



Information Note for Participants

7th General Assembly of the Regional Network of Marine Protected Areas in West Africa (RAMPAO)

Conakry, Guinea, 20-21, October 2017

1. Background

The General Assembly of RAMPAO constitutes a key moment of the network's functioning. It marks the renewal of its governing bodies, the membership of new members and strategic decision making and brings together all RAMPAO members' and its technical and financial partners. Since its creation in 2007 and in accordance with its internal rules, RAMPAO holds its General Assembly every 18 months in a member country of the network.

For this edition, the Republic of Guinea has been designated to host the 7th General Assembly of RAMPAO, which will be held from 20 to 21 October 2017 in the city of Conakry.

2. Conakry city

Conakry is the capital of the Republic of Guinea. It is located in West Africa and bordered on South by Liberia and Sierra Leone, North by Senegal and Guinea-Bissau, East by Mali and Côte d'Ivoire. In 2015, Conakry had more than 2 million inhabitants, making it the largest city in the country. It is a coastal city bordered by the Atlantic Ocean.

Conakry is an expanding capital. It is composed of five communes including the Kaloum peninsula, the downtown.

French is the official language of the country, although several African languages are spoken.

3. Dates and Venue

The 7th General Assembly of RAMPAO will be held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, from 20 to 21 October 2017 at Grand Hotel de l'Indépendance (Ex Novotel)

Address: Downtown, Oceanfront Beach, Conakry, Guinée

Tel: +224 622 35 19 07

Web: <http://www.hotelghi.biz>



4. Registration

Registration of participants will start on Thursday 19 October 2017 at 04 :00 p.m. at the lobby of the Grand Hotel de l'Indépendance (Ex Novotel).

5. Official Opening

The official opening for the 7th General Assembly will take place at 09 :00 a.m. on Friday, 20 October 2017 by the Minister for Environment, Water and Forests of the Republic of Guinea.

6. Languages and Translation

The proceedings of the General Assembly will be conducted in French, English and Portuguese.

Translation services for the meeting will be provided in English, French and Portuguese. Some information documents for the meeting may be available in French only.

7. Health requirements

Up-to-date vaccination records are required and must be up-to-date against yellow fever. All participants are requested to bring their vaccination records to the health authorities of the Conakry airport. For other vaccines, please see the following links:

<http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/fr/conseils-aux-voyageurs/conseils-par-pays/guinee>
<http://www.vaccinations-airfrance.fr/gvs/guide-pays/info-sante-travel-guineaconakry-vaccine/NG-CKY>

8. Visa requirements

Nationals of ECOWAS member countries are exempt from entry visa to Guinea. The others are asked to inquire at the diplomatic representations of Guinea nearest to their home for their request if this applies. Participants who do not have Guinean diplomatic representations close to their home are requested to send a scan of their passport to: binta.konate@iucn.org and mssapouye@gmail.com. The Organizing Committee will be responsible for preparing visas for which a copy will be sent to enable them to travel.

For Participants sponsored by the RAMPAO, a refund of visa fees will be made, presentation of the receipt of payment is required.

We recommend that all participants (ECOWAS countries and others) to present themselves at their airport of embarkation with their letter of invitation and / or their mission statement (travel clearance) as well as the flying visa that will be sent to them if necessary.

9. Transportation

All international flights arriving in Guinea land at the Conakry-Gbessia International Airport. The organizing committee provides a shuttle service between the airport and the hotel. In case you have missed a shuttle, a taxi service is available in front of the airport. The price of the race between the airport and the commune of Kaloum where the main hotels are located is about 100,000 GNF or 10 euros. You have exchange offices in the lobby of the airport for your foreign exchange transactions if necessary. Please note that taxis are not equipped with credit card payment terminals.

10. Accommodation and Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA) and Accommodation

All participants are accommodated at Grand Hotel de l'Indépendance, the venue of the meeting.

10.1. Participants sponsored by RAMP AO

The persons covered by the RAMP AO will receive their DSA upon their arrival in Conakry.

Please keep your boarding passes with you. They will be claimed by the accounting for the payment of the DSA.

The persons covered by the RAMP AO will be accommodated in a hotel paid directly by the organizing committee. The name of the hotel will be specified before arrival at the airport or at the reception at the airport. The hotel accommodation will cover the cost of the room and breakfast only.

The other extras at the hotel (drinks, meals, laundry, etc.) must be paid directly to the hotel by the people who order them.

10.2. Participants not sponsored by RAMP AO

For those not supported by the RAMP AO, a list of hotels is available on the PRCM Forum website, our main partner, <http://forum-prcm.org/en/hebergement>. You can make your own booking by exchanging with the hotels. Those wishing to have the assistance of the organizing committee to reserve a room or have more information can contact Mrs Binta KONATE binta.konate@iucn.org and Mr Moussa POUYE mssapouye@gmail.com or please call us at +221 33 869 81 80.

11. Excursion

After the General Assembly and on the sidelines of the PRCM forum, RAMP AO will participate in an excursion scheduled for 26 October in the afternoon and initiated by the PRCM.

It will take place in the islands of Loss in the broad of Conakry. Participants of the General Assembly to attend the forum and interested in this excursion must register with the PRCM forum secretariat at forumprcm@gmail.com no later than Thursday, 19 October at 12 noon.

12. Currency and Rate of exchange

The official currency of Guinea is the the Guinean Franc (GNF).

The average exchange rate is (on September 26, 2017) :

- 1 € = 10000 GNF
- 1 USD = 8909.29 GNF
- 1 FCFA = 16.14 GNF

Approved traders are located in the commune of Kaloum where you can carry out your foreign exchange transactions.

Major credit cards are accepted in most hotels and restaurants in Conakry however we advise you to have cash with you.

13.Restaurants

Outside of the hotel, you will find several restaurants offering various choices. Payment by credit card is possible in certain establishments.

14.Guidelines on personal security

Grand Hotel de l'Indépendance is secured. Inputs and outputs are strictly controlled. Throughout the General Assembly, and throughout the hotel, you must keep your badge visible to you.

15.Weather

The weather in Conakry in october is wet, so it often rain. Averaged maximum temperature is 32 ° C and the lowest is 28 ° C.

16.Useful Contact/Phone number

Should you need assistance, please contact :

Mr. Moussa Pouye

Tel : +221 77 798 68 41

Email : mssapouye@gmail.com