

ANNEX C

(to TSB Collective letter 3/SG3RG-LAC)

Practical information for participants

1 Event venue

Hotel Sheraton, San José- Escazú

Address: Av. Próspero Fernández 350 Mts Oeste de Multiplaza Escazú, Costa Rica

Phone.: (506) 40550505

E-mail: reservas@sheratoncr.com

Website: <http://www.sheratoncr.com>

2 Hotels

The list of proposed hotels may be found in **Annex D**.

3 Arrival and transportation

Arrangements will be made to meet delegates upon arrival at the airport and take them to their respective hotels. Delegates wishing to benefit from this service are requested to send their flight details and arrival time to the following contact person (see **form 2**):

Ms. Rose Mary Serrano

Phone: (506) 40000008

E-mail: rosemary.serrano@sutel.go.cr

4 Visa – Formalities for entering Costa Rica

The visa is an authorization document to enter a country. In the case of Costa Rica, there is a law called Guidelines on Visas in which it is established, by country, the type of visa you should apply for. So before applying for a visa it is important to review the guideline.

<http://www.migracion.go.cr/extranjeros/visas.html>

Besides reviewing the visa requirements to visit Costa Rica, delegates must meet the following requirements:

- Trip Ticket continuity or return to the country of origin.
- Proof of economic solvency, which corresponds to \$ 100.00 per month for tourism.
- Passport in good condition. The minimum term of passports according to the group in which the foreign person is located, according to the Guideline to Join Costa Rica :
 - ✓ For nationals located in the First Group, up to 1 day.
 - ✓ For nationals located in the Second Group, mandatory term of 3 months.
 - ✓ For the national Third and Fourth Group, mandatory term of 6 months.

For any questions regarding visas, please contact the following local coordinator:

Ms Rose Mary Serrano Gómez (Reception and Mission Assistant)

Phone: (506) 4000 0008

E-mail: rosemary.serrano@sutel.go.cr

5 Currency and exchange

The currency in the Costa Rica is the Colón. The approximate exchange rate is:

1 USD = 492.85 Colones

Note: The exchange rate of the U.S. dollar against the Colon displayed on this site is for the official and reference issued by the Central Bank of Costa Rica. Note that other banks and financial institutions of Costa Rica handle their own exchange rates.

<http://indicadoreseconomicos.bccr.fi.cr/indicadoreseconomicos/cuadros/frmvercatcuadro.aspx?CodCuadro=400>)

6 Language

The official working language is Spanish.

7 Climate

Costa Rica has a diverse and varied climate due to its tropical environment. Costa Rica has no temperate climate type, but a dry and a rainy season.

San José is located in the Central Valley, and its climate is steady since the average temperature is between 22 and 25 degrees Celsius. *The months of March to May are the hottest months of the year.* So please be sure to protect yourself from the sun.

In the mountains the average temperature is 13 degrees Celsius while at sea level, the average temperature is around 30 degrees Celsius, with hot days and sultry evenings.

8 Local time

Standard time zone: UTC/GMT – 06:00 (CST)

9 Telecommunications

The country code for the Republic of the Costa Rica is **+506**

A SIM prepaid card costs approximately 1000 colones (US\$2). In Costa Rica telecommunications serving companies:

- Claro
- ICE
- Movistar

10 Electricity

The following plugs/sockets are used:



The technical name for a type of plug is a NEMA 1-15.

11 Health

In Costa Rica vaccination against yellow fever is declared mandatory before entering the country on persons from geographic areas considered at risk, according to Decree No. 33934-S-SP-RE. (See <http://www.oaice.ucr.ac.cr/archivos/Decreto%20Vacuna%20contra%20la%20Fiebre%20Amarilla.pdf>)

12 Internet connectivity

Internet connection will be available at the meeting venue. Additional payment may be required at certain hotels.

13 Contact

For any questions, please contact:

Ms. Rose Mary Serrano

Phone: 40000008

E-mail: rosemary.serrano@sutel.go.cr