

**CODEX COMMITTEE ON FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.****17<sup>th</sup> Session, September 3-7 2012****Mexico City, Mexico**

The 17<sup>th</sup> Session of the Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables will be held from the 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 7<sup>th</sup> of September, 2012 at the Hotel Meliá Reforma in Mexico City.



### ❖ Information for the attending delegates

We kindly ask all the people interested in attending the CCFFV session to confirm their participation before August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2012. Please send the registration form to the following e-mails:

**[codexmex@economia.gob.mx](mailto:codexmex@economia.gob.mx)**  
**[cc. codexmex1@economia.gob.mx](mailto:cc.codexmex1@economia.gob.mx)**

#### *Documents and Report*

For this session there will not be hard copies available of the working documents. We advise the delegates to bring them beforehand.

#### **IMPORTANT:**

The preliminary report will be available as follows:

- Every delegation will receive a hard copy in the selected language in the registration form of the chief of delegation;
- Every delegate will receive a CD containing the report in the 3 languages;
- It will be sent by email; and
- It will be available for download at the FAO website.

#### *Instant interpretation*

There will be Spanish, English and French interpreters for the open ceremony and all the sessions of the working groups.

#### *Internet*

There will be Internet Access for all the delegates at the meeting venue.



### ❖ Visa Requirements

In order to know if you need a visa for entering Mexico (in Spanish):

<http://www.inm.gob.mx/index.php?page/Paises visa>.

To know the requirements to apply for a visa go to the Mexican Embassy or Consulate closest to you. For related questions you can visit the Foreign Ministry website:

[http://www.sre.gob.mx/en/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=25&Itemid=28](http://www.sre.gob.mx/en/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=25&Itemid=28)

In case you need a visa we recommend starting the process with at least one month in advance of the travelling day. The CCFFV Secretariat will only be able to give personalized letters to the delegates who expressly ask for them. To ask for a letter, please send the request via e-mail to [codexmex@economia.gob.mx](mailto:codexmex@economia.gob.mx) with copy to [codexmex1@economia.gob.mx](mailto:codexmex1@economia.gob.mx), stating the name, professional information and email of the person. The Secretariat will attend the requests received prior to **August 3<sup>rd</sup>**, otherwise there is no guarantee of obtaining the letter.

### ❖ Meeting Venue

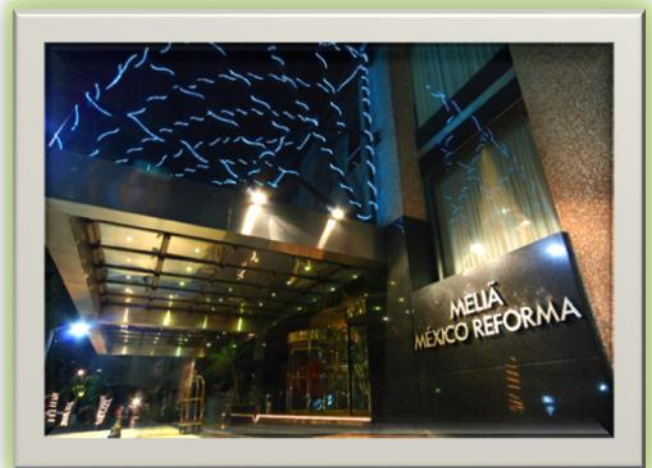
The meeting venue of the 17th CCFFV Session will be the Hotel Meliá Reforma. The hotel is located near downtown in one of the main avenues of Mexico City: El Paseo de la Reforma.

Address:

Av. Paseo de la Reforma No. 1

CP. 06030, Mexico City

Reservations: 01-800-90-MELIA



The CCFFV Secretariat was able to get a special rate in the meeting venue. It includes:

- 6% VAT and 2.5% lodging tax.
- Breakfast and lunch buffet 7-11 am.
- 16% VAT and 15% of breakfast service.
- Tips to buttons and maids.

	Rate per person, per night
Single room (1 person)	\$1,585 MXN
Double room (2 persons)	\$1,780 MXN

If you wish to stay at the host hotel, please follow the indications below:

- Complete the attached reservation form and send it by email to: [almarelilopez@yahoo.com.mx](mailto:almarelilopez@yahoo.com.mx)
- The booking deadline is **August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012**.
- Any cancellation must be made **no later than August 23<sup>rd</sup>**, after this date the hotel will charge the first night.

Other hotels nearby of the meeting venue are:

<u>Hotel</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Approx. Rates</u>
<b><i>Embassy Suites Hotels by Hilton Reforma</i></b> <b>(5 stars)</b>	Av. Paseo de la Reforma No. 69 C.P. 06030, Mexico City Reservations: (52)(55) 5061-3000	Double room: \$169 USD Includes breakfast
<b><i>Fiesta Americana Reforma</i></b> <b>(5 stars)</b>	Av. Paseo de la Reforma No. 80 C.P. 06600, México D.F. Reservations : (52)(55) 5140-4100	Double room: \$160 USD Includes breakfast
<b><i>Hotel Emporio Reforma</i></b> <b>(5 stars)</b>	Av. Paseo de la Reforma No. 124 C.P. 06600, Mexico City Reservations : (52)(55) 5566- 7766 01-800-800-6161	Double room: \$104 USD Includes breakfast
<b><i>Hotel Fontan Reforma</i></b> <b>(2 stars)</b>	Av. Paseo de la Reforma No. 24 CP. 06040, Mexico City Reservations : (52)( 55) 5002- 6300	Double room: \$56 USD Includes breakfast
<b><i>Hotel Holiday Inn Express</i></b> <b>(3 stars)</b>	Av. Paseo De La Reforma No. 208 C.P. 06600 Mexico City Reservations : (52)(55) 9150-5900	Double room: \$153 USD Includes breakfast
<b><i>Hotel Sevilla Palace</i></b> <b>(3 stars)</b>	Av. Paseo de La Reforma No. 105, C.P. 06030 Mexico City Reservations: (52)(55)5703-2800	Double room: \$100 USD Includes breakfast



## ❖ About Mexico City

Mexico City is located 2,240 meters above the sea level. It is the oldest capital in America and has a pretty good weather all year round. For more information you can go the webpage of the Ministry of Tourism in Mexico City: <http://www.mexicocity.gob.mx/#>

### *Time Zone*

GMT - 5 h due to Daylight Saving Time.

### *Currency: Mexican Peso*

Bills: \$20, \$50, \$100, \$200, \$500 y \$1000

Coins: \$0.10, \$0.20, \$0.50, \$1, \$2, \$5, \$10

### *Credit Cards*

Major international credit cards - American Express, Diners Club, Visa and MasterCard - are widely accepted throughout the city.

### *Water*

We recommend you to drink bottled water.

### *Electricity*

Mexican electricity power is 127 Volts c.a. +/- 10%, 60Hz. Most plugs in Mexico are the same as in the United States of America; two flat prongs. Some have a third, circular prong for earth, and adapters can be sought for these too.

### *Tipping*

Even if it is not compulsory, it is used to tip between 10 and 15 percent of the bill. There are no tips for taxi drivers.

### *Insurance*

The organizers are not responsible for accidents, losses or damages that participants could suffer on themselves or their possessions during the meetings. We recommend having a medical, luggage and traveler insurance, which are not considered in the hotel rates.

### *Transportation*

When arriving to Mexico City's International Airport please use authorized taxis to get to your destination. They offer travel insurance, liability and medical expenses for the occupants. In order to get into one, the purchase of a ticket in one of the selling points inside the airports is needed.

For your security it is recommended to ask restaurants, hotels or similar establishments for a taxi. When you get in please note that the driver's ID is visible and the taximeter is running.

### *Nightlife*

Mexico City's night life is like all other aspects of the city; it is active! There is an enormous selection of venues: clubs, bars, restaurants, cafes and cantinas with a wide selection of music.

## ❖ Places of Interest

**Metropolitan Cathedral:** The Cathedral of Mexico is the largest in Latin America. Its construction began in 1567 and finished 250 years later.



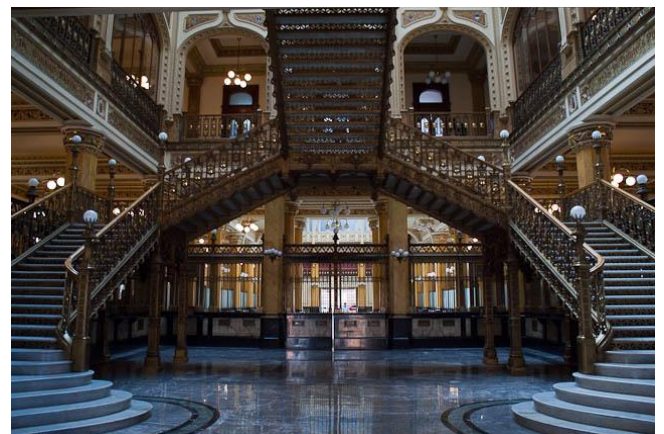
**Chapultepec's Castle:** It was built in the eighteenth century for the Viceroy of New Spain and now houses the National History Museum.



**National Museum of Anthropology:** It is designed to house and display the archaeological heritage of the peoples of Mesoamerica and to account for the current ethnic diversity of the country.



**Post Office Palace:** One of the most emblematic buildings of the historical center. It is a sample of the architecture during the government of Porfirio Díaz.



**The House of Tiles:** It is a masterpiece of the Baroque architecture in New Spain. It is called this way because the facade is covered with Talavera tiles from Puebla.



**Palace of the Fine Arts:** The construction of the Palace began in 1904. However it was interrupted by the Mexican Revolution and was finished 34 years later.



According to the Michelin Guide of Mexico City it would take up to 6 days to explore the city and visit all the important places. In addition, the Historic Center, Xochimilco, the National Autonomous University of Mexico and Luis Barragán's house and studio have been declared World Heritage Sites by UNESCO.