

***PAN-EUROPEAN BIOLOGICAL AND LANDSCAPE
DIVERSITY STRATEGY***

Geneva and Strasbourg, 3 August 2009

STRACO (2009) Inf.1

**COUNCIL FOR THE PAN-EUROPEAN
BIOLOGICAL AND LANDSCAPE DIVERSITY STRATEGY**

**FIFTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCE
*BIODIVERSITY IN EUROPE***

**22-24 September 2009
Liege, Belgium**

INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

*Document prepared by
the PEBLDS Joint Secretariat*

*This document will not be distributed at the meeting. Please bring this copy.
Ce document ne sera plus distribué en réunion. Prière de vous munir de cet exemplaire.*

Information Note for Participants

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1. Opening and registration

The Fifth Intergovernmental Conference on Biodiversity in Europe will be held at the University of Liège, Belgium from Tuesday 22 September to Thursday 24 September 2009.

The PEBLDS Council meeting will start at 08.30 a.m. on Tuesday 22 September and the opening session of the Conference will begin at 10.30 a.m. Registration will take place at the venue of the meeting starting at 08.00 a.m. on the same day.

2. Venue

The meeting will be held at:

**The University of Liège
Sart Tilman : Bâtiment B4
[Follow: Parkings P11, P14 et P48]
Boulevard du Rectorat, 13
Sart Tilman
B-4000 Liège**

By bus: Number 25-48, Amphithéâtres
By car: on E40 to Liege, follow 'ULG Campus Sart Tilman'



Amphithéâtres de l'Europe

3. Working languages

There will be interpretation in French, English and Russian for the plenary sessions and in one break-out group of each session.

4. Documents

Documents will be uploaded on the UNEP Regional Office for Europe website (www.unep.ch) and the Council of Europe website (www.coe.int)

5. General transport information

a. Getting to Liège, Belgium

Liège is serviced by the Brussels airport, Zaventem (12 km of Brussels City centre). There will be a support desk at the airport in Brussels.

We advise participants to take the train directly from the airport to Liège. There will be hostesses at the airport to direct participants to the correct trains. Those delegates whose arrival times at Zaventem do not fall between 6h00 and 23h00 or if you have special needs or requirements, please inform the Secretariat so that special transportation to Liège can be organized.

The train journey from the airport to Liège train station takes slightly more than 1 hour and costs about 25 €. The train station is at the Zaventem terminals. More information on trains to Liège can be found at: www.sncb.be.

b. Transport from and to the hotels

There will be a support desk at the train station in Liège and shuttles are foreseen from the train station in Liège to the different hotels. Furthermore, public transportation from and to the station is available and more information on local transportation can be found at: <http://www.infotec.be>.

Buses will take participants to the meeting venue in the morning and bring them back in the evening. To go back to the hotel during the day, public transportation can be used. Information will be available at the hotel desk on the best route between your hotel and the meeting venue.

6. Visa information

Participants who are nationals of all EU countries, Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein do not require a visa to enter Belgium provided they hold a valid national passport.

Nationals of the countries listed below also DO NOT REQUIRE a visa to enter BELGIUM, provided they hold a valid national passport on condition that their stay does not exceed three months, within any period of six months:

- ANDORRA
- BULGARIA
- CROATIA
- MONACO
- ROMANIA
- SAN MARINO
- SWITZERLAND

All other participants are required to obtain a Schengen visa to enter Belgium and are strongly advised to contact the nearest Belgian diplomatic or consular mission as soon as possible in order to secure the required entry visa in a timely manner, prior to departure.

Information on visa procedures, including a list of relevant Belgian diplomatic/consular missions abroad, is available on the website of the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation: <http://www.diplomatie.be/en/travel/visa/default.asp>.

To facilitate the issuance of visas, the Secretariat will issue upon request personal invitation letters to be attached to the visa applications.

7. Hotel information

Block reservations have been made at the following hotels:

NOTE: Participants are kindly informed that they must make their own hotel reservation before 31 August.

1. Hotel Ibis Liège – Seraing (40 rooms available)

15 b Route du Condroz
B-4100 Bonnelles
Tel: +32 4 338 53 97
Fax : +32 4 338 45 11
Email : ibis.bonnelles@belgacom.net

Single room : 68,00 €
Double room : 81,00 €
Breakfast included.

2. Hôtel Ibis Liège Centre Opéra (30 rooms available)

Place de la République Française, 41
4000 Liège
Tel: +32 (0) 4 230 33 33
Fax: +32 (0) 4 223 04 81
Email: H0864-IT@accor.com

Single room : 91,00 €
Double room : 105,00 €
Includes hot and cold buffet breakfast.

NOTE: Participants should mention the name of the conference when they book at the Ibis to ensure the reduced rate for the conference.

3. Holiday Inn (100 rooms available)

Holiday Inn Liège
Esplanade de l'Europe 2
4020 Liège, Liège
Tel: + 32 4 349 20 00
Fax: +32 4343 48 10

Single room: 110 €
Double room: 126 €
Hot buffet breakfast included.
All taxes and services included.

4. Mercure Hotel (number of rooms depends on availability)

Boulevard de la Sauvenière, 100
4000 Liège
Tel: + 32 42217728
Fax: +32 42217701
E-mail: Mercureliege@alliance-hospitality.com

Single room: 110 €
Double room: 126 €
Supplement for VIP room 30 € per room per night.
American Buffet breakfast included.
Net rates, all taxes and services included.

NOTE: Participants should fill out the reservation form in the Annex to this Note when they book at the Holiday Inn or at the Mercure.

5. Hotel Husa de la Couronne (40 rooms available)

Place des Guillemins , 11
4000 Liège
Tel: +32 4 340 30 00
Fax: +32 4 340 30 01

68 € Bed and Breakfast inclusive of taxes.

NOTE: Please use the booking code GF-103 in addition to the name of the Conference when making your reservation.

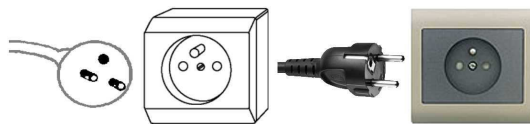
8. Weather and time zone

In September, temperatures in Brussels usually range between a maximum of +15°C in the daytime and a minimum of 7°C at night. <http://www.worldweather.org/053/c00191.htm>.

The standard time zone is GMT + 2 hours.

9. Electricity

230 volts, 50 Hertz.



10. Disclaimer

The Secretariat disclaims all responsibility for medical, accident and travel insurance, for compensation for death or disability compensation, for loss of or damage to personal property and for any other losses that may be incurred during travel time or the period of participant. In this context, it is strongly recommended to secure international medical insurance for the period of participation prior to departure.