiration:</b>			

**Visitors paying in dollars, with travellers' cheques or with international credit cards are exempt from VAT.** Reservations should be made directly with the hotel **by 20 October**. 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 Santiago, as well as credit card details.