EUROPEAN COMMISSION ON AGRICULTURE

FORTY-THIRD SESSION

Budapest, Hungary, 27-28 September 2023

INFORMATION NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS

Session venue

1. The 43rd Session of the European Commission on Agriculture will be held in the Conference Room of the Danubius Hotel Helia (Budapest, Kárpát u. 62-64, 1133). The event will start at 9.00 hours on Wednesday, 27 September 2023, and will conclude at 17.00 hours on Thursday, 28 September 2023.

2. An Order of the Day with detailed information on Session business, the schedule and items to be discussed, as well as other information of general interest, will be made available on the Session Website.

Registration

3. Participants are requested to register online until 15 September 2023. Participants who need an entry visa to Hungary are required to complete the online registration by 4 September 2023. You can find the registration link on the website of the Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia: http://www.fao.org/europe/en/.

4. Participants are requested to arrive at the Session venue at 8.30 hours on 27 September 2023 for on-site check-in procedures.

Working languages

5. Simultaneous interpretation and all session documents will be provided in English, French, Russian and Spanish language.

Working documents

6. Session documents will be available on the Session website. In an effort to achieve a paperless conference, printed copies of the documents can be provided on the spot, but only upon request and in limited quantities. In addition, participants will receive documents in electronic format on pen drives when registering. Participants are encouraged to carry personal laptops in order to access documents.
online and thus reduce the need for hard copies. Complimentary Wi-Fi service will be available at the conference venue.

**Press liaison and information**

7. For the duration of the Session, the Communications Officer of the Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia (REU), in cooperation with a Press Officer of the Government of Hungary, will be responsible for relations with the press and all matters concerning information to the public.

8. Accreditation is required for all journalists attending the event, so journalists will be registered for the event on-site, providing a letter of assignment from their editor or employer.

**Advance communication of the texts of speeches and statements**

9. To facilitate the Secretariat's task and ensure accuracy of interpretation, prepared speeches or statements should be sent in advance to the ECA Secretariat by e-mail to [ERC-ECA-Secretariat@fao.org](mailto:ERC-ECA-Secretariat@fao.org). Delegates are also kindly requested to provide their speeches as delivered, to facilitate media coverage.

**Catering Services**

10. Catering services (lunch and coffee breaks), offered by the Government of the Hungary, will be provided throughout the Session.

**Reception**

11. The Government of Hungary will host a reception on Wednesday, 27 September 2023, to which all delegates are cordially invited. Details on the place and time will be provided at the Session.

**Side events**

12. During the Session a number of side events will take place. A schedule and details on the side events will become available on the [Session website](http://www.eca.fao.org).

**Field Trip**

13. At the invitation of the Government of Hungary, there will be a field visit for participants in the morning of Thursday, 28 September 2023. Participants wishing to take part will be requested to indicate this during the on-site check-in on 27 September 2023 so as to allow the Secretariat to make all necessary arrangements. More details will be made available on the [Session website](http://www.eca.fao.org) and relevant information will be included in the Order of the Day.

**Formalities for entry into Hungary**

14. Passport holders of some countries outside the Schengen area need a visa to enter Hungary. For further information regarding visa issuance, participants are encouraged to contact their local Hungarian Embassy/Consulate, or visit the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Hungary[^1]. The visa process could take up to 3 weeks, hence an early start is always advisable.

Arrival and transportation to the city

15. Upon arrival to Budapest airport (Liszt Ferenc International Airport; website: www.bud.hu/english), you may use the Airport Minibus (website: www.minibud.hu/en), or the Airport Főtaxi (website: http://bud.hu/english/passengers/access_and_parking/by_taxi) to arrive to your hotel in Budapest. The prices for the shuttlebus are fixed and for the taxi they are variable depending on the destination. The fee can be paid with any debit/credit card. Should you prefer to use public transport, a bus number 200E and 100E Airport Express are departing from the airport, with the 200E going to the first stop of the Budapest Metro, and 100E to the city center at Deak Ferenc Ter. More details: http://bud.hu/english/passengers/access_and_parking/by_public_transportation.

Exchange of foreign currency

16. Foreign currency may be exchanged at the airport or at exchange offices and banks in Budapest. Please note that the exchange rates at the airport may not be favourable, up to about 20 percent higher than in the exchange offices/banks in the city. The approximate exchange rates at the exchange offices/banks in the city are: EUR 1 = HUF 385, and US$ 1 = HUF 350 (as at 11 August 2023).

Hotel accommodation

17. Accommodation is to be booked and paid directly by the participants. It is recommended to stay in the Danubius Hotel Helia**** (the event venue) where a number of rooms have been blocked for participants of the ECA at special prices. Rooms can be booked online until 17 September, or until the blocked rooms are fully booked, through the link registered participants receive after completing the online form on the Session website.

18. Participants from the countries (a separate specific invitation went to these specific countries) and Civil Society Organizations, kindly sponsored by the Hungarian Government, will be accommodated at the Danubius Hotel Helia****. Accommodation details will be provided after the online registration.

Time

19. The Session schedules and Order of the Day documents will be based on the UTC +2 time zone (Summertime zone of Budapest/Rome).

Webcasting

20. All Plenary sessions will be webcasted live and uploaded to the Session website.

Electricity

21. Electricity voltage in Hungary is 220 volts with European model sockets. Should there be a need for an electricity adapter, participants should make sure to bring it along.

Correspondence and inquiries

22. All correspondence concerning the ECA Session should be addressed to the Secretariat at the FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia, at the addresses below:
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