

Local Information
WMO SWFDP RA-III Training on
The use of GDPFS Products and Public Weather Service in
Support of Natural Disaster Reduction
15-25 September 2008, Curitiba, Brazil

◆ **Training Workshop Location**

The training will be held at the Technological Institute SIMEPAR, at:
Polytechnic Centre of the Federal University of Paraná State (UFPR)
Jardim das Américas,
Curitiba, Paraná
Tel: 55-41-3320-2000
Fax: 55-41-3366-2122

◆ **VISA**

Those who require a VISA to entry in Brazil are encouraged to contact the Brazilian General Consulate at your home country at the earliest convenience to find out the necessary documents and conditions for visiting Brazil. South America Countries do not need a VISA, but a valid passport with during of at least 6 months before expire date or a permanent ID card.

◆ **Immunizations**

All participants should enquire in Brazilian General Consulate at your respective countries if immunization, vaccines, medical examination is required and acquire any relevant certificates that may be required at the Brazilian immigration sector at the airport.

◆ **Accommodation and Meals**

Hotel

There are two options for hotel, both with agreement for reduced prices of accommodations for this Workshop. Thus participants can either book directly to the hotel or via SIMEPAR, by sending email to rino@simepar.br (preferentially). For those

booking via internet, please do it by mentioning the **SWFDP/SIMEPAR** acronym. This will help the identification by the hotel.

(1) HOTEL PROMENADE

Rua Mariano Torres, 976

Curitiba, PR – 80060-120

Tel: +55 41 30144341/0800-701-4302 (in Brazil only)

<http://www.hotelpromenade.com.br>

Prices are according to the following table:

Room type	Prices per night
Single	81,65 BR
Double	90,00 BR
Triple	135,00 BR

The above room prices include full breakfast and taxes. Internet access at all rooms, for wireless and telephone for 2BR/hr. For **Double and triple** rooms the price is 45BR per person.

Directions:

This hotel is 3 km far from SIMEPAR and the bus stop is just in front of the hotel's main entrance (RUA TIBAGI). You have to cross the street SETE DE SETEMBRO and walk to left until RUA TIBAGI. The bus stop is in this street in the right side, about 100m from the corner. It is a yellow bus and the line name is ESTUDANTES ("students") (you should look for this name in the bus front panel) and it passes there every 30 minutes from 6 am to 11 pm. It stops at the University main entrance at a walk distance to SIMEPAR (at the main entrance you turn left and walking for 10 minutes till the end of the street). The bus price is about 1.90BR and you can pay inside the bus (usually only small return money are accepts, about 10BR). The way back, you get the bus at the same place that you arrived and then get off the bus just besides the hotel PROMENADE, at AV. MARIANO TORRES.

(2) HARBOR BATEL – RESIDENCE & SERVICE

Av. Batel, 1162

Batel – Curitiba

Tel: +55 (41) 3342-5832

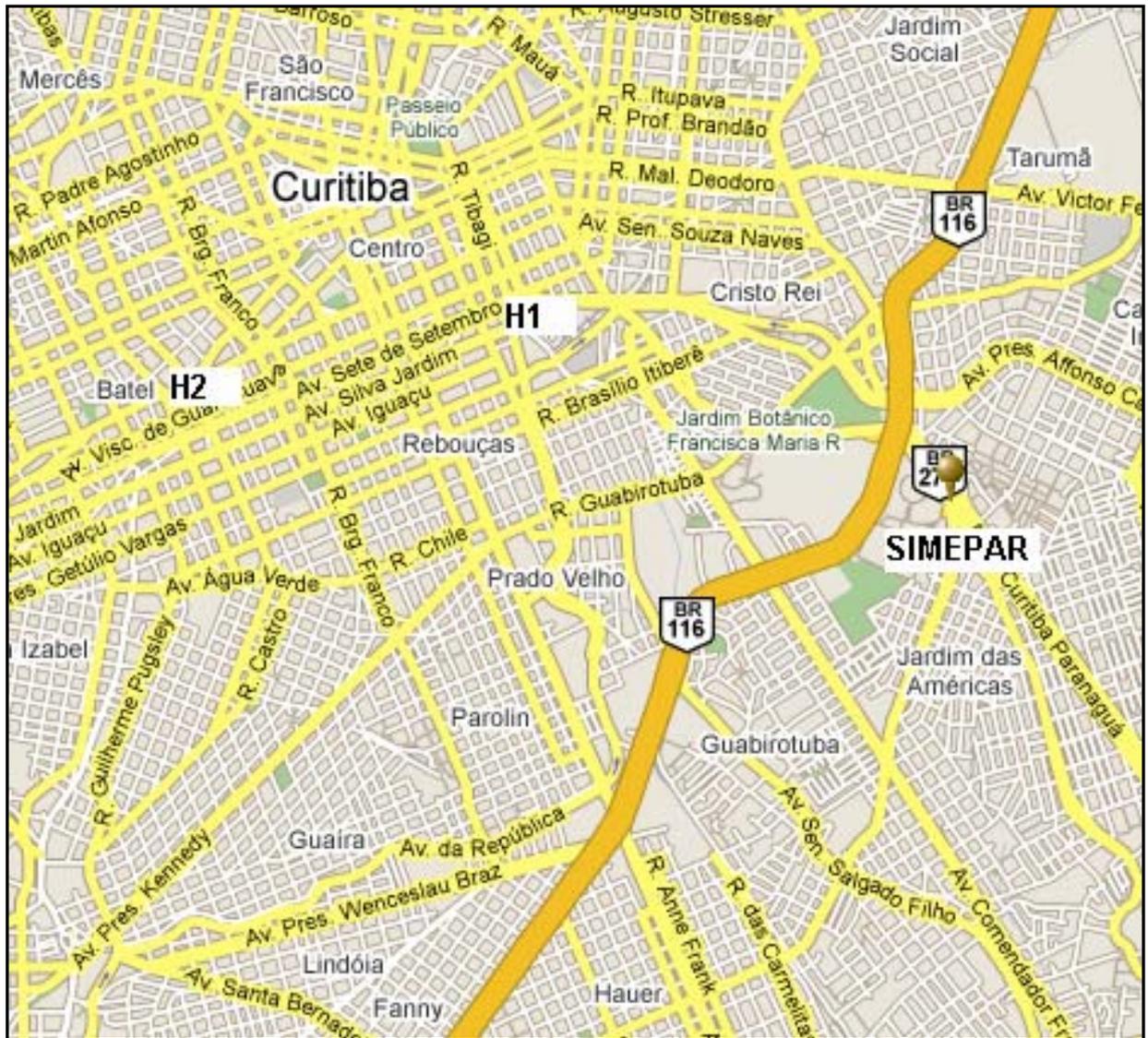
<http://www.harborhoteis.com.br>

Room type	Prices per night
Single	90,00 BR + 5% tax
Double	100,00 BR + 5% tax

The above prices include full breakfast and free internet access (wireless and cable).

Directions:

This hotel is 7km far from SIMEPAR and requires two buses to get to the training centre. The first bus should be taken in a bus stop in front of the hotel, with destination “RUA XV/BATEL” or “JD SOCIAL/BATEL”, both yellow colours, it passes at AV. DO BATEL every 15 minutes from 6 am to 11 pm. You should get off the bus either at RUA JOSE LOUREIRO, number 711, or RUA BENJAMIN CONSTANT, number 300. In the first case, you will walk towards RUA TIBAGI and turn right. In the second case, you will have to walk back to TIBAGI and cross this street and turn left. The BUS ESTUDANTES stops at number 366 at TIBAGI. Then you just follow the same indications as for the hotel (1) above. For the way back to the hotel, you will catch the bus ESTUDANTES and get off from it at AV. MARIANO TORRES, number 351. Then you walk towards RUA XV DE NOVEMBRO (OR also “QUINZE” DE NOVEMBRO), cross this street and look for a bus point. Then you will take bus JD. SOCIAL/BATEL or RUA XV/BATEL until the hotel HARBOR BATEL. The following maps illustrate these directions.



Curitiba downtown, hotels and SIMEPAR locations. H1 is the location of Hotel PROMENADE (1) (3 km from SIMEPAR) and H2 is the location of Hotel HARBOR BATEL (2) (7km from SIMEPAR).

H1 and H2 above are the hotels (1) and (2), the black arrow drawn in both maps indicates the bus line “JD. SOCIAL/BATEL” (or XV NOVEMBRO/BATEL). The blue arrow indicates the bus line “ESTUDANTES”. The red rectangles are the bus stops, at RUA JOSE LOUREIRO and RUA BENJAMIN CONSTANT as mentioned before. The black cross is the bus stop for get line “ESTUDANTES” to SIMEPAR.

OBS: in either hotel situation, in the first day of training, there will be a person from SIMEPAR to get bus together and help you with these directions.

Meals are served at restaurants, close to the LOC, and the places will be informed during the Workshop.

◆ Transportation

Airport-Hotel-Airport

The International Curitiba Airport, Afonso Pena, is located at São José dos Pinhais, 15 km from of downtown Curitiba. Arrivals should make their own way to the hotel. The following choices are available:

Airport Bus: Airport to the main hotels in Curitiba. Fare is 8 BR. The bus stops close to the hotel (1). For Hotel (2) you can get off the bus at the bus stop at RUA MARIANO TORRES, number 351, and then follow the instructions for the hotel (2) above, in order to get the second bus line.

Taxi to the hotel: just take the taxi in the main exit of the Airport to the hotel. The taxi fair is about 40 BR.

Hotel-Conference Venue

Please refer to the above given instructions.

◆ **Registration**

September 15, 2008 from 08:30-09:00 at the main entrance of SIMEPAR. There is no registration fee.

◆ **Time zone**

In relation to Greenwich, Curitiba is (-3) hours.

◆ **Electricity, internet and e-mail**

The electrical voltage in Curitiba is 120V. Internet and E-mail are accessible for participants in the hotel by broadband or wireless. Internet and Email accession are also available at the training venue.

◆ **Reconfirmation of airline ticket reservations**

Please contact the front desk or business center of Hotel if your need to call to reconfirm your airline ticket, or contact Local Organizing Committee (LOC) members to ask for help during the meeting.

◆ **Social events**

The conference reception hosted by SIMEPAR will be held at 19:00pm in 17th September, 2008. (Location to be decided). All participants are invited to join the reception.

◆ **Weather**

Located in Southern Brazil, Curitiba is a somewhat humid city in Subtropical zone. It is located in a plateau and the flat terrain with flooded areas contribute to its mild and damp winter, with average temperatures of 13°C (57°F) in the coldest month, falling slightly below 0°C (32°F), on the coldest days. During summer, the average temperature is around 21°C (70°F), but gets above 32°C (90°F) on hot days. It received snowfall in 1928 and 1975. The highest temperature ever registered in the city was 35,6°C (95°F). The all-time record lowest temperature was -8°C (18°F), but there are an unofficial register of -10,4°C (14°F).

In fact, of Brazil's twenty-six state capitals, Curitiba is the coldest due to altitude, despite being 600 km (372 mi) north of Porto Alegre, the southernmost state capital in Brazil, but located at sea level.

Curitiba's inhabitants claim that its weather is unpredictable. Heat waves during winter and cold waves during summer are not uncommon, and even within a single day there can be great variation, a typical feature of subtropical climate. A local saying says that "Curitiba is a city in which the four seasons are clearly defined, and it has all four every day". Several factors contribute to the climate's variable nature:

- The flat terrain surrounded by mountains in a rough circle with radius 40 km (24 mi) help block the winds, allowing the morning mist to cover the city on cold mornings.
- The flatness of the terrain hinders quick water drainage after rains, providing then a good source of water vapor for the atmosphere.
- Cold fronts come often from Antarctica and Argentina all year long, bringing tropical storms in summer and lots of cold winds in winter. They can be very quick, with no more than one day between the start of the southern winds and the start of rain.
- Curitiba's weather is also influenced by the dry air masses that dominate [Brazil's](#) midwest most of the year, bringing dry and hot weather, sometimes even in winter.

During the Workshop the weather is expected to be pleasant with beginning of the Spring season, with the temperature ranging from 9.9 C to 20.3 C and with monthly rainfall accumulation about 110 mm.

◆ **Medical care and insurance**

The conference secretariat will be on duty all day during the conference. Please contact the Secretariat or LOC members for first aid or medical care services. The medical fee should be borne by the patient.

Participants are strongly advised to arrange their own overseas travel insurance.

◆ **Identity badge**

During the workshop, all delegates and their accompanying persons are kindly requested to wear the identity badge. The badge serves as a pass for meetings.

If participants have any questions, please contact the LOC members who are identified by their red badges.

◆ **Currency exchange**

The official currency in Brazil is Brazilian Real (BR) or just “REAL” (or “REAIS”). Currency exchange centers can be found at airport, local banks, and the main hotels at downtown. There are some currency exchange services in the town centre, but it is advisable to use only the above refereed places.

Travelers’ checks are not widely used in Brazil and are accepted only by major banks and some hotels. The Bank of Brasil will cash your traveler check. The exchange rate for US\$ and EURO fluctuate with time. Recent examples are:

US\$ to BR: around 100: 165

EURO to BR: around 100: 253

◆ **Contact point**

The contact person of the Local Organizing Committee is:

Dr. Reinaldo Silveira

Instituto Tecnológico SIMEPAR

Centro Politecnico da UFPR

Tel: +55 41 3320-2013

Fax: +55 41 3366-2122

Email: rsilveira@simepar.br

◆ Language assistance

If you have some difficulties in communication with taxi driver, please print the following Portuguese text to them:

POR FAVOR LEVE-ME AO CENTRO POLITECNICO, JARDIM DAS AMÉRICAS,
NO SIMEPAR, OBRIGADO!

Please take me to the Polytechnic Centre, at Jardim das Américas , at SIMEPAR
thank you!

POR FAVOR LEVE-ME AO HOTEL PROMENADE, OBRIGADO !

Please take me to Hotel PROMENADE, thank you!

POR FAVOR LEVE-ME AO HOTEL HARBOR BATEL, OBRIGADO !

Please take me to Hotel HARBOR BATEL, thank you!

POR FAVOR LEVE-ME AO AEROPORTO AFONSO PENA, OBRIGADO !

Please take me to the Afonso Pena Airport, thank you!