

INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

12th Session of the FAO Committee on Fisheries Sub-Committee on Aquaculture

1. Event

The 12th Session of the COFI Sub-Committee on Aquaculture will take place from 16 to 19 May 2023, at the **Hotel Fiesta Americana**, located in Hermosillo, Sonora, Mexico.

- **Location:** Hermosillo, Mexico
- **Dates:** 16–19 May, 2023
- **Venue address:**
 - Hotel Fiesta Americana Hermosillo
 - Boulevard Eusebio Kino Number 369
 - Lomas Pitic, 83010

2. Hermosillo City

In 1828, Hermosillo was renamed from Pitic, and categorized as a city, becoming an important commercial city with extensive trade with Europe. By the middle of the 20th century, the coast of Hermosillo began intensive agriculture by drilling the first deep wells for irrigation. Since then, the city has catapulted into an intense economic centre, much of which is related to the supply of inputs for agriculture-related activities.

Currently, the Hermosillo municipality is in its full stage of its development, thanks to aquaculture, agricultural, commercial, and industrial activities, and it is also a growing touristic city.

Hermosillo is located near the famous Kino Bay (Bahia de Kino), a fishing village where diving is one of the most common practices. Kino Bay attracts thousands of visitors every year for its various fishing and diving tournaments, and the diversity of aquatic species that can be found here.

In addition, the city has all the necessary tourist, cultural and entertainment infrastructure to receive global visitors and tourists.

3. Hotels

All participants are responsible to make their own reservations. Block bookings have been made in several suggested hotels, as below.

| HOTEL FIESTA AMERICANA | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Location | Price/night Mexican peso MXN | Breakfast included | Distance hotel-airport | Booking contact |
| Blvd. Eusebio Kino 369 Lomas Pitic, 83010 | MXN \$ 1 666 (including taxes) | No | 12.7 km (21 minutes) | Tel. 800 504 500 Mobile 984 246 1140 ventas1fiher@posadas.com Booking key: G1NZLS@FIH |
| https://www.fiestamericana.com/en/hotels-resorts/fiesta-americana-hermosillo | | | | |

| HOTEL ARAIZA | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Location | Price/night Mexican peso MXN | Breakfast included | Distance hotel-airport | Booking contact |
| Blvd. Eusebio Kino 353 Lomas Pitic, 83010 | MXN \$ 1 273 (including taxes) | Yes | 12.7 km (22 minutes) | Tel. 662 109 1700 |
| https://araizahoteles.com/hermosillo | | | | |

| FIESTA INN | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Location | Price/night Mexican peso MXN | Breakfast included | Distance hotel-airport | Booking contact |
| Blvd. Eusebio Kino 375 Lomas Pitic, 83010 | MXN \$ 1 190 (including taxes) | No | 12.8 km (22 minutes) | Tel. 800 504 500 Mobile 984 246 1140 ventas1fiher@posadas.com Booking key: G1O43X@FIH |
| https://www.fiestainn.com/hoteles/fiesta-inn-hermosillo | | | | |

| HOLIDAY INN | | | | |
|---|---|-----------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Location | Price/night Mexican peso MXN | Breakfast included | Distance hotel-airport | Booking contact |
| Blvd. Eusebio Kino S/N, entre Ramón Corral y Carlos Ortiz Col, Country Club, 83010 | MXN \$ 1 450 (taxes not included) | Yes | 12.1 km (20 minutes) | Tel. 662 289 1700 Mobile. 662 405 9510 Booking key: FAO |
| https://www.ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/us/en/hermosillo/hermx/hoteldetail | | | | |

- Payment methods accepted: cash, debit, and credit cards.

4. Catering and reception services

Morning and afternoon coffee/tea will be provided at the meeting venue (Hotel Fiesta Americana).

A reception to welcome participants to the event will be organized on the evening of 15 May at the meeting venue (Hotel Fiesta Americana).

All meals and associated costs are the responsibility of the participant.

5. Registration

Access to the event venue will only be allowed to registered participants. Participants wishing to register for the 12th Session of the COFI Sub-Committee on Aquaculture should proceed as indicated below.

Online registration is accessible through the password protected FAO Members' Portal. Instructions for online registration can be downloaded from PRWS. Please note that online registration requires the upload of a recent passport size digital photograph. See photo requirements below.

- The photograph must be in color, with a frontal view of the head and shoulders, similar to a passport photograph.
- The photograph must have a light or neutral background and show very little of the background above and to either side of the head; you should not wear hats, sunglasses, or accessories that hide your face.
- The photo must be in digital JPEG format (.jpg or .jpeg) and must have a width to height ratio of approximately 3:4. In other words, a 2 cm wide photograph should be approximately 2.5 cm high.

Questions regarding registration should be directed to: NFI-Registration@fao.org

6. Working languages

Simultaneous interpretation and conference materials will be provided in the official languages of the United Nations (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish).

7. Conference materials

Conference materials will be available on the dedicated conference website:

www.fao.org/about/meetings/cofi-sub-committee-on-aquaculture/en/

Participants are encouraged to use personal laptops/tablets during the Conference, as the Conference will generally be paperless. Only the Agenda and a limited number of documents will be available as hard copies.

8. Transportation

The hotels will offer transportation to the airport-hotel-airport.

9. Visa information

Participants who need a visa to enter Mexican territory are recommended to request it as soon as possible. Participants traveling to Mexico through a third country are reminded that they should also check with the authorities of that country if they need a transit visa.

The arrangements of visa is the sole responsibility of the delegates and, as it may require significant time, delegates are strongly recommended to take action as soon as possible.

10. Currency

Most restaurants and stores in Hermosillo, Sonora accept debit/credit cards. The official currency is Mexican Pesos.

There are currency exchange points that can receive US dollars and return Mexican Pesos with the updated exchange rate.

11. Weather

In the month of May, the daily maximum temperatures generally range between 33 °C and 37 °C, and rarely drop below 27 °C. Daily minimum temperatures generally range from 17 °C to 20 °C, and rarely drop below 13 °C or exceed 24 °C. The best time of the year to visit Hermosillo for hot activities are from mid-May to the end of June. Below is a weather forecast for the days of the event:

| Day | Average temperature | Maximum temperature | Minimum temperature |
|--------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 16 May | 26 °C | 37 °C | 16 °C |
| 17 May | 25 °C | 36 °C | 15 °C |
| 18 May | 25 °C | 35 °C | 15 °C |
| 19 May | 25 °C | 35 °C | 16 °C |

12. COVID-19

Appropriate procedures will be put in place to minimize the risk of COVID-19 spreading, and to respond in case any member of the delegation, staff or volunteer develops COVID-19 during the event.

13. Electricity

Electrical power is 127 volts/60 Hz. Outlets/sockets are type A/B (most common type pictured below, but there may be some variations), so you may need to an adapter.



We thank you for your interest in participating in the Sub-Committee and look forward to welcoming you in Hermosillo, Mexico.