



## **2015 MEETING OF THE DISASTER RISK REDUCTION FOCAL POINTS OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS, TECHNICAL COMMISSIONS AND PROGRAMMES (DRR FP RA-TC-TP)**

**3–5 November 2015  
WMO Headquarters  
Geneva, Switzerland  
Room: Salle C1**

Webpage:  
[http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/drr/eventsThematic\\_en.html](http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/drr/eventsThematic_en.html)

### **INFORMATION NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS**

*(as of 29 October 2015)*

#### **Venue**

**World Meteorological Organization - Secretariat  
7 bis, Avenue de la Paix, CH-1211 Geneva, Switzerland  
Room C1, ground floor**

#### **Hotels**

Participants will be responsible for booking their own accommodation. A list of hotels is available at the following link: [http://www.wmo.int/pages/visitors/documents/hotels\\_en.pdf](http://www.wmo.int/pages/visitors/documents/hotels_en.pdf)

Each participant, funded by WMO, will receive a lump sum to cover accommodation, meals and airport transportation costs.

## Transportation

Participants will be responsible for coordinating their own transportation to and from the airport. At the airport, free tickets for public transport within the Canton of Geneva are available from the machine in the Baggage Conveyor Hall before passing customs. Hotels in Geneva are providing guests with a free ticket for public transport.

A map of the bus and tram network can be obtained free of charge from the UNIRESO Information Centre at Cornavin Station and from the following website: <http://www.tpg.ch>

### Getting to WMO from the airport

**Taxi:** From the taxi rank outside the Arrivals Hall (Ground floor). Cost: approximately CHF 25 to 30

**Bus/Tram:** The WMO can be reached by bus lines 1, 11, 25 and 28 heading to “Jardin Botanique” or by tram 15 to “Nations”. Buses 1 and 25 and tram 15 stop in front of the main train railway station “Cornavin”; bus 11 can be taken from the Place des Nations (connection to tram 15). Bus 28 connects the WMO building to the airport and can be taken from outside the Terminal Building (first floor). The stop is situated to the left as you come out of the terminal. The bus goes all the way to Jardin Botanique, which faces the WMO building (last stop).

### Getting to WMO from the centre of Geneva

From Cornavin Station, tram 15 goes to the Place des Nations. WMO is then within walking distance (avenue de la Paix, towards the lake – 10 minutes). Buses 1, 11 and 28 also stop at the Jardin Botanique.

## Entry Visas

Participants will be responsible for arranging their visa requirements if required. If you need assistance, please contact Ms Anita Blavo ([ablavo@wmo.int](mailto:ablavo@wmo.int)).

## WMO Insurance Policy for Participants Funded by WMO

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 supported by WMO to participate in the event 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."

## Useful Information

The WMO visitor info website provides a number of useful links:

[http://www.wmo.int/pages/visitors/index\\_en.html](http://www.wmo.int/pages/visitors/index_en.html)

### Currency and banks

The currency in Switzerland is the Swiss Franc (CHF, SFr.). The Euro is also accepted at most businesses but expect to pay a premium rate. Check [www.xe.com](http://www.xe.com) for the most up-to-date exchange rates. Most transactions in the city are conducted in cash and a surprising number of businesses and restaurants do not accept credit cards so be prepared. ATMs are widely available throughout the city, dispensing notes up to 1000 CHF.

### Time zone

GMT/UTC +1

### Weather in Geneva

Due to the tempering effects of the lake and surrounding mountains, Geneva is pleasant almost year round. September and October are the rainiest months. January and February are the coldest but rarely drop below freezing. Summers are long with relatively low humidity and cool breezes from the lake. The Mont Blanc is visible from Geneva about half of the days out of the year. For more information, see <http://worldweather.wmo.int/en/city.html?cityId=193>.

### Telephone area codes

+41 for Switzerland and 022 for Geneva.

### Electrical Voltage

Electricity in Switzerland is 220 volts, 50 cycles AC. Most U.S. American appliances require a converter and an adapter to operate, although some dual-voltage items such as laptops may only require an adapter. Some European appliances may also require an adapter as Switzerland uses a 3-prong outlet system that is smaller than most continental plugs. For more information see [www.travelproducts.com/store/electricity\\_guide.htm](http://www.travelproducts.com/store/electricity_guide.htm).

### Health and safety

Emergency Assistance: 144	Police: 117
Fire brigade: 118	Information: 111

## WMO Secretariat Contacts

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