

## 23 Global Meeting of the Regional Seas Programme - Bridgetown, Barbados

### LOGISTICS NOTE

Meeting 23 Global Meeting of the Regional Seas Programme

Date	20 to 23 November 2023 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– 20 to 22 November – Meeting at the Conference room as per the agenda</li><li>– 23 November – Field excursion</li></ul>
Meeting Location	Courtyard by Marriott, Bridgetown.
Contact information	For general information regarding the meeting, Please contact. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Mary Rono at <a href="mailto:mary.rono@un.org">mary.rono@un.org</a></li><li>– Nancy Soi at <a href="mailto:nancy.soi@un.org">nancy.soi@un.org</a>.</li></ul>

#### **1. General Information on Barbados**

Situated about 320 km (200 mi) NNE of Trinidad and about 160 km (100 mi) ESE of Saint Lucia, Barbados is the most easterly of the Caribbean islands. The island is 34 km (21 mi) long and 23 km (14 mi) wide, with an area of 430 sq km (166 sq mi) and a total coastline of 97 km (60 mi). Comparatively, Barbados occupies slightly less than 2.5 times the area of Washington, DC. The capital city of Bridgetown is located on the country's southwestern coast. The coast is almost entirely encircled with coral reefs with the land rising to 336m (1,102 ft) at Mt. Hillaby in the parish of St. Andrew and in most other areas, the land falls in a series of terraces to a coastal strip or wide flat lane. <https://www.encyclopedia.com/places/latin-america-and-caribbean/caribbean-political-geography/barbados>

#### **2. Travel and Entry Visas**

Participants are responsible for obtaining their own entry visas including any required transit visas. Kindly use your invitation letter to the meeting, a valid passport, among other required documents for your visa application. Some countries are Visa exempt, visas maybe required for nationals of some countries before entering Barbados. Please determine whether this will be the case for your country before travelling.

<https://cibtvisas.co.uk/destination/brb/barbados-visa> or <https://www.foreign.gov.bb/visa-information/>. Pay attention to your Air ticket itinerary, **transit visa** may be required if you are transiting via UK, USA.

#### **3. Arrival and Departure - Airport transfers to the meeting venue**

Participants are responsible for their transport from the airport to the hotel / meeting venue. There are several ways of getting to the meeting venue from Grantley Adams International Airport; private taxis, route taxis, care hire as well as public buses. Taxis are the most suitable form of transportation from the airport and other destinations around the island. The estimated cost of a taxi from the airport to Marriott is \$70 BBD but may vary depending on the weather and traffic. Kindly note taxis in Barbados do not operate on a meter system, It is important to establish a fare before accepting a ride.

#### **4. Accommodation/Hotel reservations**

Participants are kindly requested to book their own accommodation for their stay in Bridgetown, Barbados. If you intend to stay at Courtyard by Marriot where the meeting will be taking place, please email Graham, through [Rashida.Graham@courtyard.com](mailto:Rashida.Graham@courtyard.com) or [reservations.barbados@courtyard.com](mailto:reservations.barbados@courtyard.com)

## Recommended Hotels in Barbados – Bridgetown

Radisson Aquatica Resort Barbados  
SIMONE REID, Senior Sales Manager  
P: +1 (246) 426-4000 Ext. 5081 | F: +1 (246) 429-2400  
[simone@aquaticabarbados.com](mailto:simone@aquaticabarbados.com) | [www.radissonhotelsamericas.com](http://www.radissonhotelsamericas.com)

Accra Beach Hotel and Spa  
Marine House, Hastings, Christ Church  
Telephone: +1 (246) 435-8920  
Email: [reservations@accrabeachhotel.com](mailto:reservations@accrabeachhotel.com) | Website: [www.accrabeachhotel.com](http://www.accrabeachhotel.com)

Courtyard by Marriott  
The Garrison Historic Area, Hastings, Christ Church  
Telephone: +1 246-625-0000  
Email: [reservations.barbados@courtyard.com](mailto:reservations.barbados@courtyard.com)  
Website: <https://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/bgicy-courtyard-bridgetown-barbados/overview/>

Hilton Barbados Resort  
Needham's Point, St. Michael, BB11000  
Telephone: +1 246-426-0200  
Email: [reservations.barbados@hilton.com](mailto:reservations.barbados@hilton.com)  
Website: [www.hiltonbarbadosresort.com](http://www.hiltonbarbadosresort.com)

Savannah Beach Club Hotel & Spa  
Hastings Main Road, Christ Church  
Telephone: (246) 434-3800  
Email: [reservations@savannahbarbados.com](mailto:reservations@savannahbarbados.com)  
Website: <https://www.savannahbarbados.com/>

Other hotel and resorts:  
<https://www.visitbarbados.org/your-stay/where-to-stay/hotels-and-resorts?pageindex=1>

**5. Dress code during the meeting:** Smart casual

**6. Food and Beverages**

Coffee breaks will be provided during the days of the meeting (one in the morning and one in the afternoon).

Lunch will be provided on the days of the meeting and Dinner will be covered by each participant.

**7. Time Zone** – Local time is GMT - 4.

**8. Registration for the Meeting**

All participants are requested to confirm their attendance as indicated on the invitation letters, On-site registration will take place at the meeting Venue on 20 November 2023 from 8:30am.

**9. Currency**

The currency is the Barbados Dollar (BBD): US \$ 1 = 2 BBD. Notes are issued in denominations of BBD \$2, 5, 10, 20, 50, and 100. Coins are issued in BBD 0.05, 0.10, 0.25, and 1. The US Dollar is accepted in Barbados. It is advised to exchange currency at the airport, banks, and hotels for the most favorable exchange rate.

Major credit cards and traveler's cheques are widely accepted. ATMs can be found in the airport and at all banks, which include, but are not limited to, the Royal Bank of Canada, First Caribbean and Scotiabank. You may check <http://www.oanda.com/> for more currency exchange information.

#### **10. Electricity**

Electricity in Barbados is 110 volts/50 cycles.

There is a reliable electricity supply, standard plug types in Barbados are:

- Flat blade (2 flat blades)
- Flat blades with round grounding pin

If traveling from North America you should be able to use your appliances without any problems, however if travelling from the UK & Europe you may need adapters and transformers. Most Barbados hotels can provide adapters and transformers for hair dryers and other appliances.

#### **11. Internet**

Wi-Fi will be provided at the meeting venue for the duration of the meeting.

#### **12. Daily subsistence Allowance (DSA)**

Non staff Participants sponsored by UNEP as indicated on the invitation letter will receive their DSA at the meeting venue, kindly carry your boarding passes.

#### **13. Website**

Documents for the Twenty-third Annual Global Meeting of the Regional Seas Programme will be made available at the UNEP Regional Seas Programme website: Click the [link](#) to access the event page.

#### **14. Field excursion**

Scheduled to take place on 23 November 2023, transport will be provided from the meeting venue to the sites listed below. You are advised to wear comfortable clothing for the field visits.

- Richard Haynes Boardwalk
- Bridgetown Sewage Treatment Plant
- The National Botanical Gardens

#### **15. Climate and Weather**

Temperatures in Barbados range from an average low of 24°C /76°F degrees to an average high of 29°C/85°F. November temperatures in Barbados can be between 27 C/80.6 F to 28 C/82.4 with a very small chance of rain—around 3 to 8 days expected in November.

#### **16. SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES:**

Like all Caribbean countries, Barbados can be affected by hurricanes and severe weather events. The hurricane season runs from June to the end of November, be continually aware of current weather conditions while in Barbados during this period. General information about natural hazard preparedness is available via the Internet from the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) at <http://www.fema.gov/>. You should monitor local and international weather updates from the World Meteorological Organisation,

<http://www.wunderground.com/cgi-bin/findweather/getForecast?query=barbados> or  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/weather/5day.shtml?world=0293>.

As the Caribbean is prone to vector borne diseases, we encourage you to visit the PAHO website <https://www.paho.org/en/barbados-and-eastern-caribbean-countries> for the latest disease outbreak updates and travel advice prior to your travel.

### **17. Security**

Generally speaking, Barbados is a safe and peaceful country. Nevertheless, crime does exist so you are advised to maintain at least the same level of personal security awareness as you would anywhere else and ensure that your living accommodation is secure. Avoid walking alone in isolated areas, including beaches, particularly after dark. Do not carry large amounts of cash or jewelry. Valuables and travel documents should be left, where possible, in a hidden and safe location. There is a low threat from terrorism in Barbados. Still, you should be aware of the global risk of indiscriminate terrorist attacks which could be in public areas, including those frequented by expatriates and foreign travelers.

### **18. Local Laws and Customs (taken from the barbados.org site)**

You should note that there are severe penalties for all drug offences, Pack all luggage yourself. **You should be aware that it is an offence for anyone to dress in camouflage clothing in Barbados.**

### **19. Emergency Telephone Numbers**

Fire: 311

Police: 211 or 430-7100

Ambulance: 511

### **20. Medical Facilities**

Queen Elizabeth Hospital  
Martindales Road, St. Michael  
Tel: (246) 436-6450  
Fax: (246) 429-5374

Bayview Hospital (Private)  
St. Paul's Avenue  
St. Michael  
Tel: (246) 436-5446