

*INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION*  
**Kaleidoscope Event, IPTV-GSI and Meetings of Study Groups 11 and 13**

**INFORMATION NOTE**  
**Practical information**

**1 Venue of the meeting**

HOTEL HERMITAGE

Av. Colón and Boulevard Marítimo P.P. Ramos 2657 - Mar del Plata

**2 National Coordinator**

**Mr Luis Carranza**

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**3 Accommodation and hotel reservations**

The Argentine Administration has secured special rates with several hotels in Mar del Plata, details of which are given in the table on the next page, where there is also a map showing the proximity of each hotel to the meeting venue (Hotel Hermitage).

Delegates are kindly requested to inform us of the reservations made by sending an e-mail message to [lcarranza@cnc.gov.ar](mailto:lcarranza@cnc.gov.ar), attaching a copy of the reservation forms provided.

It is important that reservations be made as early as possible. **All reservations must include a credit card number.** You will receive a confirmation message once your reservation has been accepted by the hotel. Should you subsequently find that you will be unable to attend the meeting, the reservation must be cancelled sufficiently in advance.



Hotel	Category	Type of room	Rate	Remarks
<p><b>(1) Hotel Hermitage</b>                      Av. Colón 1643 and Blvd. Marítimo.                      P.P. Ramos 2657                      Mar del Plata - Argentina                      Tel: (54) (0223) 451-9081/86                      Fax: (54) (0223) 451-7235                      Check-in: 1400 hours                      Check-out: 1100 hours  <a href="http://www.hermitagehotel.com.ar">www.hermitagehotel.com.ar</a>  <a href="mailto:reservas@hermitagehotel.com.ar">reservas@hermitagehotel.com.ar</a></p>	<p>* * * * *</p>	<p>Double or                      standard single                      (with view over                      the city)</p>	<p>USD 150</p>	<p>Includes VAT and                      buffet breakfast</p>

<p><b>(2) Apart Hotel Avenida del Mar</b>                  Las Heras 2128                  Mar del Plata – Argentina                  Tel: 54 0223 451-2125                  Check-in: 1400 hours                  Check-out: 1100 hours  <a href="mailto:reservas@apart-avenidadelmar.com.ar">reservas@apart-avenidadelmar.com.ar</a></p>	<p>* * * *</p>	<p>1 room (2 persons)                   2 rooms (2 or 3 persons)                   3 rooms ( 4 or 5 persons)</p>	<p>USD 74                   USD 104                   USD 144</p>	<p>Includes VAT and                  buffet breakfast</p>
<p><b>(3) Hotel Dos Reyes</b>                  Av. Colón 2129                  Mar del Plata – Argentina                  Tel : 54 0223 491-0383/0037                  Check-in: 1400 hours                  Check-out: 1100 hours  <a href="http://www.dosreyes.com.ar">www.dosreyes.com.ar</a>  <a href="mailto:info@dosreyes.com.ar">info@dosreyes.com.ar</a></p>	<p>* * * *</p>	<p>Single                   Double</p>	<p>USD 75                   USD 85</p>	<p>Includes VAT and                  buffet breakfast</p>
<p><b>(4) Argentino Hotel</b>                  Belgrano 2225                  Mar del Plata – Argentina                  Tel/fax : 54 0223 493-0091/2/4                  Check-in: 1400 hours                  Check-out: 1100 hours  <a href="http://www.argentinohotelmddp.com.ar">www.argentinohotelmddp.com.ar</a>  <a href="mailto:info@argentinohotelmddp.com.ar">info@argentinohotelmddp.com.ar</a></p>	<p>* * *</p>	<p>Single                   Double</p>	<p>USD 40                   USD 55</p>	<p>Includes VAT and                  buffet breakfast</p>

#### 4 Flights and transportation

**Ezeiza International Airport:** Located 40 minutes from the centre of Buenos Aires and served by international flights.

Delegates have the following options for travelling from Ezeiza airport to the Buenos Aires Aeroparque airport, from where there are domestic flights to the city of Mar del Plata:

**Chauffeured cars (*remises*) and private taxis:** Ezeiza airport is served by a large number of taxis and *remises*, which can be found outside the arrivals hall. Approximate fare from Ezeiza to Aeroparque: \$ 145 (USD 38)

**Minibuses:** A more economical alternative, these leave Ezeiza airport every hour for the Aeroparque de Buenos Aires. Approximate fare from Ezeiza to Aeroparque: \$ 45 (USD 12)

**Mar del Plata airport:** The only airline offering flights to Mar del Plata, with two flights a day (except for Saturdays, when there is only one), is Aerolíneas Argentinas ([www.aerolineas.com.ar](http://www.aerolineas.com.ar)).

**Chauffeured cars (*remises*) and private taxis:** The distance from Mar del Plata airport to the city centre is 12 km, the fare by taxi or *remis* being approximately \$ 35 (USD 9).

**Another option:** Delegates arriving at the Ezeiza International Airport may, if they prefer, use the bus service to Mar del Plata provided by the Manuel Tienda de León company ([www.tiendaleon.com.ar](http://www.tiendaleon.com.ar)). The 400 km journey from Buenos Aires takes approximately six hours

and there are seven departures every day. The fare is \$ 130 (USD 34). Buses leave Ezeiza for Mar del Plata at 0230, 0530, 1000, 1230, 1430, 2130 and 2330 hours.

Further information may be found on the following website: **Aeropuertos Argentina 2000** - Aeropuerto de Ezeiza Ministro Pistarini (<http://www.aa2000.com.ar>).

## **A. GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **1 City of Mar del Plata**

Located 400 km from Buenos Aires by highway No. 2, Mar del Plata is the country's largest seaside beach resort. A first-class tourist area, the city combines its charm and natural beauty with a wide selection of hotel, service and gastronomic facilities. Visitors will find excellent business outlets, coffee houses, shopping centres, bookshops, etc.

### **2 Entry formalities**

While the majority of delegates will not require a visa to enter Argentina, it is nevertheless recommended that you check in advance with an Argentine embassy or consulate, just to be sure.

No vaccination certificate is required for entering the country, except in the case of cholera and yellow fever for passengers arriving from countries in which those diseases are endemic.

### **3 Language**

Spanish is the official language. However, most people in the central area have a working knowledge of English.

### **4 Electric current**

Alternating current is used throughout Argentina. The voltage is 220V. Most hotels can provide 110-volt adaptors.

### **5 Climate**

Mar del Plata has a mild and humid climate. The heat in summer is moderate, while the winters are windy and cold. The normal temperature range is from 5 to 25°C. At this time of year, the average temperature lies between 15 and 23°C.

### **6 Currency**

The *peso* (\$) is the official currency of Argentina. While the dollar is generally accepted, foreign currency can be exchanged into pesos in banks and other authorized establishments. The most commonly accepted credit cards are American Express, VISA, Diners Club and MasterCard.

Exchange rates are liable to fluctuate. At 02.07.2009, the dollar exchange rate was USD 1 = \$ 3.80.



## 7 Shopping – VAT refunds

At the airport you can receive a refund of the value added tax (21 per cent) levied on domestic products purchased from outlets belonging to the “Global Refund” system, provided the amount paid (per invoice) is over \$ 70.

## 8 Business hours

- Banks and exchange offices: Monday to Friday from 1000 to 1500 hours.
- Company offices: Generally from 0900 to 1300 and 1700 to 2000 hours.
- Shops and businesses: In the major cities, from 0900 to 2000 hours (in the country’s interior there is normally a midday break), and Saturdays from 0900 to 1300 hours.
- Cafes, patisseries, pizzerias: Almost always open, with a break from 0200 to 0600 hours.
- Restaurants: Lunch is served from 1230 hours and dinner from 2000 hours. Many fast-food establishments are open around the clock.

## 9 Tipping

It is customary to leave a 10 per cent gratuity in coffee bars and restaurants and to tip porters, doormen and cinema/theatre ushers.

## 10 Further useful information

You can find further information on the city of Mar del Plata on the following webpage:  
<http://www.mardelplata.gov.ar/IndexNw.htm>.

## **B. COMMUNICATION ON HUMAN INFLUENZA A(H1N1)**

On the basis of bulletins issued by the Ministry of National Health of the Argentine Republic, the following information is provided to delegates attending the ITU-T KALEIDOSCOPE and NGN-GSI events to be held in Mar del Plata concerning the measures and recommendations being adopted to prevent the spread of human influenza A(H1N1).

Through an intense national campaign, the Ministry of Health has taken the necessary measures to minimize the risks of contagion of the virus, and most cases have been successfully and quickly cured, through simple and safe treatment.

Any additional information that delegates might require can be obtained on the webpage of the Ministry of National Health at: [www.msal.gov.ar/](http://www.msal.gov.ar/).

### **Recommendations regarding the new human influenza A(H1N1)**

What is influenza A(H1N1)?

It is a very contagious acute respiratory infection of viral origin.

How is it transmitted?

- From person to person.
- Through drops of saliva which travel through the air when a person coughs, sneezes or spits.
- It is not transmitted through the consumption of pork or pork derivatives.

What are the symptoms?

- Temperature over 39°C.
- Cough.
- Sore throat.
- Blocked nose.
- Headache.
- Muscular pains.

How can it be prevented?

- When coughing or sneezing, use a disposal tissue.
- When coughing without a tissue, cover your mouth with your forearm (never with your hands).
- Wash your hands often with soap and water.
- Avoid treating yourself.
- Use of a mask is recommended only if you show symptoms.