



**United Nations  
Environment  
Programme**

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Abidjan Meeting for Securing the Foundations  
for Fish Food Security in a Changing Ocean  
in West, Central and Southern Africa,  
Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire, 15-17 July 2014

## **Information Note**



## INFORMATION FOR DELEGATES

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in close collaboration with the Food and Agricultural Organization of United Nations (FAO) and the Government of Norway has been developing a project on Securing the Foundations for Fish Food Security in a Changing Ocean and are pleased to welcome you to Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire Joint FAO-UNEP-Norway funded Project: Securing the Foundations for Fish Food Security in a Changing Ocean in West, Central and Southern Africa, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire 15 - 17 July 2014.

This information document provides logistical details related to the meeting. The delegates are kindly requested to take note of the same.

### 1. Venue for the meeting

The meeting venue will be at Hôtel Ivotel

**Immeuble Ivotel**  
**Plateau, Rue Courgas**  
**01 BP 11811 ABIDJAN 01**  
**Tel: +225 20 25 66 67**  
**E-mail: [ivotel@ivotel.com](mailto:ivotel@ivotel.com)**

### 2. Hotel Reservations

The organizers have made a block booking for all delegates. A preferential rate has been agreed with the hotel at approx. US\$ 134.97 per night for bed and breakfast. Self-sponsored participants are kindly requested to make their own hotel reservations directly with the hotel. Self-sponsored participants who would like to stay at Hôtel Ivotel should indicate that they are **UNEP Guests**. It should be noted that a deposit payable may be required for processing hotel reservations.

The hotel contact person at Ivotel is;

Contact person: Ms. Anna TAGBA ([anna.tagba@ivotel.com](mailto:anna.tagba@ivotel.com))  
Tel: +225 20 25 66 66  
Fax: +225 20 25 67

### 3. Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA)

For any query related to travel and daily subsistence allowance (DSA), sponsored participants are invited to contact the designated focal persons as indicated below:

### **3.1 Daily Subsistence Allowance**

Serge Michel LOGOSSOU  
Finance / Budget Management,  
Division of Environmental Policy Implementation (DEPI)  
UNEP/ Abidjan Convention Secretariat  
Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire  
Phone :+ 225 22 41 88 56  
Mob : + 225 47 20 13 71  
Fax :+ 225 22 41 55 67  
Email: [serge.logossou@unep.org](mailto:serge.logossou@unep.org)

Boarding pass and copy of passport should be presented for DSA collection.

### **3.2 Travel**

Ms. Faustina Mukanzi  
Freshwater and Marine Ecosystems Branch (FMEB)  
Division of Environmental Policy Implementation  
United Nations Environment Programme  
NOF Block 2, Level 2, South Wing  
P. O. Box 30552 – 00100  
NAIROBI  
Tel: (254 20) 7624013  
Email: [faustina.mukanzi@unep.org](mailto:faustina.mukanzi@unep.org)

### **4. Airport Transfers**

The hotel will provide shuttle for airport transfers for the delegates at no cost. The service will be at the Arrivals lobby holding placard labeled 'Scoping Meeting Delegate'.

### **5. Registration of delegates**

All delegates are required to register at the Registration Desk outside the meeting room.

### **6. Badges**

Identity badges will be issued to all participants upon registration. All delegates are requested to wear badges during the meeting.

### **7. Documentation**

Meeting documents will be distributed to the delegates via email.

### **8. Time Zone**

Cote d'Ivoire is currently on GMT time zone.

### **9. Visas**

Delegates are required to make their own arrangements for issuance of entry visa to Côte d'Ivoire. Delegates should have received invitation letters to enable them process the necessary travel documents. You can log into: [www.abidjan.com/v/visa\\_requirements/](http://www.abidjan.com/v/visa_requirements/) for more details.

## 10. Health

All delegates are advised to carry their yellow fever vaccination certificate.

## 11. Weather

In July, temperatures in Abidjan range between a maximum of 34°C (daytime) and a minimum of 24°C (evening).

The city has a tropical wet and dry climate with long rainy season from May through July, a short rainy season (September–November) and two dry seasons, though rain is seen even during these dry seasons. Abidjan is generally humid throughout the year, with humidity generally at or higher than 80 percent. During the rainy season it can rain continuously for several consecutive days, or intensely for over an hour.

## 12. Travel

Abidjan experiences a tropical monsoon climate all year round and most months from May through July are showered with heavy rain. Avoid the above said months and Abidjan is a pleasant place with rain gods always looking down, but it's not that disturbing.

### City Transport

Abidjan is a big city, so discovering the place as you walk would be a bad idea. In addition, the city is not safe for cyclers either. Thus, the only option remaining would be public transport that includes taxis, buses, and boats. Moreover, you could also hire a motorcycle for your own sweet ride.

**Taxis:** There are two types of taxis in Abidjan: the orange colored and the varied colored. The orange colored taxis are ideal if you want travel singly, but these are quite expensive. In fact, the drivers need some bit of advised bargaining to lower down the rates. Get deep into the neighborhoods and you will discover various color taxis depending upon the area they operate. These are less expensive but you have to share them and the distance traveled is limited to the neighborhood.

Metered taxis are 'supposed' to exist but do not, thus leaving the deal to the driver and bargainer.

**Buses:** Buses is another cheap option of public transport though you will more often find them over-crowded. Besides, pickpockets have their own thing going on in such busy areas, so it better to remain alert, safe and secure.

**Boat:** Crossing the lagoon means taking a ferry ride that is the right choice by any means. Watching the Abidjan city on the horizon is sight worth remembering.

## 13. Official Language

The official language in Côte d'Ivoire is French. However English is minimally spoken and understood in hotels and restaurants.

## 14. Currency, credit cards and banks

The currency in Côte d'Ivoire is the West African CFA franc (XOF). The current exchange rate vis-à-vis the two main international currencies is approximately 481.582 XOF for 1 US dollar. Delegates may obtain local currency at foreign exchange bureaus or in local banks. Visa and Master Credit Cards are widely accepted in major hotels and establishments. However, delegates will need cash for transactions in local shops and supermarkets.

## 15. Electricity

The voltage and frequency in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire is 220 to 240 Volts, 50 Hertz as illustrated below. If your appliances plug has a different shape you may need a plug adapter.



Two round pins

## 16. Attractions

Côte d'Ivoire has a number of attractions i.e. The Cathedral of St. Paul is an innovative structure created and designed by Italian architect Aldo Spirito. This cathedral is unlike any other regular ones, as one can't really recognize that this is a religious place from its outside. But inside, the stained glass tableaux remind you of the basilica in Yamoussoukro. Address: Blvd Angoulvant, Le Plateau, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire.

For more information on various attractions please visit: [www.abidjan.com/v/attractions/](http://www.abidjan.com/v/attractions/)

**For further information regarding the meeting, please contact:**

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