



## Second Experts' Symposium on Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems (MHEWS – II) with focus on the Role of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services

**5 - 7 May 2009**

**Météo-France Conferences International Centre  
42 avenue Gaspard Coriolis, Toulouse, France**

### LOGISTICAL INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

#### CONFERENCE VENUE

The Météo-France Conferences International Centre  
42, avenue Gaspard Coriolis  
31057 Toulouse cedex 1  
France  
Tel : +33 (0)5 61 07 80 51 or 33 (0)5 61 07 80 52

Located right on the doorstep of Toulouse, just 8 km from its **international airport Toulouse Blagnac**, the Conferences International Centre lies at the very heart of Europe's leading meteorology Centre. Since it was first opened in 1992, the CIC has hosted companies, scientists and engineers from a wide range of technical fields. It shares the same grounds as the three major divisions of Météo-France - operations, research and training. In a high-tech and comfortable environment, this user-friendly conference centre was designed with people in mind.

#### Getting to the venue

##### **Arriving by air:**

Taxis can drive you to Meteopole in about 15 minutes. It will cost you around 25 €, or take the airport shuttle to Toulouse city center and get off at "Allée Jean-Jaurès" bus stop. Then, take the subway line A in direction of "Basso Cambo", and get off at Basso Cambo station. Then take the bus Line N° 8 (time schedules), in direction "Lycée Polyvalent", and get off at stop "METEO-FRANCE". A subway+bus ticket will cost you around 1,40 €. Map of Line A.

##### **Arriving by rail:**

**Matabiau railway station** is in the city centre. Toulouse Matabiau Station 64, boulevard Pierre Sépard 31000 Toulouse. SNCF Information : +33 (0)8 36 35 35 35.

Take the subway line A in direction of "Basso Cambo", and get off at Basso Cambo station. Then take the bus Line N° 8 (time schedules), in direction "Lycée Polyvalent", and get off at stop "METEO-FRANCE". A subway+bus ticket will cost you around 1,40 €. The trip takes about 30 minutes. Map of Line A.

##### **Arriving by road:**

From the motorway "Paris-Bordeaux", follow "Foix-Tarbes" direction; you are on the ring. Take Exit 27 "La Cépière". Follow "Cugnaux", then "Les Pradettes" and "Météo-CERFACS".

From the motorway "Montpellier-Carcassonne", follow "Aéroport de Blagnac" (airport sign). On the ring take Exit 27 "La Cépière/Cugnaux" and then follow the signs Meteopole.

##### **For your accommodation**

The Conference Center is located in the suburbs of Toulouse but is easily reachable by metro and bus; we recommend to select an hotel downtown.

## **HOTEL ACCOMODATION**

Participants are strongly recommended to make their hotel reservations through Météo-France at the following website: <http://www.meteo.fr/cic/meetings/mhews-II>. Block of rooms have been reserved in various hotel at preferential rates.

For your information, please see the table below for medium prices per night, including breakfast and taxes.

category	**	***	*** sup	****
single room	50€ - 80€	80€ - 110€	110€ - 185€	185€ - 250€
double room	60€ - 90€	90€ - 120€	120€ - 210€	210€ - 270€

## **SHUTTLE**

A bus-service will be organised to transport the participants to and from the Conference Center. More details will be provided on the Symposium website.

## **HOSPITALITY**

Participants sponsored by WMO will receive, upon their registration, tickets for their lunches for the meeting days of the Symposium. For the other participants, tickets will be sold at the registration desk, in the morning of 5 May 2009, at the special price of 11 Euros per lunch. The lunches will be served in the Cafeteria of the International Centre of Conferences, five minutes walking distance from the Conference meeting rooms.

## **VISA**

### **Visa Information for France**

Every foreign national wishing to come to France must have ready for presentation at the border documentary evidence of the purpose of the visit, means of support for the duration of the stay and accommodation arrangements. In some cases, a visa is required. It must be requested from the French consulate before departure.

According to your nationality, the length and the purpose of your trip to France, you may be requested to obtain a visa before traveling.

Do you need a Schengen visa to travel to France?

To find out whether or not you require a Schengen visa to travel to France, please consult the following link:

[http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/france\\_159/entering-france\\_2045/getting-visa\\_2046/index.html](http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/france_159/entering-france_2045/getting-visa_2046/index.html)

Contact details of the French embassy and/or consulate in your country:

<http://www.mfe.org/annuaires/repdipet.asp>

All this information is available on the following link:

<http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/drr/events/MHEWS-II/>

**Invitation letters for processing of your visa will be issued upon receipt of your confirmation of your participation in the Symposium.**

## **TIME ZONE**

GMT/UTC +1 (Central European Time)

## **WEATHER IN TOULOUSE**

[http://france.meteofrance.com/france/meteo?PREVISIONS\\_PORTLET.path=previsionsregion/REG09](http://france.meteofrance.com/france/meteo?PREVISIONS_PORTLET.path=previsionsregion/REG09)

## **HEALTH AND SAFETY**

Pharmacies can be identified by a Green Cross.

Emergencies	
SAMU (ambulance) - Tel: 15 (free)	Police Emergency (from a cell phone) -Tel: 112
Fire Department - Tel: 18 (free)	European emergency call: 112
Police - Tel: 17 (free)	

## **INSURANCE**

The workshop organizers cannot accept liability for personal injuries sustained, or for loss of, or damage to, property belonging to conference participants or their accompanying persons, either during or as a result of the workshop. Participants are advised to arrange for insurance to cover medical, travel, and personal effects while attending the meetings.

WMO's insurance coverage for non-staff members is as follows: "The Organization accepts limited responsibility for compensation in the event of death, illness or injury attributable to the attendance at meetings or the performance on behalf of the Organization of services by persons not belonging to the staff of the Organization but authorized to travel at its expense and/or receiving a daily subsistence allowance from it. These persons remain therefore fully responsible for any expenses incurred as a result of events which are not attributable to the attendance of meetings or the performance of services on behalf of the Organization and for arranging such life, health and other forms of insurance as they consider appropriate."

## **LOSS OR THEFT**

- Visa, Eurocard MasterCard Tel: 33 (0)8 36 69 08 80 (24/24) Contact details can be found at the cash dispenser at your bank or from the multilingual inter-bank voice server by dialling 33 (0)892 705 705
- Diners Club: Tel: 33 (0)810 314 159 (24h/24)
- Checks: Tel: 33 (0)8 92 68 32 08 (24/24)
- Carte France Télécom: Tel ("Green number") : 0 800 10 20 40 (free)

## **CURRENCY AND BANKS**

Visa and MasterCard (Access or Eurocard) are widely accepted; AmEx cards are useful at more upmarket establishments. In general, all three cards can be used in shops, supermarkets, for train travel, car rentals, autoroute tolls and cash advances. Remember you'll need to know your PIN number (le code) to use a credit card in many hotels, shops and restaurants.

The cheapest and most convenient way to change money in France is via ATMs; they accept all the major international credit and bank cards. You get the best exchange rate by using a credit card for purchases and a debit card for cash. Travellers cheques are safe and almost universally accepted. Post offices that exchange travellers cheques give a good rate. Major train stations and fancy hotels also have exchange facilities which usually operate in the evening, at the weekend and during holidays, but the rates are generally poor.

Euro notes come in denominations of 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200 and 500. It is often difficult to get change for a €500.00 note. One euro is divided into 100 cents or centimes. Coins of 1, 2 and 5 centimes are copper-coloured; coins of 10, 20 and 50 centimes are gold-coloured; 1 and 2 euro coins are gold-and-silver coloured.

Exchange rate given by the Universal Currency Converter is now about 1 USD – 0.762 EURO.

### **POST OFFICE**

Letter boxes are yellow. Stamps can be bought in post offices, open Monday to Friday and Saturday morning, as well as in tobacconists.

### **ELECTRICITY**

The electrical voltage in France is 220 volts. France uses the standard European grounded and non-grounded socket, the most common in the world.

### **TAX-FREE**

If you live outside of the EU you can claim taxes back if you have purchase more than 175 € of value. Customs telephone information: + 33 (0)820 024 444.

### **TIPPING**

Leaving a pourboire (tip) is done at your discretion - restaurants and accommodations add a 10-15% service charge to every bill, making a tip unnecessary, but most people leave a few coins if the service is satisfactory.

### **TOBACCO**

Smoking is forbidden in public areas as well as in restaurants and bars