**Severe Weather Forecasting Demonstration Project (SWFDP) – Eastern Africa**

**Regional Training Workshop on Severe Weather Forecasting and Delivery of Warning Services**

**(Nairobi, Kenya, 29 January – 8 February 2019)**

**INFORMATION NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS**

The Local Organizing Committee of the **Regional Training Workshop on Severe Weather Forecasting and Delivery of Warning Services** welcomes the participants to Nairobi, Kenya. Below is some important information that participants need to have as they prepare to travel to Nairobi.

1. **DATE AND VENUE**

The Regional Workshop will be held from **29th January to 8th February 2019** at the **Nairobi Safari Club, Lillian Towers Hotel**. The Hotel is located about 5 KM from the Nairobi city centre and about 7 KM from the Kenya Meteorological Department (KMD), in the Central Business District. It is about 12 KM from Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA).

1. **LOLAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE**

The Kenya Meteorological Department (KMD) is responsible for the local arrangements of the Workshop. Should you require further information regarding the arrangements for the Workshop, please contact:

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| **Ms. Stella Aura, MBS**  Ag. Director  Kenya Meteorological Department  Dagoretti Corner, Ngong Road,  P.O. Box 30259  00100 GPO NAIROBI, Kenya  Phone: +254 20 3876957 or 3867880 or 3873137  Mobile (Cell phone): +254 722 822553  Email: [aura@meteo.go.ke](mailto:aura@meteo.go.ke);  R\_stll@yahoo.com | **Mr. Peter Masika**  Assistant Director  International Relations  Kenya Meteorological Department  Dagoretti Corner, Ngong Road,  P.O Box 30259 - 00100  NAIROBI, Kenya  Phone: +254 20 3876957 or 3867880 or 3874214  Mobile (Cell phone): +254 722 343 664  E-mail: [psmasika@gmail.com](mailto:muiruri@meteo.go.ke);  [irdkmd@gmail.com](mailto:irdkmd@gmail.com) |

1. **IMMIGRATION/VISA REQUIREMENTS**

The Government of Kenya has issued new regulations for Entry Visa into Kenya. Visa application **MUST** be done online through the Kenya Immigration website. Every participant is requested to visit the website [http://www.immigration.go.ke](http://www.immigration.go.ke/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=102&Itemid=140) as well as [www.ecitizen.go.ke](http://www.ecitizen.go.ke) for more information.

Entry visas can also be obtained from the Kenya Diplomatic Missions or Consulates in the participants' countries. It is advisable to obtain your visa from the Kenyan Embassy/High Commission in your country prior to departure.

A single Entry Visa costs **US$50**. Payment can also be made using Euros, GBP or Swiss Francs. **Make sure you have some US$ for this transaction**.

1. **HEALTH REQUIREMENTS**

No inoculations or vaccinations are required unless one is coming from or passing through contaminated areas. Travellers flying from countries affected by Marburg virus disease should enquire with the relevant embassies or health Ministries about any requirements conditioning entry at their destination, and prepare accordingly. Allow additional time during arrival and departure to pass through enhanced medical screening. Do not travel if you are sick. Persons with fever or other Marburg-like symptoms may be taken to designated centres or have entry/exit denied. Yellow fever certificates are required for visitors coming from **Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Peru, Angola, Burkina Faso, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Mauritania, Mali, Nigeria, Sudan and Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)** (Those without this certificate are subject to quarantine).

The following are recommended;

* Vaccination against typhoid and paratyphoid fever for all visitors to Kenya.
* Malaria prophylaxis.

1. **MEDICAL /HEALTH INSURANCE**

KMD will not be responsible for any medical expenses which may be incurred during this workshop. Foreign participants are, therefore, advised to obtain international medical cover, for themselves, valid for the duration of their stay in Nairobi.

1. **ARRIVAL AND TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS**

Transport from and to Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA) in Nairobi will be provided by the host country. The Local Organizing Committee (LOC) will need advance information on the itinerary *(Date, Flight Number and time of arrival and departure)* **by Monday, 18th January 2019** in order to make the necessary transportation arrangements.

1. **ACCOMMODATION**

The below hotels are at walking distance from the training workshop venue

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Hotel Name** | **Distance from the Training venue** | **Single Room Rates (Bed & Breakfast)**  **(in KSH)** | **Single Room Rates (Bed & Breakfast)**  **(in USD)**  **This cost is for Non Kenyans** | **Hotel Contact Details** |
| **PARKSIDE HOTEL** | 300m | 3,300 | 33 | Monrovia Street opp. Jevanjee Gardens  [parksidehotelnairobikenya@gmail.com](mailto:parksidehotelnairobikenya@gmail.com)  +254 710 420 859 |
| **KENYA COMFORT HOTEL** | 250m | 5,000 | 50 | Opposite Jeevanjee Gardens behind Nairobi Safari Club  [sales@kenyacomfort.com](mailto:sales@kenyacomfort.com)  +254 0746 854 100  Mr Richard Nyambane |
| **SIXEIGHTY HOTEL** | 750m | 7,250 | 120 | Corner of Muindi Mbingu Street and Kenyatta Avenue  [Reservations680@sentrim-hotels.com](mailto:Reservations680@sentrim-hotels.com)  +254 719296 945  Ms Agneta |

1. **MONEY**

The currency used in Kenya is the Kenya shilling (Ksh). The current approximate conversion rates in December 2018 (***subject to change with time***) with some of the main currencies are as follows:

* 1 US $ - KShs. 102.38
* 1 $ (Sterling Pound) - KShs. 129.78
* 1 Euro - KShs. 116.51

Most banks in Kenya have Bureaux de Change services. Banking hours are generally from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. There are also many Forex Bureaux, which operate up to 5:00 p.m. **It is advisable that the participants carry a few US $ (not their local currencies) to cater for any unforeseen incidental expenses.**

Participants are welcome to visit the Central Bank of Kenya website [www.centralbank.go.ke](http://www.centralbank.go.ke) for the updated exchange rates before the start of their travel.

1. **CREDIT CARDS**

Credit cards are widely accepted at most hotels and shopping malls. The most popular ones are the Visa and Master Cards.

1. **ELECTRICITY**

The electric current in Kenya is 240V, 50Hz, and the plug opposite is usually used. If your appliances’ plug has a different shape, you may need an adapter.



1. **NAIROBI CLIMATE IN JANUARY**

January is normally a dry and hot month in Kenya. The mean conditions in Nairobi in January are as follows:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Month** | **Mean Temperature 0C** | | **Mean Total Rainfall (mm)** |
| Monthly Maximum | Monthly Minimum |
| **JANUARY** | 25.0 | 12.7 | 68.2 |
| **FEBRUARY** | 26.2 | 12.8 | 49.3 |

Weather forecasts for Nairobi can be obtained from KMD website at the following: [***http://www.meteo.go.ke/pws/wx/index.html***](http://www.meteo.go.ke/pws/wx/index.html)

KMD Facebook page: Kenya Meteorological Department and twitter handle:@KenyaMetService.

**11. SECURITY**

The organizers are not responsible for personal losses. In case you bring any valuables, large sums of money, or personal items, we recommend that you have them secured. Nairobi is generally safe but like any other city in the world, there are some areas which may not be safe especially in the evenings. You are advised to avoid dark alleys and to walk in two’s or more. In the evenings, visitors are advised to take taxis that are well marked.

**12. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**Plastic Carrier Bags Ban in Kenya**

A ban on plastic carrier bags has come into force in Kenya, which means that anyone found selling, manufacturing or carrying them could face fines of up to $38,000 or prison sentences of up to four years.