

**Practical information for participants attending the
First Meeting of the Parties to the FAO Agreement on Port State Measures and the
First Meeting of the *Ad Hoc* Working Group established under Article 21 of the
FAO Agreement on Port State Measures**

The First Meeting of the Parties to the FAO Agreement on Port State Measures will take place in Oslo, Norway from 29 to 31 May 2017.

The First Meeting of the *Ad Hoc* Working Group established under Article 21 of the FAO Agreement on Port State Measures will take place in Oslo from 1 to 2 June 2017.

The draft Agenda and background documents are available at the following websites: www.fao.org/fishery/nems/40910/en and www.fao.org/fishery/nems/40911/en

REGISTRATION

Participants wishing to register for the meetings should proceed as indicated below. Registration will be open as of 7 April 2017. Participants are kindly requested to indicate if they are registering for the First Meeting of the Parties or the First Meeting of the *Ad Hoc* Working Group, or both.

Representatives of FAO Members

The Director-General would appreciate being informed of the representatives designated to attend the meetings. Registration can only be done by the Permanent Representations of Members to FAO. Online registration is accessible through the password-protected FAO Members Gateway: www.fao.org/members-gateway/home/en/. Instructions for online registration can be downloaded from this website. Please note that online registration requires the uploading of a recent passport-size digital photograph. See the photo requirements below.

Representatives of invited International Observer Organizations

Only delegates from invited international organizations can attend the meetings. Observer delegates are advised to register in advance of the meeting by completing the International Organizations Observer Registration Form and forwarding it by email to PSMA-registration@fao.org, together with a recent passport-size digital photograph. See the photo requirements below.

Photo requirements

- Photo must be in colour, featuring a frontal view of head and shoulders, similar to a passport photo.
- Photo must have a light or neutral background and show very little of the background above and on either side of the head. No hats, sunglasses or accessories and no shadows on the face or background.
- A digital photo should be uploaded for each participant. The colour photograph in digital format (JPG, JPEG, GIF) should not to exceed 100 kb and size 24 mm (width) x 32 mm (height) or 195 pxls (width) x 255 pxls (height). It should be recent (maximum 6 months).

Deadline for registration to both meetings: 24 April 2017.

VISA INFORMATION

Participants who need a visa in order to enter the Schengen area (Schengen short stay visa) are encouraged to apply for a visa as early as possible. Participants who travel to Norway via a third country are reminded that they should also check with the authorities of that country whether they might also need a transit visa.

Kindly note that it is the participant's responsibility to apply for and obtain a visa in advance of his/her travel to Norway. General information on visa requirements for Norway can be found on the website of the Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (UDI) www.udi.no/en/

To facilitate the application process, participants are requested to consult their nearest Norwegian diplomatic mission for information about the specific procedures and supporting documentation needed for visa applications from their country. For an overview of Norwegian diplomatic missions and links to their contact information, please visit www.norway.info/

Handling time for visa applications, once a complete application dossier has been submitted, is normally 15 working days, but in some instances it may take as many as 30 days. Once the online registration process has been completed, a confirmation letter will be sent to the applicant by e-mail and should be submitted with the visa application.

VENUE AND ACCOMMODATION

Venue

The meeting will take place at: Høyres hus Konferanse & Selskapslokaler

Address: Stortingsgaten 20, 0161 Oslo

Phone: +47 22 82 91 57

Website: www.hoyreshus.no/

The webpages are in Norwegian, but a map is available on the front page.

VIP facilities

VIP facilities will be available to Ministers and Heads of UN agencies and to accompanying delegations (maximum three persons) arriving and/or departing at the same time as their Minister/Head of UN agency.

Accommodation

Participants are responsible for making their own hotel reservations for these meetings. Please follow the link www.visitoslo.com/en/accommodation/ to find possible accommodations in Oslo. **Reservations should be made as soon as possible, as the dates of the meeting correspond to a popular period for travel to Oslo.**

SOCIAL EVENTS

Reception

On Monday 29 May at 7pm, a reception will be hosted by the Norwegian Minister for Foreign Affairs at [Oslo City Hall](#), (tbc), Fridtjof Nansens plass, Oslo.

Boat trip

A boat trip on the Oslo fjord for all participants will be arranged on Wednesday 31 May at 9.30am (while awaiting finalization of the report of the meeting).

Departure from [Akershusstranda 11](#) (next to "Skur 33").

TRANSPORT

Oslo Airport Gardermoen, Oslo's main airport, is located 50 km from the city centre. For more information about the airport, [see here](#).

Public transport is available between the airport and the city centre.

The easiest and fastest way to travel from the airport to the city centre is by train. After exiting from the customs area, turn right in the Arrivals Hall and follow the signs to the trains. The train journey takes 20-25 minutes. There are two train options: the Airport Express Train (Flytoget) and regular trains (NSB). The Airport Express Train leaves the airport at 10-minute intervals and reaches Oslo Central Station (Oslo S) in 20 minutes. Every other train stops at the Central Station, while it might be more convenient to take the train to the next stop, the National Theatre, which is closer to the meeting venue and most of the proposed hotels. The single fare is NOK 180. Regular trains are also available from the airport at about half the fare, but with more infrequent departures. These trains stop at the same stations.

The airport express coach (NOR-WAY Bussekspress) also runs between the airport and the city centre. The journey takes approximately 45 minutes and the single fare is NOK 140.

It is also possible to take a taxi from the airport. The taxi information desk in the Arrivals Hall can assist with booking and provide information about prices. The travel time by taxi from the airport to central Oslo is approximately 50-60 minutes.

OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION

Time zones

Oslo (and Norway) is GMT + 1. For details on time zones see [Worldclock](#).

Currency and credit cards

The official currency is the Norwegian Krone (NOK). There are ATM / cash machines available to withdraw money in many locations. Restaurants and shops in Oslo generally accept credit cards. The most up-to-date exchange rate can be obtained from [XE.com Online Currency Converter](#).

Electricity supply

In Norway, the power sockets are type F. The standard voltage is 230 V and the standard frequency is 50 Hz. For more information, visit: www.power-plugs-sockets.com/norway/)

Weather forecast

The weather in May/June is at its most pleasant. The average temperature for June is 15 degrees Celsius, with considerable variation. It may be sunny or rainy.

[An updated weather forecast for Oslo can be found here.](#)

About Oslo

Oslo is generally a safe city, but you would do well to take the usual precautions with respect to theft when using public transport at the Central Station, etc.

[More information about Oslo can be found here.](#)

CONTACT PERSONS

In case you need to contact the hosts or FAO prior to or during the meeting, please use the contact information below:

Norwegian Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries:

Ms. Silje Rem, mobile +47 41 04 15 64, e-mail: Silje.Rem@nfd.dep.no

Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs:

Ms. Gunnvor Berge, mobile + 47 91 39 75 64, e-mail: Gunnvor.Berge@mfa.no

FAO:

Mr Matthew Camilleri, +390657056435, e-mail: matthew.camilleri@fao.org

Ms Gaelle Hermanus, +39 0657056595; e-mail: gaelle.hermanus@fao.org