

Information Note

Venue





The Expert Group Meeting of the IAEG-SDGs Working Group on Geospatial Information (IAEG-SDGs: WGGI) will be held at the México City Headquarters of **Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Geografía** (National Institute of Statistics and Geography) (INEGI), located at

Av. Patriotismo 711-A
Colonia San Juan, Mixcoac C.P. 03730,
Ciudad de México.
Ph.: +52 (55 5) 278 1000

Dates

12 - 14 December 2016.

Access by Public Transportation:

Nearby Metro/Metrobus Stations			
			
Metro Mixcoac (7/12 lines)	Metro San Antonio (7 line)	Metrobus Parque Hundido (Line 1)	Metrobus Ciudad de los Deportes (Line 1)

Immigration Requirements

PASSPORTS:

Travel to Mexico requires passport that is valid for at least 6 months from the date of entry.

VISAS:

A visa is required, except in certain cases. For citizens of countries not requiring a visa, you can obtain a Blue Tourist Card for tourism purposes from your airline, on direct flights, or from a Mexican Consulate before travelling. Please note that Mexico does not issue visas at any Mexican port of entry.

A foreign citizen holding a valid passport and having any of the following documents does not require a Mexican visa:

- Valid multiple entry visa from the United States of America.
- A document certifying permanent residence in Canada, USA, Japan, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, or any of the countries of the Schengen Area.
- APEC Business Traveler Card (ABTC) approved by Mexico.

Holders of Diplomatic, Official or Service Passport

To verify if you require visa on your national passport to enter Mexico, please go to the following link:
<http://serviciosconsulares.sre.gob.mx/images/stories/dgs/c/pdf/visasordinarios.pdf>

In case you require a visa, please contact the Mexican Consular Office where you intend to apply, to obtain the requirements for your visa.

Holders of Ordinary Passports

To verify if you require visa on your national passport to enter Mexico, please go to the following link:
<http://serviciosconsulares.sre.gob.mx/images/stories/dgs/c/pdf/regnoordinario.pdf>

Please refer to the Annex from the Mexican Foreign Ministry (attached) for further information. Information can also be found in the following website:
<http://www.mexperience.com/lifestyle/mexico-essentials/mexico-entry-requirements/>

Enquiries

For questions related to the meeting arrangements and in particular, logistical arrangements, please contact the following INEGI-Mexico officials:

Name & Phone/Cell	email
Ana De Lara +52 (449) 9105300 Ext. 2046 +52 1 (449) 1699193	ana.delara@inegi.org.mx
Eduardo de la Torre +52 1 (55) 48171635 +52 555 2781000 Ext 1863	jdelatorre@inegi.org.mx

Accommodations

Arrangements for accommodation and hotel reservation shall be made by each individual participant. A list of hotels is provided below. Please note that a credit card is normally required to make a reservation.

Some nearby hotels:

ONE PATRIOTISMO ★★★★★

Av. Patriotismo No. 229 Col. San Pedro de los Pinos
 03800 Mexico City, Mexico --
 +52 (55) 52 78 50 00
<http://www.onehoteles.com/home>

Crowne Plaza Hotel De Mexico ★★★★★

Calle Dakota 95, Colonia Nápoles
 +52 (55) 11641164
<https://www.ihg.com/crowneplaza/hotels/us/es/reservation>

Courtyard Marriot ★★★★★

Ave. Revolución 333, Col. Tacubaya,
 +52 (55) 56270220
<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/mexrv-courtyard-mexico-city-revolucion/>

Filadelfia Suites – Hotel Boutique ★★★★★

Filadelfia 42, Col. Nápoles,
 (+01 52) 55 • 5523 • 5222
 (+01 52) 55• 6732 • 7766
<http://suitesfiladelfia.com.mx/>

Hotel Pasadena ★★

Av. Revolución 826 Col. San Juan
 +52 (55) 55 98 00 22
<http://hotelyvillaspasadena.com/index.php>

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 *Mixcoac*, *Zona Rosa*, *Colonia Roma*, *Colonia 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.

Mixcoac, the area around INEGI, is a traditional neighborhood, home to Nobel Laureate Octavio Paz, and to numerous churches, historic buildings and sites that include:

- Glorieta de Goya roundabout & park
- Old textile factory (Antiguo Obraje de Mixcoac) - Universidad Panamericana: previously a silk clothing factory and now part of the university
- Instituto Mora, formerly home of former (XIX century) president Valentin Gomez Farias and Irineo Paz
- Centro Cultural Juan Rulfo: former city hall built under President Porfirio Díaz, now a cultural center
- Casa de la Campana ("House of the Bell")
- Plaza Jaurégui: Main square
- House of Joaquín Fernández de Lizardi
- Galería Arte Quimera

Churches include the Parroquia de Santo Domingo de Guzmán (a.k.a. Ex Convento y Parroquia de Santo Domingo de Guzmán y Capilla de la Virgen del Rayo, *Ex-Convent and Parish of Santo Domingo de Guzmán and Chapel of the Virgin of the Ray*), first founded in 1595.

Coyoacán, named for the coyotes that once roamed around this former village, previously separate from Mexico City, has been home to everyone from Cortés and his Indian mistress La Malinche, to Frida Kahlo, Leon Trotsky (both of their houses are now museums open to visitors). Cobblestone and quaint, this area is a favourite with Mexican families for a traditional Sunday stroll and has maintained its bohemian flavour.

The main campus of Mexico's National Autonomous University (UNAM), located further South of Mexico City,

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.

Benito Juarez International Airport

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 the needs of globalized commerce and travels. Such as purchases of items from renowned brands, enjoy national and international food, banks, money exchange and more.

LUGGAGE CARTS

In T1 you can transfer your luggage from the bands up to the doors after customs. In T2, for 10 pesos or one dollar, you take them from the parking lot to the security filters and the area bands to the parking lot.

TOURIST INFORMATION

At the Terminal 1 you can find Tourist Guide services.

Taxis at the Airport

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, and executive service in 8 passenger vans.

Porto Taxi, Sitio300 and Nueva Imagen. 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.

SITIO 300	
	+52(55) 5571 9344 www.sitio300.com
CONFORT	
	+52(55) 5615 4658 and 5615 3447 www.taxisconfort.com Terminal 2 Only
NUEVA IMAGEN	
	+52(55) 8421 3701, 8421 3702 and 5716 1616 www.taxisdelaerpuerto.com.mx
PORTO TAXI EJECUTIVO	
	+52(55) 5786 8993 and 5786 8212 http://portotaximexico.com

Other option in taxi services is SERVITAXIS, this company is very safe and give service in all city areas. These cabs are red and gold in colour. Local Phone: 5516 6020. URL: <http://www.gnsitaxi.com.mx/#/home>

Weather

Mexico City is characterized by a temperate climate with moderate temperatures throughout the whole year. Autumn and early winter is one of the nicest seasons in the city, as the rainy season has just ended, and weather is characterized by mild temperatures up to 20°

C with almost cloudless sunny skies and light breeze and fresh. Before sunrise and after sunset, temperatures can drop to 10 °C or slightly below.

Sometimes, the winter season can be cold and dry, and rarely experiences snowfall. Relatively warm clothing is advised, as morning and night time can be cool.

To check for current weather condition Mexico City, please refer to:

<http://www.weather.com/weather/today/MXDF0132>

Time

For the time difference between Mexico City and your country, please refer to

http://www.worldtimeserver.com/convert_time_in_MX-DIF.aspx

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 the majority of people prefer speaking Spanish, it is a good idea to explore the city with someone who can speak Spanish, especially at night.

Currency and Exchange

The official currency is the Mexican Peso. However, major credit and debit cards are accepted in most commercial establishments. Nevertheless, it is advisable to carry some cash as there are small establishments that do not accept credit cards.

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.

Other currencies (especially Euros and Canadian Dollars) can be exchanged in most places. However, few banks or currency exchange venues accept different currencies.

Currency rates can be consulted at Banco Nacional de Mexico (Banamex). (www.banamex.com/). Generally -

1 AMERICAN DOLLAR (USD) =
~18.50 MEXICAN PESOS

1 EURO € =
~20.20 MEXICAN PESOS

Tourist Attractions

The Turibus tour is a great way to get an overview of the city. The Turibus is a doubledecker bus that takes visitors on a guided audio tour through the heart of Mexico City, including Chapultepec Park, historical colonias Condesa and Roma, *Centro Historico* and the *Zócalo*, as well as up and down Mexico City's major thoroughfares Reforma Avenue and Juarez. Visiting Mexico City isn't complete without a tour of the major museums, parks, historical sites and centers. If your time is limited, but you still want to experience some of the great sights and places that Mexico City has to offer, *The Turibus - Circuito Turistico* is the best way to see it all in a day. And, you can do it without leaving your seat. <http://www.turibus.com.mx/#1>

For additional tourism information:
<http://www.visitmexico.com/>



Museo de Arte Moderno
Paseo de la Reforma y Gandhi
s/n
Bosque de Chapultepec, Mexico
City
C.P. 11560
+52 (55) 5553-6233
<http://www.mam.org.mx/>



Museo Nacional de Antropología
Paseo de la Reforma y Gandhi
s/n
Bosque de Chapultepec, Mexico
City
C.P. 11560
<http://www.mna.inah.gob.mx/>



Terraza
Av. 16 de Septiembre # 82
Col. Centro,
Tel: + 52 (55) 10 83 77 00 ó
01800 088 7700
<http://www.restauranteterrazaciudadademexico.com.mx/>



Museo Interactivo de Económica
Tacuba 17
Historic Center, Mexico City
<http://www.mide.org.mx/>



Museo del Templo Mayor
Historic Center, Mexico City
<http://www.inah.gob.mx/>



Ballet Folklórico de México Amalia Hernández
Palacio de Bellas Artes
Mexico City
<http://www.balletamalia.com/>

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/denominations: synagogues, Evangelical and Protestant churches, and Orthodox churches, and practice of Islam there are masjids, and even a House of Tibet for Buddhists.

Recommended Restaurants



Los Almendros
Insurgentes Sur 1759,
Col. Guadalupe Inn,
+52(55) 5661 8755, 5663 5151
www.almendros.com.mx/



Le-Lah-THO
Avenida Patriotismo 456, San
Pedro de los Pinos
Tel: +52 5598 8992



Contramar
Durango 200
Colonia Roma

Reservations:
info@contramar.com.mx
+52 (55) 5514 9217
+52 (55) 5514 3169
<http://www.contramar.com.mx/>



El Cardenal
Av. Juárez No. 70,
Hilton México City Reforma.
Tel. 55186632 y 33
<http://restauranteelcardenal.com/>

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