



**SEVENTH 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**

**Buenos Aires, 31 July to 4 August 2017**

**GENERAL INFORMATION**



**Presidencia  
de la Nación**

## **INTRODUCTION**

The seventh 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 will be held in Buenos Aires, from 31 July to 4 August 2017.

This document is intended to provide delegations 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 delegates may have before or during the event.

### **1. General information on Argentina**

#### **Geographical location**

Argentina is one of the southernmost countries of South America. It is the eighth largest country in the world and the second largest in Latin America in terms of surface area. It covers 2.8 million km<sup>2</sup> on the South American continent and 966,000 km<sup>2</sup> in Antarctica.

The country spans 3,694 km from north to south (between latitudes 21° and 55°), and 1,423 km from east to west (between longitudes 53° and 63°).

Argentina's coast is on the South Atlantic Ocean and it has access to the South Pacific Ocean through the Strait of Magellan.

The country borders Uruguay, Brazil and the Atlantic Ocean in the east, Chile in the west and south, and the Plurinational State of Bolivia and Paraguay in the north.

Argentina's geographical location affords it direct access to a regional market of 236 million people, in addition to its own roughly 41 million inhabitants.

#### **Climate**

Argentina is extremely biodiverse, with multiple climates and varied topography owing to its large size and diverse geographical features.

The country's climate ranges from tropical to temperate to arid to cold, owing to its varied landscapes and topography, which include ice fields, arid lands, mountainous terrain with plateaus, plains, and grassland vegetation as well as woods and rainforests.

These characteristics offer good conditions for a wide range of cultivation and production activities throughout the country.

The arid climate covers a region running from the north-east to the south-east of the country (la Puna, los Andes de Catamarca, La Rioja and San Juan, and extra-Andean Patagonia), while a temperate climate prevails in the provinces of Buenos Aires, part of Entre Ríos, central and southern Santa Fe, eastern Córdoba and north-eastern La Pampa. Conditions

are hot and humid in the provinces of Misiones and Corrientes, the north of Entre Ríos and east of the Chaco region and the sub-Andean zones of Jujuy and Salta. Warm and dry weather extends along the western part of the Chaco region, and finally the cold climate dominates the humid lands of the Patagonian Andes, extending along the south-west of the country.

**Official website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship:** <http://www.mrecic.gov.ar>

#### **Useful information for visitors**

<b>Local currency</b>	The currency unit is the peso (ARS), and US\$ 1 = 15.44 pesos (April 2017).
<b>Local time</b>	UTC or GMT -3 hours.
<b>Electricity</b>	220 volts, 50 Hz.
<b>Tipping</b>	Tips are not included in hotel or restaurant bills. It is customary to leave a tip of 10% of the total bill.
<b>Taxis</b>	Taxis are black with yellow roofs. There should be a yellow circle on the driver's door and on the front passenger door, inside of which "TAXI", the permit number, and "GCBA" should be marked. Taxis should also have taximeters, with a red illuminated sign that indicates whether they are available. Failure to turn on the meter for a trip is treated as a criminal offence.

## **2. Meeting venue**

The seventh 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 will be held in Palacio San Martín of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship.

### **Palacio San Martín, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship**

Address: Arenales 761  
Barrio Retiro  
Buenos Aires  
Telephone: (+54) 11 4819 7297  
Website: <http://www.mrecic.gov.ar/es/palacio-san-martin>

## **3. Meeting coordination**

The meeting is being organized by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the Government of Argentina, through its Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship.

Questions on substantive matters related to the meeting may be addressed to Carlos de Miguel, Chief of the Sustainable Development Policies Unit of the Sustainable Development and

Human Settlements Division of ECLAC ([principio10.lac@cepal.org](mailto:principio10.lac@cepal.org), tel. (+56) 2 2210 2310), and Valeria Torres, Economic Affairs Officer in the same Division ((+56) 2 2210 2224).

Questions on operational matters may be addressed to María Paz Rivera ([mariapaz.rivera@cepal.org](mailto:mariapaz.rivera@cepal.org), tel. (+56) 2 2210 2618).

#### 4. Hotel reservations

A limited number of rooms have been reserved with special rates at the following hotels:

- **HOTEL NH BUENOS AIRES CRILLÓN (4\*)**

Avda. Santa Fe 796  
C1059AB0 Buenos Aires  
Telephone: (+54) 11 4310 2000  
Contact: Francisco Mujica  
E-mail: [groups.mercosur@nh-hoteles.com](mailto:groups.mercosur@nh-hoteles.com)

Standard single/double room: US\$ 95 (includes breakfast)

- **TOP RENTALS (Temporary Apartments)**

Esmeralda 910  
Buenos Aires  
Telephone: (+54) 9 11 5579 4700  
Contact: Cecilia Lemoine, Reservations manager  
E-mail: [reservas@thetoprentals.com](mailto:reservas@thetoprentals.com)

Two-room apartment: US\$ 87 (includes breakfast)

- **LOI SUITES HOTEL ARENALES ([www.loisuites.com.ar](http://www.loisuites.com.ar))**

Arenales 855  
C1061AAC Buenos Aires  
Telephone: (+54) 11 4329 9400  
Contact: Matías Pastormerlo, Reservations manager  
E-mail: [reservas3@loisuites.com.ar](mailto:reservas3@loisuites.com.ar)  
Studio: US\$ 69 + 21% VAT

These rates include breakfast and Internet access (Wi-Fi) in the studio.

Requests for reservations should be addressed directly to the hotels **by 7 July 2017**. After that date, the hotels reserve the right to modify the rates 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 in order to make a reservation. Hotels in Argentina apply a no show policy, whereby reservations may be cancelled up to **24 hours** prior to expected arrival, failing which, cardholders who do not show up 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 Argentina**

Holders of regular, diplomatic or official passports who require visas to enter Argentina should contact their nearest Argentine embassy or consulate. Visitors should also check health requirements for entry to Argentina, such as compulsory vaccinations.

Regular passports: citizens of all countries require visas except Brazil, Chile, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Saint Kitts and Nevis and Uruguay.

Diplomatic or official passports: no visa required, except for Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica and the Dominican Republic.

## **6. Local transport**

Participants are responsible for their own transport to and from the airport and the hotel.

## **7. Online registration and participant registration**

An online registration system will be available on the ECLAC website (<http://negociacionp10.cepal.org/7/en>) as from **Monday 29 May**.

Accreditation will begin at 8.30 a.m. on Monday 31 July at the Palacio San Martín.

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

For any further information on participant 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** participants from the requirement to send an official note to the Secretary of the Commission indicating the names of the head of delegation and accompanying members.

## **8. Opening session**

The opening session will start at 9 a.m. on Monday 31 July.

## **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 English and Spanish. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided.

## **11. Medical services**

The Government of Argentina 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 official documents and statements will be made available to read or download at the ECLAC website <http://negociacionp10.cepal.org/7/en>. Participants are advised to bring their laptop computer, tablet or other mobile device to the meeting, since only a limited number of printed documents will be available.





**UNITED NATIONS**  
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**LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

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**HOTEL RESERVATION REQUEST**

Name		Surname	
Head of delegation <input type="checkbox"/>	Delegate <input type="checkbox"/>	Observer <input type="checkbox"/>	Special guest <input type="checkbox"/>
Title:		Agency:	
Address:			
City:		Country:	
Telephone:	Fax:	E-mail:	

I request a reservation at:

<b>HOTEL NH BUENOS AIRES CRILLÓN (4*)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Avda. Santa Fe 796 C1059AB0 Buenos Aires Telephone: (+54) 11 4310 2000 Executive room US\$ 95 <input type="checkbox"/>  *Rate includes breakfast and Internet access. E-mail: <a href="mailto:groups.mercosur@nh-hoteles.com">groups.mercosur@nh-hoteles.com</a> <b>Contact:</b> Francisco Mujica	<b>TOP RENTALS (Temporary Apartments)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Esmeralda 910 Buenos Aires Telephone: (+54) 9 11 5579 4700 Two-room apartment: US\$ 87 <input type="checkbox"/>  *Rate includes breakfast and Internet access. E-mail: <a href="mailto:reservas@thetoprentals.com">reservas@thetoprentals.com</a> <b>Contact:</b> Cecilia Lemoine, Reservations manager <b>Group reservation code:</b> 595172	
<b>LOI SUITES HOTEL ARENALES</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Arenales 855 C1061AAC Buenos Aires Telephone: (+54) 11 4329 9400 Studio: US\$ 69 + 21% VAT <input type="checkbox"/> (up to two guests) *Rate includes breakfast and Internet access. E-mail: <a href="mailto:reservas3@loisuites.com.ar">reservas3@loisuites.com.ar</a> <b>Contact:</b> Matías Pastormerlo, Reservations manager		
Date of arrival in Argentina:	Flight No.:	Approx. time:
Date of departure from Argentina:	Flight No.:	Approx. time:

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

American Express <input type="checkbox"/>	MasterCard <input type="checkbox"/>	Visa <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <input type="checkbox"/>
Card number/security code:			Expiry date:

Reservation requests should be addressed directly to the hotel **by 7 July**.