NEW YORK RESOURCE GUIDE

NINTH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

UN HEADQUARTERS, NEW YORK

(22 May 2019)
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 Ninth Session of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management.

We would appreciate any comments or suggestions that you have on how to improve this document.

Administrative arrangements for the meeting

The Ninth Session of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management will be held from 7 – 9 August 2019 at the United Nations Headquarters. The opening session will start at 10:30 a.m., 7 August 2019 and on subsequent days the meeting will start at 10:00 a.m. The Ninth Session will take place at the Conference Room #4 of the General Assembly Building. Please enter the UN premises through the Visitor’s Entrance located on First Avenue (between E. 45 & E. 46 Streets).

The Ninth Session of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management will be conducted in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish and all official documentation will be in six UN official languages.

All the other meetings will be conducted in English only.

PowerPoint presentations

Kindly inform Ms. Vilma Frani (contact details below) if you have a PowerPoint presentation so that arrangements can be made. Please send an electronic version of your presentation at least three working days in advance of your presentation, so that it can be uploaded in a timely manner.

Website

Relevant information including provisional agenda, organization of works, side event calendar, summaries and background documents will be loaded as soon as they become available at the Committee’s website at http://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/9th-Session/.

The Ninth Session will be webcast live and archived at webtv.un.org.
Country delegates

We would like to remind you that you will need to comply with the formality of requesting your Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York to advise the Secretary-General in writing of your intention to participate in the meetings and provide the name(s) of all the members of your delegation. You can find the contact information for your Permanent Mission on the following website: [http://www.un.org/en/members/](http://www.un.org/en/members/). Once your mission has informed the Secretary-General, they will then request grounds pass to the United Nations premises for each member of your delegation.

Observers

Confirmed observers without UN grounds passes will be issued an events pass. If you are planning to attend the ninth session, please inform the UN-GGIM Secretariat (Mr. CheeHai Teo, Tel: 1-212-963-4904; Fax: 1-212-963-9851; Email: teo@un.org and Ms. Vilma Frani, Tel: 1-917-367-2903; Fax: 1-212-963-9851; Email: frani@un.org) before Wednesday, 3 July 2019 to facilitate the timely processing of events passes. Only observers invited by the Committee will be issued events pass.

Entrance to the UN Headquarters will be at the “Visitors Entrance” located on 1st Avenue between East 45th and 46th Streets. A UNSD colleague will greet you in front of the Visitor's Entrance with your events pass. Please bring a valid government issued ID. Events pass are necessary to enter and leave UN buildings.

Visa and entry requirements

Most visitors will need a visa for entry into the United States. Participants may contact the nearest United States Embassy or Consulate in the country of departure ([http://www.usembassy.gov/](http://www.usembassy.gov/)) as soon as possible to determine whether a visa is required or visit the US State Department website at: [http://www.unitedstatesvisas.us/](http://www.unitedstatesvisas.us/) for further information.

The official announcement letter is generally sufficient to be used as supporting documentation for visa (entry permit) request along with the visa application form, any accompanying documentation and a passport valid for six months after departure from the United States. Kindly also check whether you would need a transit visa for countries in which you may need to transfer or stop over during your trip to and from New York. Meeting all visa and entry requirements including to the United States is the sole responsibility of participants.
Meals

The following options are available in United Nations Secretariat building:

- The Lobby Café on the ground floor
- Main Cafeteria on the 4th floor
- Vienna Café and Café de la Paix - both located in the Basement

Various restaurants are also available within a short walking distance of United Nations Headquarters.

Contact information

Substantive Officers:

Mr. Greg Scott
Room: DC2-1518
Phone: (1-212) 963-8578
Fax: (1-212) 963-9851
Email: scott12@un.org

Mr. CheeHai Teo
Room: DC2-1506
Phone: (1-212) 963-4904
Fax: (1-212) 963-9851
Email: teo@un.org

Administrative Assistant:

Ms. Vilma Frani
Room: DC2-1513A
Phone: (1-917) 367-2903
Fax: (1-212) 963-9851
Email: frani@un.org
Participants will make their own hotel reservations. When making reservations, participants may wish to inquire about special rates for attending a United Nations conference and for hotel shuttle buses to and from airports. Please note that hotel reservations will only be guaranteed with a credit card.

Participants can contact hotels directly and make reservations. If you need assistance you should contact American Express, United Nations New York, (Tel. 1-877-418-9652, Outside the US: 1-336-291-1394, Fax. 1-917 967 9693 and Email unsec@aexp.com).

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 http://www.un.org/en/members/). Participants should make the necessary reservations at least one week prior to the event.

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<th>Hotel Name</th>
<th>Hotel Address</th>
<th>Telephone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Affinia</td>
<td>155 East 50th St</td>
<td>212-751-5710</td>
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<td>Affinia Dumont</td>
<td>150th West 34th St</td>
<td>212-481-7600</td>
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<td>141 East 44th St</td>
<td>212-784-2520</td>
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<td>Grand Hyatt New York</td>
<td>Park Ave , NY, NY</td>
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<td>Hemsley Middle Town</td>
<td>148 East 48th St</td>
<td>212-755-3000</td>
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<td>212 East 42nd St</td>
<td>212-490-8900</td>
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<td>36 Central</td>
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<td>Millennium Un Plaza</td>
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Search engines to find hotels in New York
- www.agoda.com/
- www.kayak.com/hotels
- www.expedia.com/
- www.booking.com/Hotels

Reviews of hotels in New York
- www.yelp.com/
- www.tripadvisor.com/NewYorkCity

Transportation in New York

By subway: Number 4, 5, 6 or 7 trains to Grand Central Station, then walk east three blocks on East 42nd Street to 1st Avenue.

By bus: buses M15 and M15 Select stop in front of the United Nations on 1st Avenue.

New York City taxis are available from any destination.

Other logistical information

Post Office

The United Nations has postal services in the basement of the UN complex. The office is located near the UN Gift Shop. Hours: 9:00 am-5:30 pm.

Banks

The closest bank to the United Nations Secretariat is Chase Manhattan Bank, located at the corner of East 44th Street and 1st Avenue (open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.). There are ATMs and foreign currency exchange at the bank, as well as ATMs on UN premises (e.g. UN Visitor Centre in the basement of the General Assembly).

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 (http://www.mastercard.com/atmlocator/index.jsp) or Plus (www.visa.com/atm), 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, www.americanexpress.com), 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.

Time

For the time difference between New York and your country, please refer to http://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/

Weather

To check for current weather condition in New York, please refer to http://www.weather.com/weather/local/10017?iswe=10017&lwsa=WeatherLocalUndeclared&from=whatwhere

Medical services

Participants are responsible for making their own inoculations and medical/health insurance arrangements, including life, health, medical evacuations and treatments, and other forms deemed appropriate. The United Nations does not take responsibility for the ill health of any participants during their stay. Medical attention is available during regular working hours from 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the UN Secretariat (5th floor).