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COP3 to the Bamako Convention

Third Conference of the Parties to the Bamako Convention on the Ban of the Import into Africa and the Control of Transboundary Movement and Management of Hazardous Wastes within Africa

Brazzaville, Congo
12 - 14 February 2020

Information on hosting meeting of the Conference of the Parties outside the seat of the Secretariat

Note by the Secretariat

1. Ordinary sessions of the Bamako Convention shall be held at the venue chosen by the Conference of the Parties at a previous session upon invitation by a member State. Failing such invitation, the session shall be convened at the location of the Secretariat.¹ In the case of the Bamako Convention on the Ban of the Import into Africa and the Control of Transboundary Movement and Management of Hazardous Wastes within Africa, the seat of the Secretariat is at Nairobi, Kenya.
2. The first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Bamako Convention was held in 2013 in Bamako, Mali, while the second meeting was in 2018 in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. The third meeting of the Conference of the Parties is being held in 2020 in Brazzaville, Republic of the Congo. This practice of holding meetings outside the seat of the Secretariat is expected to continue unless the Conference of the Parties decides otherwise.
3. If a Party would like to make an offer to host the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Bamako Convention, it may submit its offer sufficiently in advance to meeting of the Conference of the Parties prior to the meeting they would offer to host. The Conference of the Parties could then consider the offer when deciding on the date and venue of their next meeting. Should the Conference of the Parties decide to accept such an offer, the decision would be subject to the conclusion of a host country agreement between the host Government and the Secretariat.
4. Governments hosting a meeting of the Conference of the Parties outside the seat of the Secretariat, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 40/243 would bear the actual additional costs of holding the meeting outside the seat of the Secretariat. This includes the additional cost of secretariat and conference service staff travel in accordance with the applicable rules and regulations of the United Nations.
5. The host Government would also be responsible for providing at its own expense the premises, furnishings, equipment, and local staff in a manner that the Secretariat considers adequate for the effective functioning of the meeting. Other host Government requirements include; ensuring availability of adequate accommodation at reasonable commercial rates and local transportation for meeting participants, providing first aid and transport to hospital when needed, police protection,

¹ Rule 5 of Rules of Procedure of the Conference of the Parties to the Bamako Convention.

adhering to the relevant conventions pertaining to privileges and immunities,² and granting necessary entry visas to participants in a timely manner. For further information see the United Nations Guidelines on Host Country Agreements.³

6. Arrangements for hosting a meeting of the Conference of the Parties would be set out in a host country agreement to be signed by a duly authorized representative of the hosting Government and the Executive Secretary of the Bamako Convention. Parties interested in hosting the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties are advised to consult the Secretariat which can provide estimates of the additional costs mentioned in paragraph 4 above and more detail on the local arrangement requirements that will need to be paid directly by the host Government mentioned in paragraph 5 above.

7. Governments wishing to do so are encouraged to submit host offers for the 2022 fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Secretariat by 14 February 2020 to facilitate consideration of any offers received during the 2020 meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

² See the Convention on Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations (1946), Convention on Privileges and Immunities of Specialized Agencies (1947) and Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the International Atomic Energy Agency (1959).

³ <https://hr.un.org/content/guidelines-preparation-host-government-agreement-falling-under-general-assembly-resolution>.