

VIII 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

Santiago, 27 November-1 December 2017

**EIGHTH 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**

Santiago, 27 November-1 December 2017

GENERAL INFORMATION



NACIONES UNIDAS

CEPAL

INTRODUCTION

The eighth 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 Santiago, from 27 November to 1 December 2017.

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, whose full name is the Republic of Chile, is located in the extreme south-west of South America. Its capital city is Santiago and the country has a total population of almost 18 million. Chile lies between the Pacific Ocean and the Andes mountains and its long, thin territory is divided into 15 administrative regions.

Santiago

Santiago, together with its metropolitan region, is home to about 7 million people. It has a Mediterranean climate and well-defined seasons, with rainy winters with temperatures as low as 0°C (from May to September) and dry summers, when daytime temperatures hover around 30°C (from November to March). Relative humidity is low and evenings are cool.

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

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| LOCAL CURRENCY | The national currency is the Chilean peso (\$). The exchange rate is approximately 629 pesos to the dollar (September 2017). |
| LOCAL TIME | UCT/GMT -3 (at the date of the meeting) |
| ELECTRICITY | 220 volts, 50 Hertz (AC). |
| AIRPORT TAX | Airport tax is included in ticket prices. |
| TIPPING | 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 total bill in restaurants. |

2. Meeting venue

The eighth meeting of the negotiating committee of the regional instrument on access to information, participation and justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean will be held in the Celso Furtado conference room at the headquarters of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), located at Dag Hammarskjöld 3477, Vitacura, Santiago.

3. Meeting coordination

The meeting is being organized by ECLAC.

Carlos de Miguel, Chief of the Policies for Sustainable Development Unit, and Valeria Torres, Economic Affairs Officer, both of the Sustainable Development and Human Settlements Division of ECLAC (principle 10.lac@cepal.org; tels.: (+56) 2 2210 2224 and (+56) 2 2210 2310), will be available to participants to address substantive consultations related to the meeting.

Questions regarding operational aspects of the meeting may be addressed to María Paz Rivera (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 hotels:

- **Hotel Atton Vitacura (****)**, Av. Vitacura 3201, Vitacura; tel. (+56) 2 2422 7902

Single room: US\$ 130 (includes breakfast and Internet)
Contact: César Lucero, Reservations Department
Email: clucero@atton.com and reservas-grupochile@atton.com

- **Hotel Cumbres Vitacura (****)**, Av. Kennedy Lateral 4422, telephone: (+56) 2 2487 517

Single room: US\$ 120 (includes transfer from hotel to ECLAC, breakfast and Internet)
Contact: Fernando Cárcamo, Reservations Department
Email: fcarcamo@hotelescumbres.cl

- **Hotel Novotel (****)**, Av. Américo Vespucio 1630, Vitacura; tel. (+56) 2 2499 2200

Single room: 75,000 Chilean pesos (includes breakfast)
Contact: Marianela Olivares, Reservations Department
marianela.olivares@accor.com and h5233-re@accor.com

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 cannot guarantee the special rate or the availability of rooms.

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 contains all the details required.

5. Visa 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.

6. Transport from the airport to Santiago

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

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. Passengers preferring to take taxis are advised to use the firms Taxi Oficial or Transvip, which are also located at the airport. A taxi fare from the airport to the city usually varies between US\$ 35 and US\$ 40, depending on the area of town.

7. Online registration and participant registration

An online registration system will be available on the ECLAC website (<http://negociacionp10.cepal.org/8/es>) as from Monday 2 October 2017.

Registration of participants will take place from 8.30 a.m. on Monday, 27 November in the lobby of the Celso Furtado conference room.

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

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

Registering through the online system **does not exempt** delegations from the requirement to provide official notification to the Office of the Secretary of the Commission of the name of the head of delegation and all accompanying members.

8. Opening session

The opening session will start at 9 a.m. on Monday, 27 November.

9. Internet

Delegates will have access to a wireless Internet connection (Wi-Fi) in the conference room and in open areas.

10. Language

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

11. Meeting 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/8/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.

12. Facilities and services at ECLAC

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| Travel agency | Flight reservations and confirmations are handled by Carlson Wagonlit Travel, located in the basement of the ECLAC building (office 1S7). |
| Bank | There is a branch of Banco de Chile in the basement of the ECLAC building. The public its opening hours are from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Foreign currency can be exchanged from 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. |
| Restaurants | ECLAC has a cafeteria and a canteen, which are open from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. These services must be paid for directly by participants. |
| Medical services | The ECLAC Medical Service is available to participants requiring medical assistance. It is located on the ground floor (room Z-210), telephone extension 2333, and is open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 2.30 p.m. to 6 p.m. |
| Shop | The “One World” shop, located in the central foyer on the ground floor, next to the spiral staircase, offers a wide range of attractive gifts, United Nations souvenirs and other items. |

13. Places of interest in Santiago

- Pueblito Los Dominicos** A handicraft village located close to the foot of the Andes in the east of the city. It offers a diverse array of traditional and contemporary crafts, including furniture, textiles and paintings.
- Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes** The national fine arts museum is a major centre for the visual 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 the Diaguitas. It is located in downtown Santiago.
- Municipal Theatre of 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 opera, ballet and musical performances.
- La Moneda** The Government Palace, located in central Santiago, is the only building of a pure Italian neo-classical style in the Americas. Its cultural centre presents visual and audiovisual exhibitions from Chile and further afield.
- Plaza de Armas** Located in 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 important Chilean historical figures. Other historical buildings on the Plaza de Armas are the Santiago town hall and the central post office.
- Barrio Bellavista** This vibrant, quintessentially urban neighbourhood combines a highly varied commercial clothing and craft sector with numerous restaurants offering many types of international cuisine. Bellavista nestles between the north bank of the Mapocho River and the foot of San Cristóbal Hill. Its exotic architecture gives it the aspect of an open-air museum, where visitors may discover art galleries, theatres and lapis lazuli jewellery shops, as well as La Chascona, the former residence of poet Pablo Neruda.

HOTEL RESERVATION FORM



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C E P A L

Santiago, 27 November-1 December 2017

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|---------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Nombre/Name: | | Apellido/Last Name: | |
| Dirección/Address: | | | |
| Ciudad/City: | | País/Country: | |
| Teléfono/Tel: | Fax: | Correo electrónico/Email: | |

SELECCIONAR HOTEL

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|---|---|--|
| <p><u>Hotel Atton Vitacura (****)</u> Av. Vitacura 3201 Tel.: (+56) 2 2422 7902</p> <p>Single room: US\$ 130 <i>(includes breakfast and Internet)</i></p> <p>Att: César Lucero, Reservations Departament clucero@atton.com; reservas-grupochile@atton.com</p> <p>Group code: 4711047 Group booking deadline: 10 November 2017</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></p> | <p><u>Hotel Cumbres Vitacura (****)</u> Av. Kennedy Lateral 4422 Tel.: (+56) 2 2487 5172</p> <p>Single room: US\$ 120 <i>(includes transfer from hotel to ECLAC, breakfast and Internet)</i></p> <p>Att: Fernando Cárcamo, Reservations Departament fcarcamo@hotelescumbres.cl</p> <p>Group code: 165701 Group booking deadline: 30 October 2017</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></p> | <p><u>Hotel Novotel Vitacura (****)</u> Av. Américo Vespucio 1630, Vitacura Tel: (+56) 2 2499 2200</p> <p>Single room: 75,000 Chilean pesos <i>(includes breakfast and Internet)</i></p> <p>Att: Marianela Olivares Reservations Departament marianela.olivares@accor.com; h5233-re@accor.com</p> <p>Group code: 180179 Group booking deadline: 13 November 2017</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></p> |
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| Fecha de llegada al país: <i>Date of arrival:</i> | Núm. de vuelo: <i>Flight No:</i> |
| Fecha de salida del país: <i>Date of departure:</i> | Núm. de vuelo: <i>Flight No:</i> |

**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:**

| | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| American Express <input type="checkbox"/> | Mastercard <input type="checkbox"/> | Visa <input type="checkbox"/> | Otra/Other <input type="checkbox"/> |
|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|

Núm. de tarjeta de crédito/Credit card No:

Fecha de vencimiento:
Date of expiration:

Please fill in the form and send it to the hotel you have chosen. Visitors who pay in dollars or by international credit card are exempt from payment of VAT.