

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL WORKING GROUP ON CLIMATE  
AND RELATED WEATHER, WATER AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS  
*Extraordinary Session*

GENEVA, Switzerland, 21-23 October 2009

Original: ENGLISH

## INFORMATION NOTE

The meeting will take place in the WMO Secretariat in Geneva, Switzerland, from 21 to 23 October 2009, and will be conducted in English only. The meeting will be held in the meeting room **C 1** (level – 1).

### Entry requirements

The participants are kindly requested to inquire about entry visas from the respective Consulate or Embassy of Switzerland.

### New regulations for entries into Switzerland and the Territory of Schengen Member States

The entry into force of the association agreements of Switzerland to Schengen-Dublin effective 12 December 2008 has the following consequences for participants to WMO official meetings or other persons invited by WMO to travel to Switzerland:

- The procedures for the issuance of a Schengen visa for entries into Switzerland are likely to take more time than in the past. Furthermore the issuance of a Schengen visa is subject to the applicant providing proof of appropriate health insurance for the full duration of the visit;
- Although Schengen Visas generally give right to access to all Schengen States, the main country of destination is the one that is responsible for issuing the Schengen visa;
- Holders of passports or residency permits of countries that have up to now been exempted by Switzerland will be subject to the Schengen visa requirements to enter into Switzerland.

### Request for official letters of invitation

Many participants need official invitation to be sent to the Swiss Embassy in their country. The request should be made in advance and should mention the contact details of the Embassy that should receive the invitation letter, as well as personal data such as date of birth and passport number.

## **Opening/Closure**

The meeting will open on Wednesday 21 October at 9h30 and will end on Friday 23 October in the afternoon.

## **Documents for the Meeting**

The documents for the session will be posted on the web, upon completion.

## **Accommodation and public transport system**

It is suggested that participants select their own lodgings. They will be responsible for their own bookings.

A list of Hotels with United Nations preferential rates is available on the WMO web site of the meeting [http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/wcp/cca/cca\\_home\\_en.html](http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/wcp/cca/cca_home_en.html)

The following internet site may also be consulted for this purpose:

<http://www.geneve-tourisme.ch>

Free passes to public transport system are provided by most hotels to their residents.

## **Currency**

The currency of Switzerland is the Swiss Franc. Euros are also accepted in most commercial establishments. For the exchange rate, please get the latest information from your own country/bank.

Most restaurants and bigger shopping centres accept credit cards (Visa, Master) but the smaller shops and the transportation system expect you to pay cash. (Tax is already included).

## **Electrical connectors**

It is recommended that participants bring their own electrical connectors to enable them to plug into Swiss power sockets. It is also possible to obtain some from Conference Service. A refundable deposit of CHF 10 will be charged.

## **Internet connection**

Computers with internet connection will be available in the entrance hall on the ground floor. The conference room is equipped with power and internet sockets for laptop computers. Participants can also connect to internet through WMO wifi. Username and password for access are available in the meeting room.

### Telephone - Telefax

The general telephone number of the WMO Secretariat is: (+41 22) 730 81 11.

Telefax messages may be addressed to participants through the WMO Secretariat. The telefax number of the Climate Prediction and Adaptation Branch is: +41 22 730 80 42.

### Local weather

Information on the climate of Geneva for October is below:

Mean minimum temperature	+6.6°C
Mean maximum temperature	+14.9°C
Mean total precipitation (mm)	66

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