

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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Republic of South Africa



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REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR AFRICA

AFR/RC53/INF/01
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Fifty-third session
Johannesburg, South Africa, 1–5 September 2003

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

INFORMATION LEAFLET

REGISTRATION AND HOTEL RESERVATIONS

WHO/AFRO has already sent out the registration form to all countries. Delegates may also register via the website www.globalconf.co.za. The Conference Secretariat will acknowledge receipt of your registration and fees paid.

Reservations for accommodation should be indicated in the relevant section of the registration form. It is recommended that all accommodation reservations be made through the Conference Secretariat to facilitate smooth planning.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Welcome Cocktail – Sunday, 31 August 2003

Venue : Sandton Convention Centre, Maude Street, Sandton

Time: 18h30 Welcome Address

Dress: Formal or Traditional Dress

Opening Ceremony – Monday, 01 September 2003

Venue: Sandton Convention Centre

Time: 08h30 – 10h30

Dress: Formal or Traditional Dress

Gala Dinner – Thursday, 04 September 2003

Venue: Sandton Convention Centre

Time: 19h00

Dress: Formal or Traditional Dress

VENUE OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING – SANDTON CONVENTION CENTRE

The Sandton Convention Centre is situated in Sandton, a separate, self-sufficient metropolitan node in the Gauteng Province, South Africa's place of gold, and the economic powerhouse of Southern Africa.

Sandton is centrally placed just north of Johannesburg's inner city area and is within easy driving distance of Johannesburg International Airport and Pretoria. The Sandton Convention Centre is easily accessible from the area's main roads and highways, and directional signage at regular intervals guides motorists to their destination.

PROGRAMME AT A GLANCE

The programme has been communicated by WHO/AFRO, Brazzaville to all delegates.

ACCOMMODATION

The Organising Committee has arranged accommodation for conference delegates, ranging from 5-Star hotels that are on par with the best in the world to more economic hotels. Delegates are urged to make accommodation bookings without delay in order to avoid disappointment. For all accommodation bookings and enquiries, please complete the registration form or contact the Conference Secretariat.

Prices quoted are bed & breakfast, per room, and include 14% VAT. A small government room levy is added. A deposit of one night's accommodation is required to reserve a room.

All conference hotels are within walking distance of the Sandton Convention Centre. Delegates will be provided with a map indicating the proximity of the hotels to the Sandton Convention Centre.

PLEASE NOTE: Ministers will be accommodated at the Michelangelo and Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza.

HOTEL RATES

Hotel choice		Rate per room per night	
		Single	Double
The Michelangelo	Superior	ZAR1 520	ZAR1 760
	Deluxe	ZAR1 740	ZAR1 960
	Executive	ZAR3 500	ZAR3 500
	Premier Suite	ZAR4 400	ZAR4 400
Crowne Plaza Sandton		ZAR 707	ZAR 796
Holiday Inn Garden Court Sandton City		ZAR 639	ZAR 840
Holiday Inn Garden Court Sandton		ZAR 628	ZAR 782
City Lodge Sandton(Katherine Street)		ZAR 445	ZAR 590
Town Lodge		ZAR 398	ZAR 496

Accommodation prices

The Conference Secretariat has negotiated excellent prices for delegates who book through the Conference Secretariat. All hotels have guaranteed that the rates quoted are the best group rates available at the time of going to print.

Please note: Delegates are required to settle their own accounts with their hotel on their departure including meals, bar account, tips, telephone, laundry, etc.

GENERAL TRAVEL INFORMATION

Airport transfers

A complimentary airport transfer service will be provided for delegates arriving from Thursday 28 August through to Monday 01 September 2003 and departing from Friday 5 September to Monday 8 September 2003. Delegates who arrive outside these dates will need to settle the account for their transfer directly

with the service provider. It is advisable to book a transfer with your hotel if this is the case. It is essential that all information received on flight arrivals and departures is accurate and clear. If delegates fail to inform the Conference Secretariat of their flight details, they will be liable for the cost of their own airport transfer. No refunds in such cases will be considered.

Please note, for departures, the check-in time for international flights is two hours prior to departure and one hour prior to departure for domestic flights. Please allow sufficient time. The time from your hotel to the airport is approximately 40 minutes.

Transport for Ministers

Special transport has been arranged by the Department of Health for Ministers. However, this transport will not be on an individual basis but on a shared basis.

Please note that no transport has been arranged from the Michelangelo or any other hotel to the Sandton Convention Centre because of the very close proximity of the hotels to the venue.

Passport and Visa requirements

All visitors must have a valid passport. Please consult your nearest South African Embassy or High Commission well in advance regarding visa requirements. You may also consult the website www.globalconf.co.za. To access contact details on the closest Embassy or High Commission, visit www.dfa.gov.za/sa-abroad/solist. However, the onus is on the individual delegate to ensure that they have the correct visa entry requirements.

Currency

The Rand (ZAR) is the South African unit of currency, with 100 cents to the Rand.

Disability Access

The Sandton Convention Centre is of international standard and is equipped for travellers with physical disability.

Dietary requirements

All reasonable preferences (vegetarian, kosher, halaal) will be catered for. Please inform the Conference Secretariat in advance of your dietary needs so that the necessary arrangements can be made.

Immunisation and health requirements

International Health Regulations apply and delegates from Yellow Fever areas should have the required Yellow Fever certificate before entering South Africa. The onus is on the delegate to ensure that he or she meets all the entry requirements. Please note that some game reserves are located in malaria prone areas and proper precautions must be taken. The onus is on the delegate to ensure that he or she meets all the entry requirements.

Indemnity

The Department of Health, WHO, Global Conferences and any service providers will not be held responsible for any physical loss or damage in respect of any liability, loss, claim or proceedings whatsoever, whether these claims arise in common law or by statute, consequent on personal injuries to or the death of any person whatsoever arising out of, or in the course of, any action, or caused by any acts of the above mentioned parties or their staff members.

VISA REQUIREMENTS

To gain admission to South Africa, it is necessary to be in possession of valid passports and visas, if the persons concerned are citizens of countries in respect of which visa control is applicable. Please refer to the attached schedule listing the countries whose nationals are exempted from South African visa control. All applications for visas must be submitted to the nearest/most convenient South African diplomatic or consular representative abroad, together with a fee of ZAR 425 (USD47) per person in respect of countries whose passport holders are subject to visa fees. A list of these countries is also attached. The visa application and passport may be forwarded by courier services, mail or with the assistance of a travel agent to such South African Mission abroad. For additional information, refer to the instructions and information on the attached copy of the visa application form. Please note that 10 days are required to process visas.

Persons subject to visa control, who arrive without visas at a South African port of entry, will unfortunately not be permitted to enter the Republic of South Africa.

Immunisation for yellow fever is an entry requirement, if the journey starts or entails passing through the yellow fever belts of Africa or South America. Please refer to the attached list, giving an indication of which countries fall within these belts. Visas will not be issued, if this requirement is not met.

SCHEDULE C COUNTRIES WHOSE NATIONALS ARE EXEMPTED FROM REQUIRING VISAS

1. The Citizens of the foreign countries listed in the relevant items of this schedule, are not required to hold a visa in order to report for an exemption to a port of entry, subject to the terms and conditions set out in this schedule, inter alia the intended period of stay in the Republic.
2. Holders of South African passport, travel documents and documents for travel purposes, are not required to hold a visa to enter the Republic.
3. (a) The holder of a passport of:
 - Australia,
 - The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,
 - British Islands Bailiwick of Guernsey and Jersey, Isle of Man and Virgin Islands,
 - The Republic of Ireland, and
 - British Overseas Territoriesis not required to hold a visa.
(b) A national of the British Dependent Territories, including Anguilla, Bermuda, British Antarctic Territory, British Indian Ocean Territory, Cayman Islands, Falkland Islands, Gibraltar, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Henderson, Cucie and Oeno Islands, Sovereign Base Area of Akrotiri and Dhekelia and the Turks and Caicos Islands, also does not require a visa.
4. The holder of a passport of the following country is not required to hold a visitor's visa for an intended stay of 90 days or less and when in transit.
 - Botswana

5. The holder of a passport of the following countries is not required to have a visitor's visa for an intended stay of 30 days or less and when in transit.
 - Benin
 - Cape Verde
 - Gabon
 - Lesotho
 - Malawi
 - Mauritius
 - Namibia
 - Seychelles
 - Swaziland
 - Zambia
 - Zimbabwe: Only in respect of Government Officials, including police on cross border investigations.

6. The holder of a diplomatic and official passport of the following countries does not require a visitor's visa for an intended stay of 90 days or less and when in transit.
 - Egypt
 - Morocco
 - Mozambique

7. Notwithstanding this schedule, a foreigner whose visa exemptions have been withdrawn, shall comply with visa requirements until notified by the Department that his or her visa exemption has been reinstated by the Department on petition or of the Department's own accord.

8. Visas are not required by passport holders of Lesotho, Swaziland, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and Malawi, who are entering the Republic as commercial heavyduty drivers, provided their visits do not exceed 15 days and on condition that they can produce a letter confirming their employment with a transport company on entry.

9. Staff members of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), who travel on SADC laissez – passers, are exempt from visa requirements for bona fide official business visits of up to 90 days and transit.

10. Holders of United Nations (UN) laissez – passer, are exempt from visa requirements when visiting the Republic for periods not exceeding 90 days, whether on ordinary visit or for official business purposes or when in transit or when accredited for placement at a UN mission in the Republic for the duration of their accreditation. Volunteers attached to UN Agencies and travelling on ordinary passports are

exempt from visa requirements, provided that they are in possession of the relevant letters or identification documents to identify themselves at ports of entry, as personnel of a UN agency.

SCHEDULE D
COUNTRIES WHOSE NATIONALS ARE SUBJECT TO VISA FEES

Fees for the issuance of a visa, shall be collected in respect of passport holders of the following foreign countries:

- Angola
- Benin*
- Burkina Faso
- Burundi
- Cameroon
- Central African Republic
- Comoros
- Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)
- Dahomey (Benin)
- Democratic Republic of Congo
- Djibouti
- Eritrea
- Ethiopia
- Gabon*
- Gambia
- Ghana
- Guinea – Bissau
- Ivory Coast (Cote d'Ivoire)
- Kenya
- Liberia
- Lybia
- Madagascar
- Mali
- Mauritania
- Morocco
- Mozambique
- Niger
- Nigeria
- Rwanda

- Sierra Leone
- Somalia
- Sudan
- Tanzania
- Togo
- Tunisia
- Uganda
- Western Sahara
- Yemen (Arab Republic of)
- Yemen (People's Republic of)

*** In respect of visits intended to exceed thirty days**

THE FOLLOWING COUNTRIES FALL WITHIN YELLOW FEVER BELTS:

AFRICA

Angola

Burundi

Benin

Burkina Faso

Cameroon

Central African Republic

Chad

Congo

Côte d'Ivoire

Democratic Republic of Congo

Equatorial Guinea

Ethiopia

Gambia

Gabon

Guinea

Guinea – Bissau

Ghana

Ivory Coast

Kenya

Liberia

Mali

Niger

Nigeria

Sao Tome and Principe

Senegal

Sierra Leone

Somalia

Sudan

Rwanda

Tanzania

Togo

Uganda

SOUTH AMERICA

Bolivia

Brazil

Colombia

Ecuador

French Guyana

Guyana

Panama

Peru

Surinam

Venezuela