



United Nations
Climate Change Secretariat

2017 Forum of the Standing Committee on Finance “Mobilizing Finance for Climate-Resilient Infrastructure”

6–7 September 2017

**La Tour Hassan Palace hotel
Rabat, Morocco**

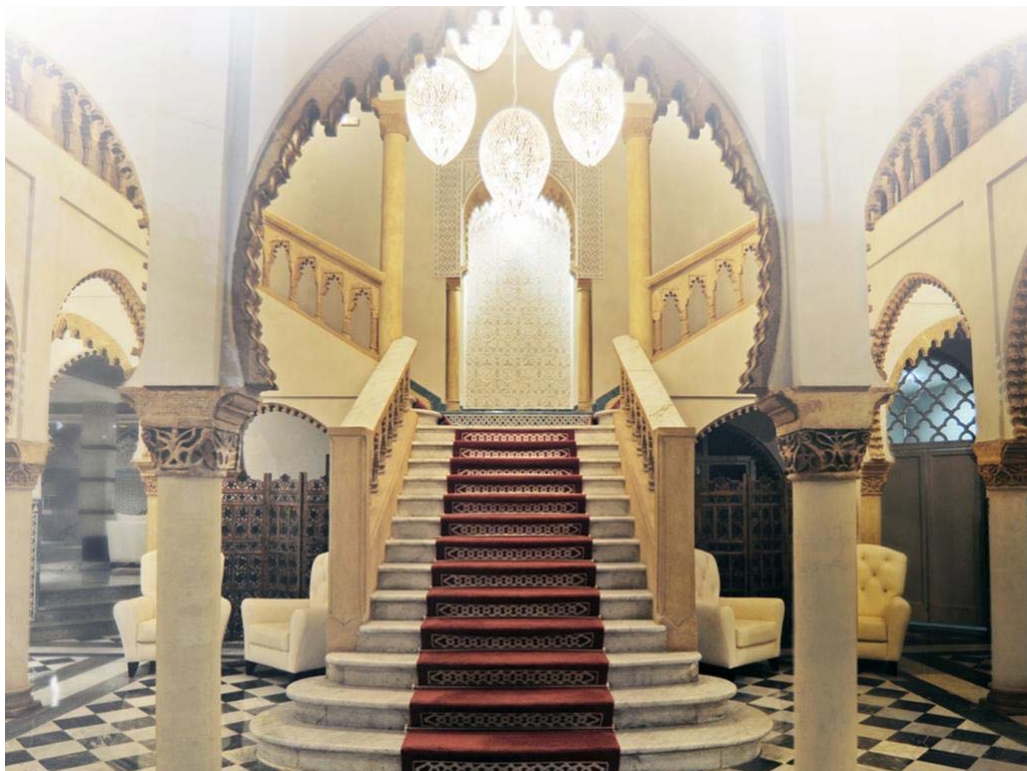
GENERAL INFORMATION SHEET

ORGANIZERS

Hosted by the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco, the 2017 Forum of the Standing Committee on Finance is organized by the United Nations Climate Change Secretariat in cooperation with the Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and supported by the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank.

VENUE

La Tour Hassan Palace hotel
26, Rue Chellah, Rabat 10000, Morocco
(Please refer to the map at the back of this information sheet)
Tel: +212 5372-39000
<http://www.latourhassan.com>



REGISTRATION

If you have not yet registered to the forum, please complete the relevant online registration form:

Funded participants:

https://www.surveymonkey.de/r/2017_SCF_Forum_funded

Non-funded participants:

https://www.surveymonkey.de/r/2017_SCF_Forum

A UNFCCC badge for the forum, which will open on Wednesday 6 September at 8:30 am, will be issued in front of the conference room. Please present your national passport for registration and if you are a participant funded by the UNFCCC, please also provide us with your boarding passes and flight tickets.

TRAVEL AND MEDICAL INSURANCE

Participants are strongly advised to obtain international travel and medical insurance to cover the period of their departure for the UNFCCC meeting until the time of their return to their home country.

The United Nations, the UNFCCC secretariat and the other organizers 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 at the UNFCCC meeting.

TRANSPORTATION

Rabat-Salé Airport (IATA code: RBA) is an airport about 8 km east-northeast of Rabat; Public transportation to and from Salé Airport is best arranged by taxi.

Casablanca Airport (IATA code: CMN) is an airport about 110 km southwest of Rabat. A train from Casablanca airport via Casablanca central station to Rabat costs approximately EUR 12 per way; online information under <https://www.oncf-voyages.ma/SaisieInformations.aspx>. Shuttle services also serve Casablanca airport to Rabat for approximately EUR 20.

Getting around the city

Petite Taxi: all blue in colour mostly Fiat Uno. Buses: not recommended as the numbering system is complicated. Cars: the streets of Rabat are big in most areas and driving should not be a problem, though you may want to avoid rush hour.

ACCOMMODATION

Non-funded and UNFCCC-funded participants should arrange their own accommodation. A list of hotels is provided in Annex II.

Participants funded by other bodies are advised to check with the respective institutions for the arrangements concerning accommodation.

DAILY SUBSISTANCE ALLOWANCE (DSA)

UNFCCC-funded participants are eligible for DSA in accordance with UNFCCC rules. The DSA for Rabat is USD 229 per day (effective 1 August 2017, may change before event).

DSA is calculated from the official arrival day of the forum depending on the flight schedule through to the conclusion of the forum, plus Terminals (152 USD), to cover miscellaneous travel expenses including visa and airport taxes.

Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA) for UNFCCC-funded participants will be disbursed at the venue. Please make sure to present your passport, flight ticket and boarding passes at registration on the first day to avoid delay in receiving your DSA payment.

Participants funded by other bodies are advised to check with the respective institutions for the arrangements concerning DSA.

CURRENCY AND BANKING:

The official currency is the Moroccan Dirham (MAD). The current exchange rate is as follows:
USD 1 = MAD 9.43298

REQUIREMENTS FOR ENTRY INTO MOROCCO

Please note: The information provided in this section is for general guidance only. Please consult official sources to confirm entry requirements.

PASSPORT

Visa applicants must present their travel documents (e.g. national passports, invitation letters for the forum) showing a validity of more than 90 days and in all cases, exceeding the period of stay requested.

VISA

For further information on entry visas for Morocco, please find the latest information on the official website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs:

<http://www.consulat.ma/an/>

Nationals of the following countries do not require an entry visa for Morocco:

Algeria	Finland	Luxembourg	Saudi Arabia
Argentina	France + Monaco	Mali	Senegal
Australia	Germany	Malta	Singapore (for a
Austria	Great Britain	Mexico	period of thirty days)
Bahrain	Greece	Netherlands	Slovakia
Belgium	Guinea	New Zealand	Slovenia
Brazil	Hungary	Niger	South Korea
Bulgaria	Iceland	Norway	Spain + Andorra
Canada	Indonesia	Oman	Sweden
Chile	Ireland	Peru	Switzerland
Congo (Brazzaville)	Italy	Philippines	Tunisia
Côte d'Ivoire	Japan	Poland	Turkey
Croatia	Kuwait	Portugal	UAE
Cyprus	Latvia	Puerto Rico	USA
Czech	Libya	Qatar	Venezuela
Denmark	Liechtenstein	Romania	
Estonia	Lithuania	Russian Federation	

Participants, who require a visa to enter Morocco, are kindly requested to make their own visa arrangements prior to their arrival by visiting the nearest Moroccan Consulates in their respective countries. Participants must bear in mind that stamped visas may take up to 10 business days.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

If there is no Moroccan embassy or consulate in the applicant's country of residence, the Moroccan government has offered to assist with the procuring of visas. Please contact Mr. Rachid Tahiri, Chef de Service du Changement Climatique, Secrétariat de l'AND/Fonds Vert Climat, Direction du Changement Climatique, de la Diversité Biologique et de l'Économie Verte, Ministère délégué chargé de l'Environnement at r_tahiri@yahoo.fr

CONTACT IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

In Morocco, the police emergency number is **19**. Please also be informed of the following telephone numbers:

- Fire and medical emergency services: **15**.
- Royal Constabulary (outside urban areas): **177**

LANGUAGE

The official language of the meeting will be English.
French, Arabic and Spanish [tbc] interpretation will be available during the forum sessions

TIME ZONE

UTC/GMT +1 hour.

CLIMATE

Average temperature in September: 22.3 ° C or 72.1 F

Maximum temperature: 27.4° C or 81.3 F

Minimum temperature: 17.2° C or 63 F

PRACTICAL ISSUES

- Electricity voltage

In Morocco the power sockets are of type C and E. The standard voltage is 220 V and the standard frequency is 50 Hz.



If your appliance's plug does not match the shape of these sockets, you will need a travel plug adapter in order to plug in.

- Drinking Water:

The tap water in Rabat is OK for bathing. To be safe when drinking, opt for bottled mineral water, available at the marketplace kiosks and food stalls. Make sure that the cap seal has not been broken. At restaurants, ask for your drinks without ice cubes, which are usually made with tap water.

BUSINESS HOURS

Shopping hours are usually Monday to Thursday and Sunday 09:00-19:00, and Friday 09:00-1200 and 16:00-19:00.

Banks: 8:15 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and from 02:15 p.m. to 05:30 p.m.

Public bodies: from 8:30 a.m. to 04:00 p.m. continuous

Businesses: from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and from 03:00 p.m. to 08:00 p.m. from Monday to Saturday.

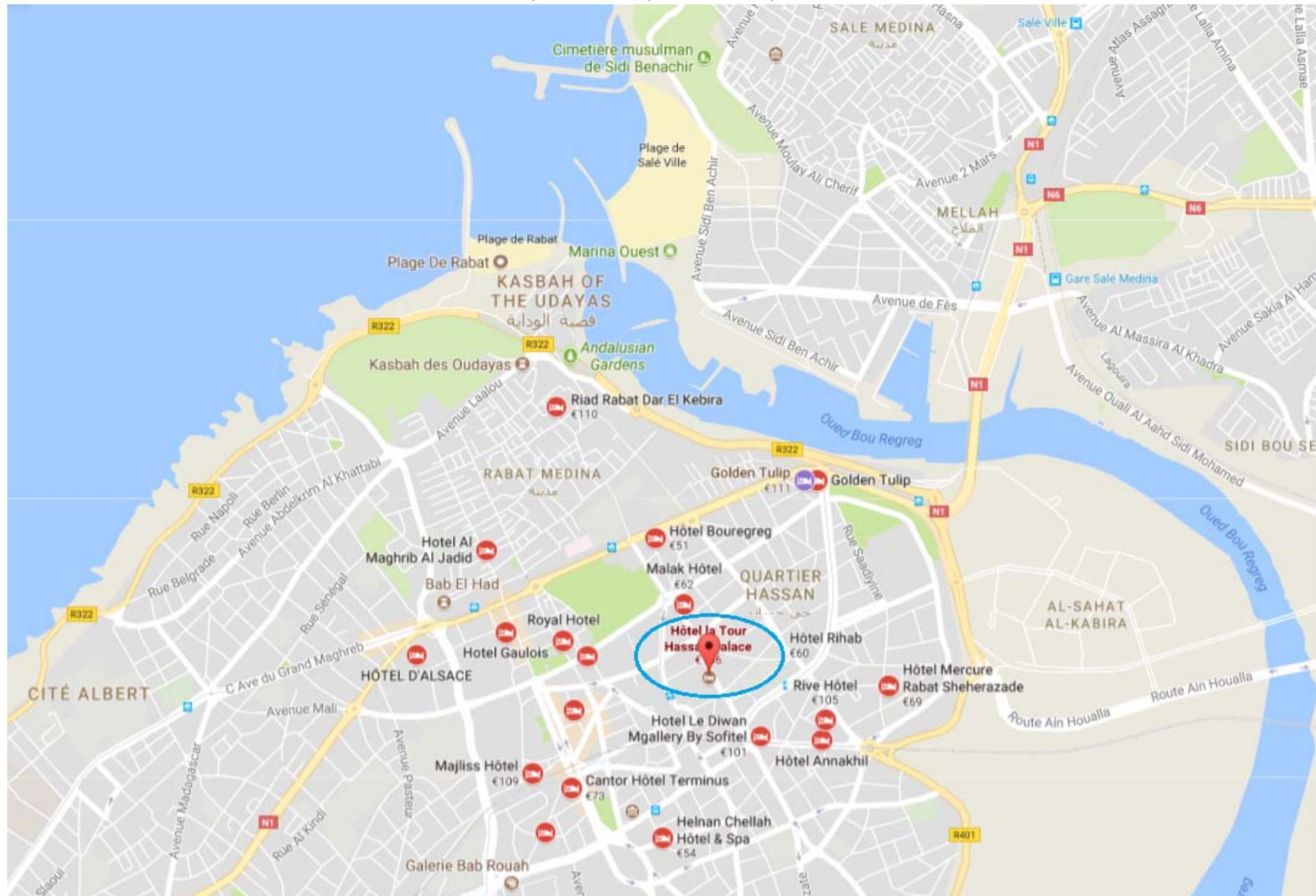
On Friday, all institutions are closed from 11:00 a.m. to 03:00 p.m.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information on any matter related to the meeting, please contact the secretariat at: standingcommittee@unfccc.int.

ANNEX I

La Tour Hassan Palace hotel
26, Rue Chellah, Rabat 10000, Morocco



ANNEX II

Hotels	Class	Téléphone	Email	Rate Single BB MAD	Rate Single BB USD
Hotel Le Pietri	3*	+212 (0) 5 37 20 09 01	resa@malakhotel.com	613,20	61.61
Hotel Mercure Shehérazade	4*	+212 (0) 5 37 72 22 26/28	H2962-RE@accor.com	813,20	81.70
Le Diwan	4*	+212 (0) 5.30.20.03.90	H2820@accor.com	1300-1800	130.62 – 180.86
Golden Tulip	5*	+212 (0) 5.37.23.74.00	jamila.lahroudy@farahrabat.com	1040	104.49
Tour Hassan	5*	+212 (0) 5.37.23.90.00	s.murcia@latourhassan.com	1900	190.90
Hotel Rabat	5*	+212 (0) 5.37.70.00.71	hotelrabat@menara.ma	1440-1640	144.68 – 164.78
Hotel Rihab	3	+212 663-502949	reservations@rihabhotel.info	674 - 1,689.13	71.15 - 178.31

ANNEX III

INTERESTING PLACES TO VISIT

Chellah

A medieval fortified city buried in the heart of Rabat, Chellah stands as the remains of a pre-Islamic city which was abandoned in 1154 and then built upon by a Merenid Sultan. It is an atmospheric place, full of history and charm. Abandoned buildings and overgrown plants are intertwined with colorful, immaculately maintained flowers and fauna as well as public pathways. This allows visitors to explore the Roman and Islamic ruins, from a bathing pool to a madrasa.

Hassan Tower and Tomb

At first sight, it appears this tower fell and split in half. However, it was never actually completed. Started by the Almohads, Hassan Tower was intended to be the minaret for what the ruler, Yacoub al-Mansour, intended to be a majestic mosque. The beautiful and intricate designs on the tower, as well as the open and intriguing surroundings make it a must-see. Just opposite lies a beautiful tomb of King Mohammad V and his two sons. The tomb is open to even non-Muslims. Visitors will be entranced by the gold-leaf ceiling and captivating carvings that lie inside the plain white building.

Kasbah des Oudaias

Occupying the oldest part of Rabat, Kasbah des Oudaias lies as the original site of the city, complete with stunning river and ocean views. Now a predominantly residential area, it is a peaceful and beautiful place to wander around the narrow, white-washed streets, some painted a refreshing blue. Enter through the original grand door of the city and explore the dainty and characterful streets to get an insight into historical life in Rabat.

Andalusian Gardens

The Andalusian gardens, also home to the Palace Museum which showcases fascinating exhibits demonstrating Moroccan art and culture, are a must-visit in Rabat. The beautiful gardens were built by the French in the 20th century, and have traditional Andalusian flowers and shrubs, complete with orange, lemon and banana trees. A refreshing and relaxing retreat away from the crowds, this tranquil oasis allows visitors to wander and admire the nature.

Rabat Zoo

A relatively new zoo, opened in 2012, Rabat Zoo invites visitors to explore all the continents of the world in simulated mountain, desert, savannah and rainforest habitats. Visitors can admire more than 130 species of animals. There is everything from giraffes to reptiles in this spacious zoo with a friendly and relaxing atmosphere. It's an impressive find in the middle of a capital city and an activity which is sure to fill up at least half a day.

Natural Science Museum

A fantastic family venue, the Natural Science Museum of Rabat is full of impressive displays of dinosaurs and chronicles of the origins of the earth. Perfect for archaeology lovers and curious minds, the Natural Science Museum has a lot to offer. Its main attraction is a full-size replica of a real Sauropod dinosaur discovered in the high Atlas Mountains in 1979.

King's Palace

Almost every big city in Morocco has a palace ready for the arrival of the King as a guest. However, the Palace in Rabat is King Hassan II's official residence, and was built upon the ruins of an 18th-century palace. Home to many government offices, as well as quarters for the Royal Family, it is an important city building. While visitors cannot enter the main grounds, admiring the palace from the central pathway is still special.

Beach

A visit to the beach is a tranquil escape from the hustle and bustle of the city. Rabat itself has beautiful beaches, but the best recommendation would be to head to Kenitra, a town very close to Rabat by train, and one famous for its surfing. For lovers of water sports, this is a perfect day, or even half day out of Rabat. For those simply wanting to breathe in the fresh seaside air and walk on the sand, the beach right on the edge of the white-washed city of Rabat is a perfect, relaxing option.

Old Medina

The old medina is something that cannot be missed from any list of things to do in a Moroccan town or city. It is by far the best place to get traditional Moroccan souvenirs, and experience the heart of the city. Here you can haggle for the best prices and take in the sights, sounds and scents. Thankfully, Rabat is a much calmer and easy going city in comparison to cities such as Marrakech and Casablanca. This makes the old medina less chaotic and slightly more accessible. It allows visitors to experience the true Morocco in a more relaxed fashion, with wider streets and a less bustling environment.

