

Eighth meeting of the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information, together with the Seventh meeting of the Working Group on Geospatial Information of the IAEG-SDGs

INFORMATION NOTE

**UNON Conference Centre, United Nations Office Nairobi
Nairobi, Kenya
17 – 19 September 2024**



INTRODUCTION

In this information note, you will find all relevant information about the logistics for the eighth meeting of the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information together with the seventh meeting of the Working Group on Geospatial Information of the IAEG-SDGs and meeting of the Expert Group's Steering Group, including accommodation, venue, travel and visa. For any related and emergency issues, please, do not hesitate to contact the UN-Habitat team:

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VENUE

The United Nations Conference Centre at the United Nations Office Nairobi (UNON) will be the venue for the joint meeting of the expert and working groups. Located on United Nations Avenue in Gigiri, in the northern part of the City of Nairobi, about 25 kilometres from Jomo Kenyatta Airport. The 140-acre United-Nations Gigiri complex is a peaceful environment adjacent to the famous Karura Forest (about 2,000 hectares), a unique public facility under the management of the Kenya Forest Service. See: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/yZEFlyxhVrYEzdax9>

ACCOMMODATION

Each participant is responsible for making their accommodation reservations. There are many accommodation options in the larger Gigiri area. Please see the below list of recommended hotels.

Trademark Hotel

1.8 km from UN Gigiri Offices
Village Market, Gigiri, Nairobi
Website: <https://www.trademark-hotel.com/>
Phone: +254 730 886 000

Tribe Hotel

2.8 km from UN Gigiri Offices
Address: The Village Market, Gigiri, Nairobi
Website: <https://www.tribe-hotel.com/contact/>
Phone: +254 20 720 0000

Comfort Gardens Hotel

1.5 km from UN Gigiri Offices
Address: Township, United Nations Cres, Nairobi Website: <https://www.comfortgardens.com/>
Phone: +254 723 610280

Holiday Inn Two Rivers Mall

5.7 km from UN Gigiri Offices
Address: Off Limuru Road, Nairobi, 2256-00621
Web site: <https://www.holidayinn.com>
Phone: +254 709 264000

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

Participants from outside Kenya must be in possession of valid passports, entry visas and health certificates that are required for travel and entry into Kenya to attend the meeting or the seminar or both. Inoculations against yellow fever and cholera are required for arrivals from infected areas. All participants are responsible for visa applications, required medical examinations, inoculations and related travel requirements, and to bear all expenses related and incidental to these requirements.

VISA REQUIREMENTS

A visa is required for all participants travelling to Kenya, except for nationals of Kenya, or citizens of countries which have signed visa-free agreements with Kenya. Visa requirements also apply to holders of diplomatic passports. Holders of United Nations Laissez-Passer do not require a visa for short visits. Please note that visa applications for Kenya should be done online via the e-visa portal (<http://evisa.go.ke/evisa.html>). You can find more detailed information on visa requirements at the immigration office website (<http://www.immigration.go.ke/Information.html>). Complying with all entry and visa requirement is the responsibility of the participant.

TAXIS AND RIDE SHARING

The most convenient and safest way to transit from the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport to the venue or your hotel is via taxi. Ride-hailing applications such as **Uber and Bolt** are available at the airport. If this is not your preferred option, please use the official taxi service registered with the airport (these are yellow cabs printed with the letters JKIA on the side). There is a taxi help desk at the arrivals terminal where you can seek help. You can also request the hotel for an airport pick-up during booking.

LANGUAGE

The joint meeting of the expert and working group will be conducted in English.

PORT OF ENTRY REQUIREMENTS & HEALTH

Yellow Fever

A yellow fever vaccination certificate is required if you are arriving in the Republic of Kenya from a country with risk of yellow fever transmission. Advice on all vaccinations recommended for visitors to the Country may be obtained from the Kenyan Embassy/High Commission in country of the participant or on the visa website indicated above. Useful information can be obtained from the WHO website <http://www.who.int/ith/en/>

Common infectious diseases

Malaria is common throughout the year in many parts of the Country. Nairobi, the Capital City is generally free of malaria. It is still recommended that participants consult their doctors about malaria prophylaxis when travelling to the Republic of Kenya, including adequate safeguards such as insect repellent and bed nets. Clothing like long trousers and long sleeves that may protect the arms and legs from mosquito bites are advised. You can read more about Malaria here. Several African countries have recently reported cholera outbreaks. Kenya has noted an increase in reported cholera cases since October 2022. Cholera cases have been reported in several regions including Nairobi. You can protect yourself from cholera by practicing essential hygiene measures like handwashing, drinking from safe water sources, thoroughly washing fruits and vegetables, and taking up the cholera vaccine.

Table 1: Recommended Vaccinations

COVID-19	All eligible travelers should be up to date with their COVID-19 vaccines. Please see Your COVID-19 Vaccination for more information.
Hepatitis A	Recommended for unvaccinated travelers one year old or older going to Kenya. Infants 6 to 11 months old should also be vaccinated against Hepatitis A. The dose does not count toward the routine 2-dose series. Travelers allergic to a vaccine component or who are younger than 6 months should receive a single dose of immune globulin, which provides effective protection for up to 2 months depending on dosage given. Unvaccinated travelers who are over 40 years old, immunocompromised, or have chronic medical conditions planning to depart to a risk area in less than 2 weeks should get the initial dose of vaccine and at the same appointment receive immune globulin.
Hepatitis B	Recommended for unvaccinated travelers younger than 60 years old traveling to Kenya. Unvaccinated travelers 60 years and older may get vaccinated before traveling to Kenya.
Typhoid	Recommended for most travelers, especially those staying with friends or relatives or visiting smaller cities or rural areas.
Cholera	Active cholera transmission is widespread in Kenya. Cholera is rare in travelers. Certain factors may increase the risk of getting cholera or having severe disease (more information). Avoiding unsafe food and water and washing your hands can also help prevent cholera. Vaccination may be considered for children and adults who are traveling to areas of active cholera transmission.
Malaria	CDC recommendations : Recommended for all travelers ≥9 months old except as follows. Generally, not recommended for travel limited to: the city of Nairobi (the capital); the counties of the former North Eastern Province (Mandera, Wajir, and Garissa); or the counties (except Taita- Taveta) of the former Coast Province (Kilifi, including the city of Malindi; Kwale; Lamu; Mombasa, including the city of Mombasa; Tana River)
Yellow Fever	Required for travelers ≥1 year old arriving from countries with risk for YF virus transmission. ¹ Recommended for all travelers ≥9 months old except as follows. Generally not recommended for travel limited to: the city of Nairobi (the capital); the counties of the former North Eastern Province (Mandera, Wajir, and Garissa); or the counties (except Taita-Taveta) of the former Coast Province (Kilifi, including the city of Malindi; Kwale; Lamu; Mombasa, including the city of Mombasa; Tana River)

There are several government hospitals and private medical clinics located near the Conference Venue from which medical assistance is available. A few prominent hospitals are as follows:

- Aga Khan University Hospital Two Rivers Medical Centre, Two Rivers Mall, Nairobi 10am to 7pm
- M.P. Shah Hospital, Village Medical Centre 8.am-8p.m Village Market, Gigiri, Nairobi
- Aga Khan University Hospital, 3rd Parklands Avenue, Limuru Road, Nairobi, Kenya, 24 hrs
- MP Shah Hospital, Shivaji Road, Nairobi, 24hrs

SAFETY AND SECURITY

Nairobi is generally safe, but as with any other city, caution should always be exercised. Visitors need to be aware that there are risks of theft. Avoid wearing expensive jewelry, carrying large amounts of cash, looking flashy, or causing a scene, any of the above actions invites trouble.

Pickpockets thrive in crowded areas such as markets as well as bus and train stations. Women should keep purses or bags close to their sides and men should store wallets in front instead of rear pockets.

Avoid traveling alone at night. This is a general recommendation for any unfamiliar area but should be followed in Nairobi as well of armed robbery and carjacking. Driving after dark should be at the best of times avoided. Also, avoid any taxi that already has an occupant with the driver.

If you are a victim of a crime in Nairobi, report it to the local police. The emergency numbers in Nairobi are as follows:

- Police: 112/911
- Ambulance Helpline: 999
- Fire: 999

CURRENCY AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE DIRECTIVES

The local currency is the Kenya Shilling abbreviated as KES. The shillings bank notes are available in denominations of Kes 50, Kes 100, Kes 200, Kes 500 and Kes 1000. For more information on exchange rates, visit this link: [https:// www.centralbank.go.ke/rates/forex-exchange-rates/](https://www.centralbank.go.ke/rates/forex-exchange-rates/). Foreign currency can be changed at the Jomo Kenyatta Airport (JKIA), which has 24 hrs. services. Banks and foreign currency exchange bureaus also offer these services. Banks with ATM services in major centers across the city are open Monday to Friday from 09.00 to 16.00hrs with some opening from 09.00 to 12.00hrs on Saturdays. Some ATMs can dispense foreign currency in US Dollars.

Directives issued by the authorities in Kenya regarding the inward and outward movement of foreign currency and Kenyan shillings require any traveler who is a non-resident of Kenya to declare any amount of cash exceeding USD 10,000 or its equivalent in any other convertible foreign currency, and all foreign currency in their possession, at the point of entry into Kenya. There are many bank and forex exchange options around the venue, some of which offer services for extended hours.

ELECTRICITY

The voltage applicable in Kenya is 240 volts, 50 cycles mostly accessible via 13-amp, three rectangular pins arranged in a triangle. If your appliances don't accept 220-240 volts at 50 cycles or appliance plug has a different shape, you may need an adapter/converter.



TIME AND CLIMATE

Kenyan Standard Time is Greenwich Mean Time + 3. In September, the weather in Nairobi is mostly cloudy with occasional rain showers. Temperatures range from 11 to 27 degrees Celsius.

PERSONAL SECURITY AND SAFETY

Safety standards in Nairobi and around the venue of the meeting and seminar are relatively good, but similar precautions as in other metropolitan cities should be followed.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Nairobi, popularly referred to as the Green City in the Sun, is one of few cities in the world with a national park within its boundaries. The park contains many animals including lions, giraffes, and black rhinos; and is also home to over 400 species of birds. There is also an animal orphanage at the park. The city also boasts of several other tourist attraction sites such as the giraffe centre, the Nairobi National Museum, Nairobi Gallery, the Karen Blixen Museum among others. Nairobi offers a diversity of cuisine from across the globe.

