

# **New York Resource Guide**

## **UNITED NATIONS STATISTICS DIVISION**

## THIRD PREPARATORY MEETING

ON

**GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT** 

## **UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS, NEW YORK**

These information notes have been compiled to assist you in the preparation for your trip to New York to participate in the **Third Preparatory Meeting on Global Geospatial Information Management.** 

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE MEETING**

The Third Preparatory Meeting on Global Geospatial Information Management will be held from **4-6 April 2011** at the Millennium UN Plaza Hotel New York, across the street from the United Nations Headquarters. **The opening session will start at 10:00 a.m.** and on subsequent days the meeting will start at 9:30 a.m. It will take place in Riverview Room, 28th floor East Tower, Millennium UN Plaza Hotel New York, 1 United Nations Plaza, 44th Street (see Map below).

#### **Identification Badges and Grounds Passes**

We would like to inform you that we will prepare for you a temporary ground pass to the UN premises for the duration of the meeting. At 9:30 am on 4 April, you are kindly requested to come to the lobby of the two UN Plaza building located between 1st and 2nd Avenue and 44th Street to collect your pass (also adjacent to the Millennium UN Plaza Hotel).





1 United Nations Plaza

#### **Address and Contact Numbers**

#### Substantive Officer:

Mr. Amor Laaribi Room: DC2-1676 Phone: (1-212) 963-3042 Fax: (1-212) 963-4569 Email: <u>laaribi@un.org</u>

#### Staff Assistant:

Ms. Vilma Frani Room: DC2-1664B Phone: (1-917) 367-2903 Fax: (1-212) 963-4569 Email : <u>frani@un.org</u>

#### Working Language(s) of the meeting

All the meetings will be conducted in English only.

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

#### **Immigration Requirements**

Participants should contact relevant United States of America embassies or consulates on visa requirements, and obtain the appropriate entry permit where necessary as early as possible.

The official invitation letter is generally sufficient to be used as supporting documentation for visa (entry permit) request. Please contact us, should there be any issues with obtaining visa for the purpose of attending this event.

#### Money

The majority of ATMs (Automated Teller Machines) networks in New York City are linked to a network that most likely includes your bank at home. Hence, you would be able to make a cash withdrawal if you have a cash card (ATM Card) that offers **Cirrus** (<u>http://www.mastercard.com/atmlocator/index.jsp</u>) or **Plus** (<u>www.visa.com/atm</u>), the 2 most popular networks. There are fees and daily limits associated with withdrawing money using the above networks. Please check with your bank at home for this information.

Traveller's cheques are another good and safe alternative. Be sure to keep a record of their serial numbers, so you are ensured a refund in case they are lost or stolen. The 3 most popular traveller's cheque providers are **American Express** (American Express branches, <u>www.americanexpress.com</u>), **Visa** (Citibank branches), **MasterCard** (Thomas Cook Currency Services).

Credit Cards are a convenient way to pay for transactions. **American Express**, **Visa** and **Master Card** (among others) are accepted virtually everywhere in New York.

#### <u>Hotels</u>

Arrangements for hotels need to be made by individual participants (or their Mission) at hotels of their own choice. A list of hotel in the vicinity of the UN is provided below.

Please note that a credit card is normally required to make a reservation, participants should plan accordingly.

Participants can contact hotels directly and make reservations. If you need assistance you should contact Ms. Brendalin Blair (Tel. 1-917-367-3510, Fax. 1-917-367-9693 and Email brendalin.e.blair@aexp.com) or Ms Denise Rivera (Tel. 1-212-963-4770 and Email <u>denise.e.rivera@aexp.com</u>), American Express, United Nations, New York, saying that you are attending the UN Third Preparatory Meeting on GGIM and specifying your preference(s). Participants can also contact your country's Mission to the United Nations which may be able to assist you (contact details for missions can be found at <u>http://www.un.org/members/missions.shtml</u>). Participants should make the necessary reservations at least one week prior to the event.

Below is the list of hotels located in the vicinity of the United Nations (walking distance to the UN).

Below are some popular web sites for hotels:

www.expedia.com www.hotels.com www.orbitz.com

### Hotels in the vicinity of the United Nations

Hotel	Address	Telephone	Website
ALGONQUIN	59 W. 44th St.	(1-212) 840.6800	www.algonquinhotel.com
AMBASSADOR	140 E. 63rd St.	(1-212) 838.5700	-
BEDFORD	118 E. 40th St.	(1-212) 697.8100	www.bedfordhotel.com
BEEKMAN	3 Mitchell Place (E. 48th and 1st Ave.)	(1-212) 355.7300	www.affinia.com
BENJAMIN	125 E. 50th St.	(1-212) 753.2700	www.thebenjamin.com
BENTLEY	500 E. 62nd St.	(1-212) 644.6000	-
TUDOR HOTEL	304 E. 42nd St.	(1-212) 986.8800	www.tudorhotelny.com
DIPLOMAT RESIDENCE	210 E. 47 <sup>th</sup> St.	(1-212) 371.6029	-
EASTGATE TOWER	222 E. 39th St.	(1-212) 687.8000	www.affinia.com
DYLAN	52 E. 41st St.	(1-212) 338.0500	www.dylanhotel.com
ENVOY CLUB	377 E. 33rd St.	(1-212) 481.4600	-
FITZPATRICK	141 E. 44th St.	(1-212) 351.6872	www.fitzpatrickhotels.com
HELMSLEY PARK LANE	36 Central Park South	(1-212) 521.6239	www.helmsleyhotels.com
MARCEL	201 E. 24th St.	(1-212) 696.3800	-
MELROSE HOTEL	140 E. 63rd St.	(1-212) 838.5700	www.melrosehotelnewyork.com
METROPOLITAN	569 Lexington Ave.	(1-212) 752.7000	www.metropolitanhotelnyc.com
MIDDLETOWN HELMSLEY	148 E. 48th St.	(1-212) 755.3000	www.helmsleyhotels.com
MILLENNIUM HOTEL	1 UN Plaza (E. 44th St at 1st Ave)	(1-212) 758.1234	www.millenniumhotels.com
NEW YORK HELMSLEY	212 E. 42nd St.	(1-212) 490.8900	www.helmsleyhotels.com
PICKWICK ARMS	230 E. 51 <sup>st</sup> St.	(1-212) 355.0300	www.pickwickarms.com
RADISSON	511 Lexington Ave.	(1-212) 755.4400	www.radisson.com
ROGER SMITH*	501 Lexington Ave.	(1-212) 755.1400	www.rogersmith.com
SAN CARLOS	150 E. 50 <sup>th</sup> St.	(1-212) 755.1800	www.sancarloshotel.com
WARWICK	65 W. 54 <sup>th</sup> St.	(1-212) 247.2700	www.warwickhotelny.com

#### Hotels which are a long walk and non-walking distance from the UN

The hotels listed below are located further from the United Nations premises (long walk and non-walking distance to the UN).

Hotel	otel Address		Website	
Affinia Dumont	150 East 34th Street (Lexington and Third Avenues)	(1-212) 481-7600	www.affinia.com	
Chelsea Hotel	222 West 23rd Street (7th and 8th Avenues)	(1-212) 243-3700	www.hotelchelsea.com	
Doubletree Metropolitan	569 Lexington Avenue (51st Street)	(1-212) 752-7000	www.metropolitanhotelnyc.com	
Excelsior Hotel	45 West 81st Street (Central Park West and Columbus Avenue)	(1-212) 362-9200	www.excelsiorhotelny.com	
Gershwin Hotel	7 East 27th Street (5th and Madison Avenues)	(1-212) 545-8000	www.gershwinhotel.com	
Hotel QT	125 West 45th Street (Avenue of the Americas and 7th Avenue)		www.hotelqt.com	
Hotel Stanford	43 West 32nd Street (Broadway and 5th Avenue)	(1-800)-365-1114	www.hotelstanford.com	
Hudson Hotel	356 West 58th Street (8th and 9th Avenues)	(1-212) 554-6000	www.hudsonhotel.com	
Off SoHo Suites Hotel	11 Rivington Street (Bowery and Chrystie Streets)	(1-800)-633-7646	www.offsoho.com	
The Time	224 West 49th Street (Broadway and 8th Avenue)	(1-877)-846-3692	www.thetimeny.com	

## AIRPORTS

There are 3 major airports serving New York City. They are:

- 1. John F. Kennedy International Airport: Phone: 1-718-244-4444 Located in Queens, New York, about 15 miles from Midtown Manhattan.
- 2. **LaGuardia Airport:** Phone: 1-718-533-3400. Located in Queens, about 8 miles from Midtown Manhattan.
- 3. **Newark International Airport:** Phone: 1-973-961-6000 Located in New Jersey, about 16 miles from Midtown Manhattan.

Information regarding these 3 airports can be accessed online at <u>http://www.panynj.gov./aviation.html</u>

#### **Airport Transportation**

Complete transportation information for the above 3 airports can be obtained by calling **Air-Ride** ph: 1-800-AIR RIDE (toll free number within the U.S.). Please find below the options of transportation from the airports to Midtown Manhattan:

#### TRANSPORTATION FROM AIRPORTS TO MANHATTAN

### FROM JFK AIRPORT:

Service	Fare	Estimated Time of Arrival	Frequency	Notes
AirTrain JFK (www.panynj.gov/airtrain) Connection with NYC subway (www.mta.info/nyct/subway) Connection with Long Island Railroad (LIRR) direct to Penn Station (www.mta.info/lirr)	\$5 Enter/Exit Fare + Subway Fare (\$2.25) \$5 Enter/Exit Fare + Train Fare (Peak hrs:\$6.75, off-peak hrs \$4.75)	55 minutes 40 minutes	Service available 24 hrs. Air Train:4-10 minutes Subway:4-12 minutes. LIRR: 2-22 minutes depending on the time of the day.	Connect to "E" subway train/LIRR at 'Jamaica Station'. Use pay-per-ride Metrocard is required to ride Air Train.
New York Airport Service Express Bus (1-718) 875-8200 (http://www.nyairportservice.com)	\$15	45 - 65 minutes ( longer at peak hours)	Every 15-30 minutes 6:15 a.m 11:10 p.m.	Grand Central Terminal (bus stops at 125 Park Ave. between E. 41st and E. 42nd Streets) Transfer available to hotels between E. 27th and E. 63rd Streets.
SuperShuttle Manhattan Shared door to door minibus 1-800-258-3826 (www.supershuttle.com)	\$ 23	45 – 75 minutes (depending on traffic)	Available 24 hours.	No reservation is required for trip from Airport to Manhattan. Follow the signs to Ground Transportation Desk near the Baggage Claim area. Ask an agent to arrange for service or call Super Shuttle directly from the courtesy phone. 24-48 hours reservations required for return service.
Taxi	Flat rate \$45 plus tolls (\$4.00 each) and tips (10-15% is customary).	40 - 60 minutes (longer at peak hours).	Available 24 hours a day.	Follow the sings to Taxi Stands in front of terminals.

## FROM NEWARK INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT:

Service	Fare	Estimated Time of Arrival	Frequency	Notes
AirTrain Newark (http://www.panynj.gov/airtrainn ewark/what.index.html) 1-800-AIR RIDE Connection with NJTransit (www.njtransit.com) 1-800-772-2222 or (973) 762- 5100	\$5 + NJ Transit Fare (\$6.55)	40 minutes	Air Train: 8-12 minutes. Available 24 hours. NJ Transit: 7-30 minutes depending on the time of the day between 4:46 a.m. and 1:55 a.m. For exact times check <u>www.njtransit.com</u> or call 1-800-626-RIDE	Take Air Train to 'Newark Int'l Airport Station' and transfer the NJ Transit Trains to New York Penn Station.
Olympia Airport Express 1-877- 8-NEWARK 1-877 863-9275 (http://www.coachusa.com/olym pia/ss.newarkairport.asp)	\$25 round-trip or \$15 one-way. \$16 one-way transfers to hotels via Grand Central Station.	30 - 60 minutes ( longer at peak hours)	Every 20-30 minutes 4:00 a.m 11:00 p.m.	Drop off service to Grand Central Terminal (120 E. 41 <sup>st</sup> St, between Park and Lexington Ave.), Port Authority (E. 42 <sup>nd</sup> St and 8 <sup>th</sup> Ave) or Penn Station (W. 34 <sup>th</sup> st and 8 <sup>th</sup> Ave)
SuperShuttle Manhattan Shared door to door minibus 1-800-258-3826 (www.supershuttle.com)	\$23	30 – 60 minutes (longer at peak hours)	Available on demand 24 hours.	No reservation is required for trip from Airport to Manhattan. Follow the signs to Ground Transportation Desk near the Baggage Claim area. Ask an agent to arrange for service or call Super Shuttle directly from the courtesy phone. 24-48 hours reservations required for return service.
<u>Taxi</u>	Flat rate ranging from \$30 to \$45 plus tolls (\$6.00 each) and tips (10-15% is customary).	40 minutes (longer at peak hours).	Available during flight hours.	Follow the signs to Taxi Stands outside arrival areas.

## FROM LA GUARDIA AIRPORT:

Service	Fare	Estimated Time of Arrival	Frequency	Notes
New York Airport Service Express Bus (1-718) 875-8200 (http://www.nyairportservice.com)	\$12	30 - 45 minutes, ( longer at peak hours)	Every 20-30 minutes 7:00 a.m 11:00 p.m.	Grand Central Terminal (Vanderbilt Ave. and E. 42nd Streets) Transfer available to hotels between E. 31st and E. 59th Streets.
SuperShuttle Manhattan Shared door to door minibus 1-800-258-3826 (www.supershuttle.com)	\$15 - \$19	45 – 75 minutes (depending on traffic)	Available on demand 7:00 a.m 11:30 p.m.	No reservation is required for trip from Airport to Manhattan. Follow the signs to Ground Transportation Desk near the Baggage Claim area. Ask an agent to arrange for service or call Super Shuttle directly from the courtesy phone. 24-48 hours reservations required for return service.
<u>Taxi</u>	\$21 - \$30 plus tolls (\$4.00) and tips (10-15% is customary) plus night surcharge (\$0.50 from 8:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.) or weekday surcharge (\$1 Mon to Fri from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.) if applicable.	20 - 30 minutes (longer at peak hours).	Available during flight hours.	Follow the signs to Taxi Stands in front of terminals.

## LOCAL TRANSPORTATION

**Subway and buses** (<u>http://www.mta.nyc.ny.us/</u>) are a convenient way to get around Manhattan. **Metro Card** valid for subway and bus can be purchased at subway stations.

- <u>Single:</u> trip fare is \$2.25.
- <u>7-Day Metro Card</u> costs \$27.00 (unlimited ride for one week for one person)

**Yellow Cab Taxis** are readily available around Manhattan. Taxis are a safe alternative for late night travel when train and buses can be few and far between. It is advisable not to take taxis without meters (illegal taxi), as they could charge exorbitant fares. Taxis are cash only and it's a good idea to have small bills because taxi drivers usually cannot change anything higher than \$20. While taxis are relatively expensive for a single person, they are more affordable with 3 or more riders. The rates for taxis are as follows:

Initial fare......\$2.50 Each 1/5 mile (4 blocks)....\$0.40 Each 1 minute idle......\$0.20 Night surcharge......\$0.50 (after 8:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m.) Additional riders......FREE

Pay only what's on the meter, plus a 15-20 per cent gratuity. On all trips within New York City, any bridge and tunnel tolls to the destination shall be paid by the passenger, who shall be so informed before the start of the trip. On all trips within the City of New York, return tolls shall not be charged except for trips over the Cross Bay Veterans, Marine Parkway-Gil Hodges Memorial, and Verrazano Narrows Bridges. On trips beyond the City of New York, all necessary tolls to and from the destination shall be paid by the passenger. There are additional charges for crossings outside the metropolitan area and New Jersey. Passengers are required to pay one way.

## POSTAL SERVICES

#### **United Nations Post Office**

UN Secretariat Building (Basement) 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue (between E. 45<sup>th</sup> & E. 46<sup>th</sup> Street, entry via Visitor's Entrance)

Grand Central Station 450 Lexington Ave. New York, NY 10017 (1-800) 275-8777

## **CONFIRMATION OF RETURN FLIGHTS**

Please contact the airline directly to reconfirm your flight.

## Тіме

For the time difference between New York and your country, please refer to <u>http://www.whitepages.com.au/wp/search/time.html</u>

## WEATHER

To check for current weather condition in New York, please refer to <u>http://www.weather.com/weather/local/10017?lswe=10017&lwsa=WeatherLocalUndecla</u> red&from=whatwhere