



General Assembly

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Arabic and English only

Western Asia Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

Beirut, 26–28 March 2019

Information note for participants

1. Date and venue

1. The Western Asia Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice will be held from 26 to 28 March 2019 on the premises of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), located on Riad el-Solh Square, Beirut. The main telephone number for ESCWA is (+961)1 981301.

2. Official languages

2. The Meeting will be conducted in Arabic and English.

3. Registration

3. Participants are requested to register in advance as soon as possible, and no later than 10 March 2019, both by completing the online registration process at <http://reg.unog.ch/e/Reg.Prep.UNCongressCrime> and by sending a notification by email to unodc-congress.prep.mtg@un.org.

4. The Security and Safety Section will prepare badges in advance for those participants who have completed the online registration. Participants should collect their badges at the reception area at the main entrance of the United Nations House upon their arrival on the first day of the Meeting. Participants who do not submit a photo during the online registration procedure will likely be delayed upon arrival, as they will have to wait in line to have their photo taken.

5. Participants are required to wear their identity badges in order to gain admittance to Meeting premises and activities; the badges are to be worn at all times during the Meeting.

4. Documentation

6. Meeting documents may be downloaded from the page dedicated to the Meeting on the website of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) (www.unodc.org/congress/en/regionals/western-asia.html). Participants are urged to bring their own copies of the documents with them to Beirut, as only a limited number of copies will be available during the Meeting.



5. Servicing of the Meeting

7. UNODC is responsible for the substantive servicing of the Meeting.

6. Accommodation

8. Participants in the Meeting must make their own accommodation arrangements. The following hotels are recommended to participants (room prices are approximate):

Hotel: Markazia Suites Hotel
Address: Downtown Beirut, Syria Street (walking distance from the United Nations House)
Tel.: + (961) 1 991200
Mobile: + (961) 3 625048
Fax: + (961) 1 991209
Email: makram.chehayeb@markaziasuites.com
Price: 115 United States dollars (double room); \$95 (single room)

Hotel: Gefinor Rotana
Address: Clemenceau Hamra, Beirut
Tel.: + (961) 1 371888
Mobile: + (961) 70 982694
Fax: + (961) 1 372999
Email: julien.khatib@rotana.com
Price: \$110 (double); \$95 (single)

Hotel: Radisson Blu Martinez Hotel
Address: Ain El Mreysseh, Beirut
Tel.: + (961) 1 368111
Mobile: + (961) 70 233080
Fax: + (961) 1 370333
Email: nadia.safi@radissonblu.com
Price: \$115 (double); \$95 (single)

7. Transportation

9. Beirut-Rafic Hariri International Airport is located just nine kilometres from the centre of Beirut. Please note that UNODC does not provide transportation from and to the airport.

10. Participants who wish to be met at the airport upon arrival should request an airport pick-up through their respective hotel, providing their full name, arrival date and time and flight number at the time of the request. The cost of transfer from the airport to Beirut hotels is approximately \$25 per trip.

11. Transfers may be arranged by contacting the following taxi companies:

Charlie Taxi	+ (961) 1 285710
Geryes Taxi	+ (961) 1 333666
Trust Taxi	+ (961) 1 613573
Allo Taxi	+ (961) 1 366661

8. Immigration requirements

12. Details on visa requirements and issuance procedures are available from the website of the General Directorate of General Security (www.general-security.gov.lb). In addition, Ms. Nora Khalaf of ESCWA is available to answer queries related to visa procedures. She may be contacted by email at khalafn@un.org.

9. Foreign exchange

13. The Lebanese unit of currency is the Lebanese lira (LL). The exchange rate is relatively stable at approximately LL 1,500 per United States dollar. However, visitors

bringing United States dollars into Lebanon generally do not have to worry about changing money, as almost all shops and businesses freely accept United States dollars as payment. Credit cards are also widely accepted. Travellers cheques can be converted at currency exchange offices and banks, and cash advances can be withdrawn at ATM machines using a credit card.

10. Climate

14. The climate in Beirut in the month of March is characterized by an average daily high temperature that increases from 22°C to 25°C over the course of the month, with temperatures typically exceeding 28°C or dropping below 19°C on only one day in the month. Lebanon enjoys more than 300 sunny days per year and is almost rain-free from June until late October.

11. Liaison officer

15. Additional information about the Meeting and its programme can be obtained from the UNODC secretariat at the following email address: jasminka.delic@un.org.

12. Health requirements

16. Participants are advised to consult travel agents or the appropriate authorities in their own countries in order to obtain up-to-date information on health requirements.
