

**Fifth High Level Forum on
UN Global Geospatial Information Management**

**Implementing the Sustainable Development Goals:
The Role of Geospatial Technology and Innovation**

**Sheraton Maria Isabel Hotel, Mexico City, Mexico
28-30 November 2017**

Information Note

(29 September 2017)

Organized by

The United Nations Committee of Experts on
Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM)
in collaboration with
the National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI)
and Geospatial Media and Communications

Introduction

The United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM), in collaboration with the Government of Mexico through the National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI), and Geospatial Media and Communications will convene the **Fifth High Level Forum on United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management at the Sheraton Maria Isabel Hotel in Mexico City from 28 – 30 November 2017.**

The Fifth High Level Forum program will continue the tradition of opening with a Ministerial Segment, in order for high level decision-makers to share and exchange views with delegates on the very important role of geospatial information and technology in national sustainable development initiatives. The Forum will feature technical presentations, group discussions and a series of panel sessions over the following three days that demonstrate the considerable collaboration and liaison among global experts within the geospatial information community, public-private professional bodies, including United Nations organizations, and other internationally acclaimed development organizations, for optimum adoption and utilization of geospatial platforms and services. Featured topics will discuss the critical role of geospatial knowledge and services in a number of sectors and thematic areas of the SDGs. This will assist in understanding the requirements of geospatial information to support accurate monitoring of progress, and in identifying challenges for successful realization of these goals.

This fifth edition of UN-GGIM's High Level Forums will have the substantive support from each of the five Regional Committees of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM: Americas, UN-GGIM: Asia Pacific, UN-GGIM: Africa, UN-GGIM: Arab States and UN-GGIM: Europe), as well as the UN-GGIM Private Sector Network, the UN-GGIM Academic Network and the UN-GGIM Geospatial Societies.

Recognizing the importance of geospatial information in national and global development, Member States are being encouraged to participate in the Fifth High Level Forum. Additional information will continually be available at <http://ggim.un.org/5th%20HLF.html>

Programme

Date	Time	Activity
Nov 28 (Tues.)	09:00-13:00	Opening Ceremony and Ministerial Segment
	13:30-14:30	Lunch
	14:00-17:30	Session 1 Implementing the SDGs: The relevance of geography and reliable, timely, accessible and disaggregated data
	18:00-21:00	Welcome Reception (TBC)

Nov 29 (Wed.)	09:00-12:30	Session 2 Geospatial knowledge platforms: Empowering the SDGs through geographic tools and services
	12:30-14:00	Lunch
	14:00-17:30	Session 3 Implementing the SDGs: The role of geospatial research and innovation
Nov 30 (Thur.)	09:00-12:30	Session 4 Integrated information systems: A national priority for implementing the SDGs
	12:30-14:00	Lunch
	14:00-15:30	Session 5 Public-private partnerships: Evolving integrated geospatial knowledge platforms
	16:00-17:00	Concluding Session

Language

The Fifth High Level Forum on UN Global Geospatial Information Management will be conducted in English. Simultaneous interpretation services will be provided in Spanish.

Venue

The Forum will be held at the Sheraton María Isabel Hotel, Mexico City, Mexico, and located on renowned Paseo de la Reforma Avenue, just 30 minutes away from Mexico City International Airport. The Hotel was opened in March 1962 and has, since then, become the mirror of the “Ángel de la Independencia” and one of the first international-style buildings in Mexico City.

The address of the Sheraton Maria Isabel Hotel is:

Paseo de la Reforma 325
Col Cuauhtémoc,
Mexico City 06500
Phone: +52(55)52425555
<http://www.sheratonmexicocitymariaisabel.com/>

Registration

All participants are required to register online via the link of the Fifth High Level Forum on UN-GGIM at the host’s website below. National government delegations are welcome and

will be nominated through their appropriate governmental entities. Nominations should be sent to the Secretariat by completing the registration form.

Representatives from international organizations and the private sector active in the field of global geospatial information management are welcomed on verification of their credentials. Interested parties are required to fill their intent of participation form. Completion and submission of the form at the below link indicates your intent to join the UN-GGIM High Level Forum. It is not the final confirmation of attendance. Approved participants will receive a follow-up confirmation email from the UN-GGIM High Level Forum Secretariat. Only the names of duly confirmed participants will be included in the list of participants.

Only those who have received a confirmation email will be included in the list of participants and entitled to attend the Forum. Please have your confirmation email with you at the registration counter to receive your badge at the Forum venue.

For identification reasons, all participants are requested to wear their meeting badges at all times during meetings. The loss of a meeting badge should be communicated to the Registration counter located at the venue so that a new one can be issued immediately.

Registration: <http://geospatialmedia.net/unggim/online-registration-form.asp>

Immigration Requirements

Passports:

Travel to Mexico requires passports to be valid for at least 6 months upon the date of entry.

Visas:

If you meet the following 2 categories, you may be exempted from a Visa:

1. Visitors holding a valid USA Visa.
2. Permanent residents in the UK.

If not, and for accurate information about the requirements and conditions that apply to your nationality, you should consult the following websites where you are able to see if your country requires a Visa, and where to go with the Application form to obtain a Mexican Visa for your country.

To know if you require a Visa:

<https://www.gob.mx/cms/uploads/attachment/file/8932/visasordinarios.pdf>

Find where to obtain a Mexican Visa for your country:

<https://mexico.visahq.com/>

Visa Application form:

<https://www.gob.mx/cms/uploads/attachment/file/8927/SolicitudINGLES.pdf>

Duration of migratory documents and number of entries to Mexico

At the port of entry, the Migration official will determine the duration of stay in Mexico of the foreign national. The maximum stay for tourists and business visitors in Mexico is up to six months. The maximum stay for visitors in transit is up to 30 days.

Visitors must obtain a landing card (FMM form) from the airline, or at any port of entry into Mexico, and complete this form with his/her individual information. The immigration officer will stamp the FMM card upon arrival. PLEASE KEEP IT IN A SAFE PLACE AND DO NOT LOSE IT. YOU WILL BE ASKED FOR THIS DOCUMENT AT YOUR DEPARTURE FROM MEXICO. The Mexican migratory authorities have the faculty to grant or deny the entry into Mexico if the visitor does not fully comply with the migratory regulations.

Hotel Accommodation

Every participant is responsible for arranging their individual accommodation and hotel bookings. A list of hotels is provided below. Please note that a credit card is normally required to make a reservation. Mexico City has the largest tourist service infrastructure in the country, with more than 600 lodging establishments of all categories, distributed throughout the City. Some of the major hotel chains offer their services in the City as well as local hotels, apartments, hostels and guest houses with low rates.

High Level Forum Hotel

To be a guest of the Sheraton María Isabel Hotel, please visit:

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/Sheraton+Mar%C3%ADa+Isabel+Hotel/@19.4249278,-99.1676198,17.28z/data=!4m5!3m4!1s0x0:0xbc2d97a9f990a00f!8m2!3d19.4279393!4d-99.1671272>

List of Hotels near the Forum venue

Please Note: Due to the recent Earthquake near Mexico City, the Secretariat and INEGI in Mexico are still reviewing and finalizing the list of hotels, and confirming if all hotel buildings are safe. This list will be updated as required.

No.	Hotel	Rate	No. of Rooms
5 ★	María Isabel Sheraton HOTEL http://www.sheratonmexicocitymariaisabel.com/ Av Paseo de la Reforma 325 Col. Cuauhtémoc, Mexico City C.P. 06500	From US\$202	756

	Tel: +52(55)5242 5555		
5 ★	Four Seasons Hotel Mexico City http://www.fourseasons.com/es/mexico/ Paseo de la Reforma 500 Col. Juárez, Mexico Ciy, C.P. 06600 Tel: +52(55) 52301818 Fax: +52(55) 52301808	From US\$370	240
5 ★	Marquis Reforma HOTEL http://www.marquisreforma.com/default-es.html Paseo de la Reforma 465 Col. Cuautémoc, Mexico City C.P 06500 Tel: +52(55) 52291200	From US\$ 265	208
4 ★	Camino Real Polanco Hotel Mariano Escobedo 700 Col. Anzures, Mexico City C.P. 11590 Tel: +52(55)52638888	From US\$ 250	712
4 ★	Fiesta Americana Chapultepec http://www.fiestamericana.com/es/web/grand-fiesta-americana-chapultepec/rooms Mariano Escobedo 756 Col. Anzures, Mexico City C.P. 11590 Tel: +52(55) 25811500	From US\$250	616
4 ★	Marriott Reforma Hotel https://www.espanol.marriott.com/search/findHotels.mi	From UN\$187	322

	<p>Av. Paseo de la Reforma 276</p> <p>Col. Juárez, Mexico City</p> <p>C.P. 06600</p> <p>Tel: +52(55) 11027030</p>		
4 ★	<p>NH Collection Mexico City Reforma</p> <p>https://www.nh-hotels.com.mx/hotel/nh-collection-mexico-city-reforma</p> <p>Liverpool 155</p> <p>Zona Rosa, Mexico City</p> <p>C.P. 06600</p> <p>Tel: +52(55)52289928</p>	From US\$ 146	306
5 ★	<p>Fiesta Americana HOTEL</p> <p>http://www.fiestamericana.com/web/fiesta-americana-reforma?gclid=CLuTqum0r9YCFYK1wAody54I9A</p> <p>Av. Paseo de la Reforma 80</p> <p>Col. Juárez, Mexico City</p> <p>C.P. 06600</p> <p>Tel: +52(55)5140 4100</p>	From US\$ 140	616
4 ★	<p>City Express Plus Reforma</p> <p>https://www.cityexpress.com/plus/hoteles-mexico/ciudad-de-mexico/cuauhtemoc/reforma-el-angel</p> <p>Av. Paseo de la Reforma 334</p> <p>Col. Juárez, Mexico City</p> <p>C.P.06600</p> <p>Tel: +52(55) 5228 7800</p>	From US\$ 110	133
5 ★	<p>Emporio Hotel</p> <p>https://www.hotelesemporio.com/hoteles/emporio-ciudad-de-mexico</p> <p>Av. Paseo de la Reforma 124</p> <p>Col. Juárez, Mexico City</p>	From US\$ 99	88

	C.P. 06600 Tel: +52(55) 55667766		
4★	Galería Plaza Reforma HOTEL http://www.galeriaplazareformahotel-mexico.com/?lbl=ggl-tld-ex Hamburgo 195 Col Juárez, Mexico City, C.P. 06600 Tel: Fax:	From US\$96.65	616
4★	Laila Hotel http://lailahotels.com/ Río Lerma 237 esq. Río Mississippi Col. Cuauhtémoc, Mexico City C.P. 06500 Tel: +52(55) 52427750	From US\$90	167
3★	Holiday Inn Express Mexico Reforma https://www.ihg.com/holidayinnexpress/hotels/us/en/reservation Paseo de la Reforma 208 Col Juárez, Mexico City C.P. 06600 Tel: +52(55) 91505900	From US\$85	120
3★	Geneve Hotel Mexico City http://www.hotelgeneve.com.mx/ubicacion-y-contacto-2/ Londres 130 Col. Juárez, Mexico City C.P. Tel: +52(55) 50800800	From US\$85	226

5 ★	Sevilla Palace Hotel http://www.sevillapalacehotelmexicocity.com/?l=ggg-tld-ex Av. Paseo de la Reforma 105 Cuauhtémoc, Mexico City C.P. 06030 Tel: +52(55) 57052800	From US\$75	413
3 ★	Imperial Reforma Hotel http://www.hotelimperial.mx/ Av. Paseo de la Reforma 64 Col. Juárez, Mexico City C.P. 06600 Tel: +52(55) 57054911	From US\$70	38
4 ★	Del Ángel Hotel https://hoteldelangel.mx/ Río Lerma 154 Cuauhtémoc, Mexico City C.P. 06500	From US\$54	100
3 ★	Casa Gonzalez Hotel https://hotelcasagonzalez.com/ Río Sena 69 Col. Cuauhtémoc, Mexico City C.P. 06500	From US\$49	35

Airport

Benito Juárez International Airport

Benito Juarez is one of the busiest airports in the world with around 25 million people flying every year. It is an important point of connection between North America, South America, Central America and Europe and base of operation of important national companies and more than 20 foreign flying companies.

Address:

Avenida Capitán Carlos León s/n Colonia Peñón de los Baños
Delegación Venustiano Carranza
C.P. 15620 México, City.
<https://www.aicm.com.mx/en/>

Airport Telephone Numbers:

Terminal 1: +(52 55) 2482 2424 and 2482 2400

Terminal 2: +(52 55) 2598 7000

Benito Juárez International Airport of Mexico City, both Terminal 1 and Terminal 2 offers all the commercial services that meet modern traveller needs. These include purchases of items from renowned brands, enjoy national and international food, banks, money exchange and more.

Transportation from Airport to Hotel

By Taxi.

<http://www.aeropuertos.net/aeropuerto-internacional-de-la-ciudad-de-mexico-taxis/>

Authorized Taxis

This service offers comfort and safety during your transportation from the Airport to your destination. These are the only taxis authorized by the Ministry of Communications and Transport (SCT) of the Federal Government.

Taxis are in operation 24 hours a day, 365 days a year in Terminal 1 and Terminal 2, and there are two modes of service: Ordinary service in a sedan type vehicle for 4 passengers. Executive service in 8 passenger vans.

It is very important you consider the distances and times before using taxi services in the city. You must purchase the corresponding ticket in authorized retail outlets before you use their services.

At present the following groups are in operation:

Sitio de taxis	Terminal 1	Terminal 2	Página de internet
Porto Taxi	√	√	https://www.portotaxiejecutivo.com/
Sitio 300	√	√	http://www.sitio300.com.mx/
Nueva Imagen	√	√	http://taxisnuevaimagen.com.mx/contacto
Excelencia	√	√	http://taxisexcelencia.com/default.htm
Yellow Cab		√	http://www.taxisyellowcab.com/

The Terminal 1 taxi boarding areas are located at entrances 1 and 10; and in Terminal 2, boarding areas are located at entrances 3 and 4.

Taxi rates are registered under the Transportation and Communications Ministry (SCT) and include passenger insurance, civil liability and medical expenses for all occupants. To receive

the taxi service, you must purchase the corresponding ticket previously at the authorized sale points located within the Airport.

Transport from Hotel to Venue

- UBER App
- Cabify App
- Taxi at the hotel

Other taxi service options are requested by telephone, it is suggested these kinds of services (and the above) to be contracted.

The data for two companies that provide taxi service, requested by telephone are shown below.

- **SERVITAXIS**, a company specializing in taxi service 24 hours a day, 365 days a year throughout Mexico City. Phone. +52 55 55 16 60 20 or 36 26 98 00.
For more information: <http://www.servitaxis.com.mx/>
- **TAXIMEX** is an executive taxi company specializing in taxi service 24 hours a day, 365 days a year throughout Mexico City. Phone. +52 55 91 71 88 88 or 56 34 99 12.

Currency

The Mexican Peso is the currency of Mexico. The most popular Mexico Peso exchange rate is the USD to MXN. The currency code for Pesos is MXN, and the symbol is \$. Traders and sellers are no longer allowed to exchange US dollars for pesos, but they can tell you the location of a nearby exchange house. If you have US dollars, there are some places where you can get Mexican pesos, for example: Money exchange, banks, ATM and credit card (such as Visa, MasterCard, etc.)

The exchange rate is flexible and floating

<http://www.banxico.org.mx/dyn/portal-mercado-cambiario/index.html>

http://dof.gob.mx/nota_detalle.php?codigo=5423816&fecha=28/01/2016

Money

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

For more information visit: (www.mastercard.com/atmlocator/index.jsp) or (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.

It is possible to exchange the currency of some countries, but not every bank will accept it.

Time

Mexico City Central Daylight Time (CDT) is 5 hours behind Coordinated Universal Time (UTC)

Mexico

Mexico City is geographically located in the Valley of Mexico. This valley, also known as the Valley of the Damned is a large valley in the high plateaus at the center of Mexico. It has an altitude of 2,240 meters (7,349 feet). Mexico City is situated in central-south Mexico and it is surrounded by the state of Mexico on the west, north and east, and by the state of Morelos on the south. The city covers an area of around 1,485sq km (571 sq mi) with the elevation of 2,240m (7,349 ft).

Geographical Coordinates:
19°25'57.85"N 99°07'59.71"W

Weather

Mexico City falls under a subtropical highland climate, and thus experiences a warm and humid weather, especially in April and May. Tourists prefer to travel to this city in the months of July and August, when the weather is expected to be pleasant and warmer. The rainy season starts from June to October; the day normally starts with bright sunlight and in the afternoons, it becomes cloudy. Winter season can be cool and dry, and it rarely experiences snowfall. It is advised to take warm clothes for the winter season, as morning and night time can be extremely cold.

To check for current weather condition Mexico City, please refer to:
<http://www.weather.com/weather/today/MXDF0132>

Safety

Foreign visitors to Mexico City need not be overly concerned with their safety. However, it is necessary to take precautions whilst travelling in crowded areas. It is advisable to keep important things like personal identification, valuable items and money in a safe place.

As most people speak only Spanish, it is a good idea to explore the city with someone who can speak Spanish, especially at night.

Emergency Numbers

Mexico has a single nationwide emergency number, the 911

Touristic Options / General Information

Mexico City is one of the largest metropolitan areas in the world, with 16 boroughs and more than 300 neighbourhoods. It might seem a bit overwhelming to the first-time visitor, though it does not have to be.

Many of the most visited tourist attractions in Mexico City are concentrated downtown, at the Centro Histórico, as Plaza de la Constitución or Zócalo, the National Palace, Metropolitan Cathedral, Templo Mayor, Palace of Fine Arts and the Alameda Park. Located west of the Centro Histórico, the Plaza de la República is home to the newly refurbished Revolution Monument and National Museum.

Chapultepec Park, the largest in Mexico City, is divided into three sections, and is home to some of the capital's top tourist attractions, including Chapultepec Castle, the Modern Art Museum, the National Museum of Anthropology and the Tamayo Contemporary Art Museum. Keep in mind that, with a few exceptions, most museums and archaeological sites in Mexico City are closed on Mondays.

Some other tourist attractions are located in the neighbourhoods of Zona Rosa, Roma, Condesa, Coyoacán and San Ángel, where you can find lovely parks, plazas, shops, markets, coffee shops and some of the top places to visit in Mexico City. These artsy neighbourhoods are especially popular among visitors to the city and foreign residents.

The main campus of Mexico's National Autonomous University (UNAM) is known for its architecture and impressive murals—the work of some of Mexico's top artists, such as Diego Rivera and Juan O'Gorman. There you can also find the University's Contemporary Art Museum (*MUAC*), within the University Cultural Centre, which hosts a variety of events and performances.

Further south, you can find *Xochimilco*. The ancient Aztec city of Tenochtitlan, Mexico City, was originally founded in the Valley of Mexico over the ancient Lake of Texcoco. The Aztecs built an intricate network of canals to navigate the city. After the arrival of the Spanish in 1519, most of the Aztec structures and canals were destroyed and replaced with modern roads and buildings. At Xochimilco you can still see and travel through some original canals.

For more tourist information: <http://www.visitmexico.com/>

Electricity Supply

In Mexico the standard voltage is 127 V and the frequency is 60 Hz. You can use your electric appliances in Mexico, if the standard voltage in your country is between 110 - 127 V (as is in the US, Canada and most South American countries). Manufacturers take small deviations (plus or minus 5%) into account.

If the standard voltage in your country is in the range of 220 - 240 V (as is in the UK, Europe, Asia, Africa and Australia), you need a voltage converter in Mexico.

The power sockets are of type A and B.

Churches and Temples

Being the richest and most powerful colony of the Spanish Empire, the capital of New Spain, actual Mexico City, was home to various religious orders who built many churches and convents that are colonial sacred art treasures and. Many of them ceased to serve cult purposes after Mexico's Reform Laws were proclaimed in 1859. They have since become museums and libraries for the safeguarding of Mexico's cultural and historical heritage.

In Mexico City, you can find temples of all religions: synagogues, Evangelical and Protestant churches, and Orthodox churches, and practice of Islam there are masjids, and even a House of Tibet for Buddhists.

Points of Contact

For substantive issues:

Mr. Greg Scott

UN Statistics Division

Phone: +1-212-963-8578

Fax: +1-212-963-9851

Email: scott12@un.org

For administrative matters:

Ms. Vilma Frani

UN Statistics Division

Phone: +1-917-367-2903

Fax: +1-212-963-9851

Email: frani@un.org

For registration, visa and accommodation:

Ms. Ana de Lara

National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI)

Phone: +52 449 910 5300, Ext:2046

Email: ana.delara@inegi.org.mx