



UNFCCC expert meeting to consider future needs, including capacity needs associated with possible approaches to address slow onset events

Nadi, Fiji

12–14 September 2013

INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

Conference venue:

The UNFCCC expert meeting to consider future needs, including capacity needs associated with possible approaches to address slow onset events, will be held at:

The Sheraton Fiji Resort

Denarau Island South

Nadi, Fiji

Tel.: +679 675 0777

Fax: +679 675 0818

E-mail: sheraton.fiji@sheraton.com

Website: <<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/sheraton/property/overview/index.html?propertyID=485>>.

The Government of Fiji has arranged for block bookings at the following hotels:

The Best Western Hexagon International Hotel, The Sheraton Fiji Resort and the The Westin Denarau Island Resort & Spa (Sister property of the Sheraton, sharing the same premises).

The Government of Fiji will arrange for courtesy shuttles between the meeting venue and the Best Western Hexagon International Hotel. Shuttle times will be confirmed in due course.

Please contact Ms. Alexandra Kriegsheim (E-mail: <AKriegsheim@unfccc.int>) at the secretariat for additional information regarding these hotel bookings.

Visa requirements

Below is a list of visa-exempt countries:

Antigua & Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, The Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bermuda, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Cook Islands [NZ passport holder], Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Commonwealth Dominica, Estonia, The Federal Republic of Germany, The Federated States of Micronesia, Finland, France, The Gambia, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guyana, Holy See (Vatican), Hong Kong [SAR], Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Kiribati, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lesotho, Luxemburg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Nauru, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, The Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Ireland, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Romania, Russia, Samoa, Serbia, Slovak Republic, St Kitts & Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent & The Grenadines, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Tanzania, Thailand, Tonga, Trinidad & Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Zambia and Zimbabwe.



For participants from countries requiring a visa on arrival, due to the absence of a Fiji mission in their countries, please send the following documents (they can be scanned and e-mailed) directly to Mr. Jiko Rasoqosoqo at our host Government of Fiji (trasoqosoqo@govnet.gov.fj) with a copy to Ms. Alexandra Kriegsheim from the secretariat (AKriegsheim@unfccc.int):

1. Duly Completed Visa Application Form (http://www.immigration.gov.fj/images/visa_form.pdf);
2. Copy of Passport Bio-data page;
3. One passport photo.

Health requirements and possible vaccinations

We recommend that you consult the appropriate health authorities in your country in connection with possible vaccinations and health precautions for Fiji.

Note from the UNFCCC secretariat

You are strongly advised to obtain international travel and medical insurance to cover the period of your departure for the meeting until the time of your return.

The United Nations and the UNFCCC secretariat disclaim all responsibility for medical, accident and travel insurance, for compensation, death or disability, loss or damage to personal property and for any other costs or losses that may be incurred during travel time or the period of participation in the meeting.

DSA payment for funded participants

All funded participants: Please bring your passport, flight tickets and boarding passes with you to the registration on Thursday, 12 September. These documents need to be collected for DSA disbursement.

General information

Geography

Fiji, officially the Republic of Fiji, is straddling the 180th meridian. Fiji has frequently been called “the crossroads of the Pacific”. In fact, the International Date Line has been adjusted so that the entire archipelago falls into the same time zone, 12 hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time.

Fiji’s closest neighbours are Vanuatu to the west, New Caledonia to the southwest, New Zealand’s Kermadec to the southeast, Tonga to the east, the Samoas, France’s Wallis and Futuna to the northeast and Tuvalu to the north. Suva is the capital of Fiji.

Population

Fiji’s population is approximately 837,000 made up of indigenous Fijians, Indians, Chinese, Europeans and South Pacific Islanders.

Language

English is the official language with, Fijian and Hindustani also spoken.



Religion

Fiji is a multicultural nation with many religious beliefs. The people are primarily of the Wesleyan persuasion. Various protestant denominations, Roman Catholicism, Hinduism and Islam are also represented.

Time zone:

Standard time zone: UTC/GMT +12 hours; no daylight saving time in 2013.

Climate

Fiji has two seasons: warm and even warmer. From May to November, the cooler months, the temperature ranges from 19° to 29°C.

Electricity

The electric current is 240 volts AC 50Hz. Fiji has three-pin power outlets.

Currency and banking

The Fijian dollar is the basic unit of currency, available in denominations of \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50 and \$100. Coins are 5c, 10c, 20c, 50c, \$1 and \$2. Normal banking hours are 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday – Friday. There is a 24 hour currency exchange service at the arrivals concourse at Nadi Airport. ATMs are located around the country and at larger resorts and hotels.

Exchange rate (as of 20 August 2013)

1.00 USD = 1.87269 FJD

1.00 FJD = 0.533992 USD

Tipping

Tipping is not encouraged in Fiji, but you may, if you wish, offer extra payment for outstanding service.

Quarantine

To avoid the introduction of foreign plant and animal pests and diseases, the importation of vegetable matter, seeds, or any animal product without a permit from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forests, is prohibited.

We look forward to welcoming you in Fiji.
