



**United Nations
Environment
Programme**

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**The Seventeen Global Meeting of the Regional Seas
Conventions and Action Plans
Istanbul, Turkey 20 – 23 October 2015**

Information Note

For reasons of economy, this document is printed in a limited number. Delegates are kindly requested to bring their copies to meetings and not to request additional copies.

The Seventeen Global Meeting of the Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans (17GMRS)

The 17GMRS meeting will be held at Renaissance Istanbul hotel, Istanbul, Turkey.

Renaissance Istanbul Bosphorus Hotel

Barbaros Bulvari No: 145, Besiktas

Istanbul, 34349 Turkey

Phone: + 90-212-340-7000

Fax: +90-212-340-7070

Website: <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/istbo-renaissance-istanbul-bosphorus-hotel/>

Maps and Information on Transportation:

http://www.marriott.com/hotelwebsites/us/i/istbo/istbo_pdf/Maps_Transportation.pdf

Theme

Increased understanding of how Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans (RSCAPs) and UNEP will collaborate to increase the visibility and strategic involvement of RSCAPs in key processes at global and regional levels.

Organization of the Meeting:

19 October 2015: African Ocean Governance Strategy Meeting

20 – 22 October 2015: The 17GMRS meeting

23 October 2015: The First Meeting of the Regional Seas Indicators Working Group

The 17GMRS is expected to achieve the following objectives:

- a) To Increase visibility of the Regional Seas Programmes and the RSCAPs in key global and regional initiatives and processes.
- b) To Clearly understand regional targets, objectives and priorities and how they link to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Registration

On site registration will open at 8:00 a.m. Participants are requested to register and obtain meeting badges at the registration counter.

All meetings will start at 9:00 a.m.

Meeting Documents

The documents are available on our website at:

[\(http://www.unep.org/ecosystemmanagement/water/regionalseas40/40YearsofAction/17thGlobalMeetingoftheRSCAP/tabid/1060370/Default.aspx /\)](http://www.unep.org/ecosystemmanagement/water/regionalseas40/40YearsofAction/17thGlobalMeetingoftheRSCAP/tabid/1060370/Default.aspx/).

Remote participation

Internet connection is available at the meeting rooms.

Participants from external location are advised to call in through Skype.

Kanako Hasegawa

Skype ID: kanako_hase (searchable with: kanako.hasegawa@gmail.com)

Language

The meeting will be conducted in English

Hotel

Meeting participants are required to book their own hotels at the following recommended hotels.

Renaissance Istanbul Bosphorus Hotel \$145-

Barbaros Bulvarı No: 145, 34349

İstanbul, Turkey

Phone: +90 212 340 7000 / Fax: (+90 212) 340 70 80

Reservation. bosphorus@polatholding.com

www.renaissanceistanbulbosphorus.com

Point Hotel Taksim Area \$199-

Topçu Caddesi No.2 Taksim - İstanbul - Turkey

Phone: +90 212 313 50 00

E-mail: info@pointhotel.com

Fax: +90 212 313 50 30

www.pointhotel.com

Marti Istanbul Hotel \$205-

Abdulhak Hamit Cad. No: 25/B Taksim - İstanbul - Turkey

Phone: +90 212 987 4000

Fax: +90 212 987 4011

E-mail: reservationsistanbul@marti.com.tr

www.martiistanbulhotel.com

The Plaza Hotel \$150-

Barbaros Bulvarı 165 Besiktas, Istanbul, Istanbul 34349, Turkey

Phone: +90 212 370 2020

<http://www.theplazahotel.com.tr/>

Travel

Participants sponsored by UNEP will be provided with a round trip air ticket (the most direct economy class) from their city of residence to Istanbul, Turkey normally permitting arrival the day before the meeting, and return by the first available flight after closure of the Meeting.

Participants should make their own transportation arrangements from either Sabiha Gökçen International Airport or Istanbul Atatürk Airport to their respective hotels. Detailed information about Istanbul Atatürk Airport can be found at: www.ataturkairport.com/. From Sabiha Gökçen International Airport, details information can be found at: www.sabihagokcen.aero/homepage.

Airport Transfers

All meeting participants are requested to make their own airport to hotel transfers by using designated taxi approximately 53 TRY (Turkish Lira) available at the Istanbul Atatürk Airport and Sabiha Gökçen International Airport.

Daily Subsistence Allowance and Payment

UNEP sponsored participants will be provided with the UN rate for the Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA).

DSA will be paid during a break session upon presentation of a copy of your passport, boarding passes and air ticket to the UNEP staff responsible for DSA distribution. To assist in this process, please ensure you have the above mentioned documents with you.

General Information on Istanbul city

Istanbul is a city in Turkey that straddles Europe and Asia across the Bosphorus Strait. The country's economic, cultural, and historical center. The Old City reflects cultural influences of the many empires that once ruled here.

Language

Language Spoken in Turkey: is Turkish, and others are German, French and English.

Weather

The average temperature in Istanbul in October is 16°C, with highs of 19°C and low of 12°C.

79°F (26°C), Wind NE at 17 mph (27 km/h), 51% Humidity.

Precipitation levels are much higher in October across Turkey. In Istanbul, 60mm of rainfall is expected on average over ten days. Istanbul, Turkey is UTC/GMT +3 hours.

Electricity Supply

The Republic of Turkey supply electricity at between 220 and 240 volts.

Electrical sockets (outlets) in the Republic of Turkey are one of the two European standard electrical socket types: The "Type C" Europlug and the "Type E" and "Type F" Schuko. If your appliance's plug does not match the shape of the socket shown below, you will need a travel plug adapter in order to plug in.



Visa Arrangements

A visa is required to enter Turkey which you are kindly advised to obtain one from your nearest Turkish Embassies or Consulates in your country of origin.

In addition, please have your travel document/passport valid for at least 6 months from the date of your arrival in Turkey.

Health Requirements: Insurance

Participants are expected to make their own arrangements for comprehensive travel and medical insurance which will cover all overseas medical costs, including medical repatriation/evacuation, and legal costs. Please also check what circumstances and activities are not covered by your policy.

Currency

The monetary unit is Turkish Lira (TRY), 1.00 USD is approximately 2.96 TRY.

Visa and Master Card, payment is accepted from other commonly used credit cards and debit cards.

For More Information Please Contact:

Technical matters:

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