



联合国
粮食及
农业组织

FOOD AND
AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
OF THE
UNITED NATIONS

ORGANISATION
DES NATIONS
UNIES POUR
L'ALIMENTATION
ET L'AGRICULTURE

ORGANIZACION
DE LAS NACIONES
UNIDAS PARA
LA AGRICULTURA
Y LA ALIMENTACION

منظمة
الغذية
والزراعة
للأمم
المتحدة

SFS/DM/SWIOFC3/07INF 1 E

SOUTH WEST INDIAN OCEAN FISHERIES COMMISSION
Third Session
Plantation Club Resort Mahe, Seychelles, 17-20¹ December 2007
NOTES FOR PARTICIPANTS

ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

1. The Third Session of the South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission will be held at Plantation Club Resort, Seychelles from 17– 21th December 2007. The hotel is located to the south west of the island in a lush rural setting, once a coconut plantation, and some 30 km away from the capital Victoria.
2. Registration will start at 08.30 hrs on Monday 17th December 2007, followed by the formal opening of the Session at 09.30 hrs. The normal working hours will be from 09.00 to 12.30 hrs and 14.00 to 17.00 hrs.

WORKING LANGUAGES

3. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in English and French.

ENTRY FORMALITIES

4. Seychelles is widely accessible as a tourist destination, linked to major destinations such as South Africa, Mauritius, Singapore, Paris, London, Rome by the national carrier Air Seychelles and airline companies such as Air France, Qatar Airways, Emirates, Kenya Airways, Air Mauritius. Increasing numbers of tourists also arrive on chartered flights from Italy, Germany, Israel, Russia etc.
5. All travellers arriving in Seychelles should have a valid passport and a return ticket. The Department of Immigration will then issue a Visitor's Permit which is valid for one month. Seychelles entry visas are not required for nationals of a number of countries; participants are therefore advised to ascertain well in

¹ Kindly **note** that the Third Session of the Commission will now **end at 1100hrs on Thursday 20 December** since the Steering Committee meeting of the SWIOFP will no longer take place. This will allow participants to catch flights departing from Seychelles on the afternoon of 20 December.

advance with the Liaison Officer whether or not they are exempt from the Seychelles entry visa requirement or contact info@immigration.gov.sc

6. Participants are requested to inform the Liaison Officer of their arrival times so that arrangements can be made to meet them at the Seychelles International Airport for transfer to the hotel and venue.
7. Travellers arriving from yellow fever infected areas require an inoculation certificate. There is no malaria in Seychelles. Expect your aircraft to be sprayed, as a precautionary measure against malaria-carrying mosquitoes, on arrival at the Seychelles International Airport.

USEFUL INFORMATION

8. The Republic of Seychelles consists of some 115 islands dispersed across over a 1 million km² Exclusive Economic Zone in the South West Indian Ocean. The population of around 84,000 people are of mixed African, French, English, Indian, Chinese, Arab and Portuguese origin. English, French and Creole are official languages. The administrative language is English.
9. Most of the population live on granitic, high-relief islands located at the centre of a large submerged mid-oceanic plateau. Mahe, the main island, is 17 miles long and 3-4 miles wide. Across its length, hills and peaks rise rapidly to the majestic Morne Seychellois which stands at 945m. Victoria, the capital, is the seat of government, the centre of business and location of harbour and fishing port facilities.
10. The climate is monsoonal. The North West monsoon (November-April) is characterised by generally calm seas, high temperatures and heavy convectional showers in late afternoon. Temperatures range from 24-31 degrees centigrade with relative humidity at 80% or above.
11. The local currency is the Seychelles Rupee (SCR) with a current exchange rate of 8.0 Seychelles rupees for one US\$ and 11.0 for one Euro. Most banks and hotels accept major credit cards and exchange U.S. dollars. All hotels require payment in foreign currency.
12. The electrical power supply is 240 volts. Plugs are of the three-pronged British type.
13. Tap water is generally safe to drink but bottled water is widely available.
14. As a consequence of their small size and long geological isolation, the islands of the Seychelles have a fascinating, mostly endemic and benign flora and fauna – there are no stinging nettles, poisonous snakes or crocodiles. The usual care afforded to all tropical coral reefs must be taken when swimming, snorkelling and diving. Small, safe, secluded beaches abound. A few have rip currents at certain times of the year. They are identified by beachside notices that should be heeded. The Seychelles are outside the cyclone belt and there are no volcanoes, earthquakes or earth tremors.

CORRESPONDENCE

15. For further information on the Third session of the Commission please contact :

Aubrey Harris
Senior Fisheries Officer,
FAO Sub-Regional Office for Southern Africa,
P.O. Box 3730, Harare, Zimbabwe
Tel : (263-4) 791407, 253655, 253657
Fax : (263-4) 700724, 703497, 703496
Email : aubrey.harris@fao.org

For information related to accommodation, visa and other local arrangements please contact:

Mrs Jacqueline Payet
Liaison Officer
Seychelles Fishing Authority
PO Box 449
Fishing Port
Mahe, Seychelles
Tel : (248) 670311/12
Fax : (248) 224508
Email : management@sfa.sc ; jpayet@sfa.sc

AND/OR
Ms Colleen Morel
Assistant to Mrs Payet
Email: cmorel@sfa.sc

ACCOMMODATION

16. Participants are advised that the Plantation Club Resort (<http://www.plantationclub.com>) is providing special concessionary rates for participants to the Third Session meeting. Standard room rates are as follows: Single €95, Twin €130, and Triple €175, inclusive of breakfast and all taxes. The hotel will serve buffet lunch @ €30 and dinner €36.
17. Participants are kindly required to book and confirm reservations directly as soon as possible and also **inform the organisers by filling in the attached information sheet**. Bookings should be confirmed and payment made by wire/electronic transfer minimum **30 days prior to arrival** to secure room.
18. Reservations can be made with Groups Coordinator, Mayna Pierre, email groups@plantationclub.sc quoting SWIOPC meeting, or by fax: +248 386 883; Tel: +248 386824. Confirmed reservations should be respected and participants are advised that they will be responsible for the settlement of their hotel bills.

TRANSPORT

19. The host country will organise transport from the Seychelles International Airport to the hotel and back..

20. You can also get other general info on the Seychelles islands at <http://www.virtualseychelles.com> / www.seychelles.travel / www.seychellestourism.com

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

**THIRD SESSION OF THE SOUTH WEST INDIAN OCEAN
FISHERIES COMMISSION**

Mahe, Seychelles, 17 – 21th December 2007

**INFORMATION ON PARTICIPANTS
(Please print)**

Family Name Dr/Mr./Ms Given Name

Country or organisation.....

Official designation.....

Nationality..... Passport No.

Date and Place of Issue.....Valid Until

Mailing Address

Fax No.....Tel. No.....

E-mail Address.....

Name of accompanying person (s), if any

Arrival date At.....Hours Flight

Expected date of departureAt.....Hours Flight.....

Hotel Accommodation required / Already booked

From To At
(date) (date)

Single occupancy Double occupancy Twin sharing with

Date Signature.....

Participants are requested to forward the completed forms to each of the following:

(i) Jacqueline Payet
Liaison Officer
Seychelles Fishing Authority
PO Box 449, Fishing Port
Mahe, Seychelles
Tel : (248) 670311/312
Fax : (248) 224508
Email: management@sfa.sc
jpayet@sfa.sc.

(ii) Grace CHAGONDA
Programme Assistant
FAO Sub-Regional Office for Southern Africa,
P.O. Box 3730, Harare, Zimbabwe
Tel : (263-4) 791407, 253655, 253657
Fax : (263-4) 700724, 703497, 703496
Email: grace.chagonda@fao.org