



International Conference on Biological and Cultural Diversity: Diversity for Development – Development for Diversity 8 to 10 June 2010, Montréal, Canada

INFORMATION NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS

1. OFFICIAL OPENING

The official opening for the International Conference on Biological and Cultural Diversity: Diversity for Development – Development for Diversity will take place at **9.00 a.m.** on Tuesday, 8 June 2010. The formal sessions of the meeting will be held daily from **9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** and from **2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.** For more information on the programme of work, please refer to the provisional agenda, which is available on the Secretariat's web site at: <http://www.cbd.int/meetings/icbcd/>

2. VENUE

The meeting will be held at:

Hotel Hilton Bonaventure Montreal

900, de la Gauchetière Street West.

Metro, line 2 – Orange - station Bonaventure

3. PRE-REGISTRATION

All participants (whether you are a keynote speaker or a guest) are kindly invited to register on-line directly at the following website: <http://www.cbd.int/meetings/icbcd/registration/>

Access to the meeting venue is subject to the presentation of a valid conference badge. Conference badges will be issued at the registration counter located on-site at the Hotel Hilton Bonaventure Montréal, starting at **8 a.m. on 8 June 2010.**

Badges will be issued at the registration counter upon presentation of a valid passport or an identification card with a photograph. For security reasons and to gain access to both meeting venue and meeting rooms, the display of conference badges is mandatory at all times. Any loss of a badge should be reported immediately to the registration counter.

4. VISA AND HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

Participants from countries listed in **annex A** below require an entry visa for Canada and are strongly advised to contact the nearest Canadian diplomatic or consular mission **as soon as possible** in order to secure the required entry visa in a timely manner, prior to departure. **Please note that airline companies will not allow boarding in the absence of a valid visa.**

Information on visa procedures, including a list of relevant Canadian diplomatic/consular missions abroad, is available on the web site of Canadian Citizenship and Immigration at: <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/information/offices/index.asp#international>.

To facilitate the issuance of visas, the Secretariat will issue upon request invitation letters to be attached to the visa applications.

5. HOTEL INFORMATION

Conference participants are requested to make their hotel arrangements individually. A block of rooms have been set aside, with a special price, for Conference participants until May 10th 2010 (midday local time) at the Delta Centre-ville. After this date, reservations will be accepted only according to availability and prices. Please note that Montreal will be particularly busy due to the Grand Prix taking place around the same time as the Conference.

Participants are invited to make their hotel arrangements using a personal credit card via internet at: <http://www.deltacentreville.com/000607c> or by telephone at 1-514-879-1370. When booking by phone, please quote block code "000607C".

6. GENERAL INFORMATION ON ACCESS TO MONTREAL

Montreal is serviced by Montreal-Trudeau International Airport (15 km from downtown). Taxis are available at the airport and there is a shuttle bus service every 30 minutes.

Bus / Shuttles:	One way trip
Montreal-Trudeau /Downtown STM bus No. 747	CDN \$7
Taxis:	
Montreal-Trudeau /Downtown	CDN \$38 Fixed rate Plus tip

Since March 29, 2010, the STM operates a new bus line between the airport and downtown. The new line, No. 747, uses dedicated low-floor buses and operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The 747 is free for holders of CAM and TRAM monthly passes, and for those with 1-day or 3-day tourist cards. Individual tickets valid for 24 hours across the entire STM network are also available, priced at CDN \$7.00 for a one-way trip. At the airport, tickets are sold at the currency exchange (ICE) location on the international arrivals level.

The trip between Montréal-Trudeau and the Gare d'autocars de Montréal above Berri-UQAM metro station takes approximately 35 minutes in off-peak periods.

7. SERVICES FOR PARTICIPANTS

Participants will have access to their e-mails at an internet café located within the Hilton Bonaventure Hotel. WIFI Internet access will also be available.

8. WEATHER AND TIME ZONE INFORMATION



In June, temperatures in Montreal usually range between a maximum of 23°C in the daytime and a minimum of 11°C at night. Current weather conditions in the area can be found at: <http://www.worldweather.org/056/c00634.htm>.

The standard time zone will be GMT/UTC -4 hours.

9. ELECTRICITY

The electrical currents are 120 volts, 60 Hertz a (two-pin flat and vertical with a ground connection) as illustrated below.



10. CURRENCY



The currency in Canada is the Canadian Dollar (CDN \$). The current exchange rate as at 12 April 2010 is US \$1 = CDN \$1.00731 and (Euro) € 1 = CDN \$1.36844.

Tipping of approximately 15% is expected in the service industry such as bars and restaurants.

11. DISCLAIMER

The CBD Secretariat disclaims all responsibility for medical, accident and travel insurance, for compensation for death or disability compensation, 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 to secure international medical insurance for the period of participation prior to departure.

Annex A – Country Listing

COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES WHOSE CITIZENS REQUIRE VISAS IN ORDER TO ENTER CANADA AS VISITORS (AS LISTED ON THE WEBSITE OF CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION CANADA)

Citizens of the following countries and territories require a visa to **visit** or **transit** Canada:

<p>A</p> <p>Afghanistan Albania Algeria Angola Argentina Armenia Azerbaijan</p>	<p>El Salvador E (cont'd) Equatorial Guinea Eritrea Ethiopia</p>	<p>L (cont'd) Libyan Arab Jamahiriya Lithuania</p>	<p>S Sao Tomé e Príncipe Saudi Arabia Senegal Serbia Seychelles Sierra Leone Somalia South Africa Sri Lanka Sudan Suriname Syrian Arab Republic</p>
<p>B</p> <p>Bahrain Bangladesh Belarus Belize Benin Bhutan Bolivia Bosnia and Herzegovina Brazil Bulgaria Burkina Faso Burundi</p>	<p>F Fiji</p> <p>G Gabon Gambia Georgia Ghana Grenada Guatemala Guinea Guinea-Bissau Guyana</p>	<p>M Macao Madagascar Malawi Malaysia Maldives Mali Marshall Islands Mauritania Mauritius Mexico Micronesia, Federated States of Moldova Mongolia Montenegro Morocco Mozambique Myanmar</p>	<p>T Tajikistan Tanzania, United Republic of Thailand The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia Togo Tonga Trinidad and Tobago Tunisia Turkey Turkmenistan Tuvalu</p>
<p>C</p> <p>Cambodia Cameroon Cape Verde Central African Republic Chad Chile China Colombia Comoros Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Republic of the Costa Rica Cuba Czech Republic</p>	<p>H Haiti Honduras</p> <p>I India Indonesia Iran, Islamic Republic of Iraq Israel Ivory Coast</p>	<p>N Nauru Nepal Nicaragua Niger Nigeria</p>	<p>U Uganda Ukraine United Arab Emirates Uruguay Uzbekistan</p>
<p>D</p> <p>Djibouti Dominica Dominican Republic</p>	<p>J Jamaica Jordan</p> <p>K Kazakhstan Kenya Kiribati Korea, Democratic People's Republic of Kuwait Kyrgyzstan</p>	<p>O Oman</p> <p>P Pakistan Palau Palestinian Authority Panama Paraguay Peru Philippines Poland</p>	<p>V Vanuatu Venezuela Viet Nam</p>
<p>E</p> <p>East Timor Ecuador Egypt</p>	<p>L Lao, People's Democratic Republic of Lebanon Lesotho Liberia</p>	<p>Q Qatar</p> <p>R Romania Russian Federation Rwanda</p>	<p>Y Yemen</p> <p>Z Zambia Zimbabwe</p>