



Eighty-fifth session
Bamako, Mali, 7-8 May 2009

INFORMATION NOTE N° 1

I. PLACE AND DATES OF THE SESSION

1. In accordance with decision CE/DEC/19(LXXXIV), the Executive Council will hold its eighty-fifth session at **Bamako, Mali, on 7 and 8 May 2009**, at the invitation of the Government of Mali.
2. The opening session will take place on **Thursday, 7 May 2009, 9 a.m.** at:

**Salle Baobab
HOTEL RADISSON
Nouveau quartier administratif et des affaires ACI 2000
Bamako**

Tel.: (+223) 44 29 00 00
Fax: (+223) 44 29 00 01

II. REPLIES TO INVITATIONS

3. Governments and other bodies invited by letter of the Secretary-General a.i. of **30 March 2009** are kindly requested to send their replies, at the earliest opportunity, if possible indicating the composition of their delegations.
4. Participants are requested to complete the attached registration form and return it **by Monday 4 May 2009 at the latest** to:

Mrs. Dominique BERNARDET Chief, Conferences, Translation and Documents Service World Tourism Organization 28020 MADRID – Spain Tel.: (+34) 91 567 81 00 Fax: (+34) 91 571 37 33 E-mail: conf@unwto.org	Mr. Modibo CISSE Technical Advisor Ministry of Tourism and Handicrafts Tel.: (+223) 20 29 64 50 Fax: (+223) 20 29 93 27 E-mail: mobocisse@yahoo.fr	Mr. Moustapha DIAKITE Administrative and Financial Direction Ministry of Tourism and Handicrafts Tel.: (+223) 20 29 53 44 Fax: (+223) 20 29 93 27 E-mail: moustaphedia@yahoo.fr
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III. STATUS OF PARTICIPANTS

5. The Government of Mali will take the necessary steps to facilitate the arrival and departure of participants invited by the Organization, as well as their stay in this country. Throughout their stay, participants will enjoy the privileges and immunities provided in the Agreement between the Organization and the Government of Mali in conformity to Article No. 32 of the UNWTO Statutes.

IV. ENTRY FORMALITIES

6. Participants to this session of the UNWTO Executive Council should take note of the conditions of entry at the territory of Mali, which are as follows:

- a) A valid passport for six months is required for all visitors. An entry visa can be issued by the diplomatic or consular missions of Mali abroad;
- b) For nationals of the countries listed below, **no visa** is required to enter the territory of Mali: Algeria, Cameroon, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia;
- c) For nationals of the CEN SAD countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Togo and Tunisia) and those of the ECOWAS Community (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo) in mission, **no visa** is required to enter the territory of Mali.
- d) Holders of diplomatic passports from the following countries that have signed agreements of visas suppression with Mali do not require an entry visa to Mali: Gabon, Cuba, Iran and Venezuela.
- e) Nationals of Macao Special Administrative Region (SAR) and those of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR) are allowed to enter to Mali without an entry visa.

7. For nationals of the countries not listed above, an entry visa is required to the territory of Mali. Delegates who may require an entry visa are requested to contact diplomatic or consular missions of Mali in their countries in order to obtain their entry visas.

8. Delegates in whose countries Mali has no diplomatic mission are requested to contact the Secretariat of the Organization and the Ministry of Tourism and Handicrafts of Mali, **sufficiently in advance, by 25 April 2009 at the latest** indicating all the necessary information, in order to enable the authorities of Mali to take the necessary measures in this respect. The cost of visa issuance is 15.000 Francs CFA. :

- Name and surname
- Nationality
- Number and type of passport
- Place and date of birth
- Validity of passport
- Travel information (date, time and flight number)

9. Information on entry visa to Mali can be consulted on the following website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mali: <http://www.mae.gov.ml/veniraumali.php>

V. AIR TRANSPORT AND RECEPTION AT THE AIRPORT

10. The host country is negotiating with the airline companies **Air France and Royal Air Maroc** special discounts on air fares for the participants in the eighty-fifth session of the Executive Council. More detailed information on these discounts will be given in a second Information Note.

11. The Malian authorities will organise a reception for the participants at the **Bamako Sénou** International Airport and will facilitate the free transfer of delegates on arrival and on departure between the airport, the selected hotels and the venue of the meetings. To enable the local authorities to organize this service, participants are requested to forward their participation forms to the Ministry of Tourism and Handicrafts of Mali, indicating their flight numbers, place of departure and dates of arrival and departure.

VI. CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND AIRPORT TAXES

12. Mali applies international customs regulations with regard to tourists.

13. Airport and tourist taxes are included in the ticket price.

VII. HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

14. Participants are requested to present their International vaccination book against yellow fever.

VIII. ACCOMMODATION

15. Special rates have been obtained by the host country for the following hotels. Participants are requested to contact the Ministry of Tourism and Handicrafts of Mali, sufficiently in advance, **by 25 April 2009 at the latest**, returning the attached Accommodation Application Form dully filled to the indicated fax number and email address in order to enable the authorities of Mali to make the hotel bookings.

16. The rates are indicated in Franc CFA and include breakfast. The accommodation can be paid in this currency, in US Dollars, in Euros or by credit card. In case of no-show, the price of one night will be charged.

LIST OF THE SELECTED HOTELS

Hotels	Special Price in F. CFA (VAT included)	Remarks
<p>1. Hotel Radisson ***** Address : ACI 2000 Hamdallaye BP : E 2566 Tel.: (+ 223) 44 29 00 00 Fax: (+ 223) 44 29 00 01 Email: info.bamako@radissonsas.com reservation.bamako@radissonsas.com Venue of the meeting</p>	<p>Standard Room: 94.000 Business Class Room: 117.000 Executive Suite: 207.000 Presidential Suite: 558.000</p>	<p>Accepted credit card: Visa Free Wi-Fi Connexion</p>

Hotels	Special Price in F. CFA (VAT included)	Remarks
<p>2. Hotel Laico Libya ***** Ex Hotel de l'Amitié Address: BP : 1720, Avenue de la Marne Bamako Tel.: (+ 223) 20 21 43 21 Fax: (+ 223) 20 21 43 85 Email: ho573@accor-hotel.com 20 min. drive from the meeting venue</p>	<p>Single Room: 85.000 Double Room: 85.000</p>	<p>Accepted credit card: Visa Free Wi-Fi Connexion</p>
<p>3. Azalai Hotel Salam ***** Address: BP : 104, Quartier du fleuve Near the International Center of Bamako Tel.: (+ 223) 20 22 12 00 Fax: (+ 223) 20 22 36 37 Email: azalahotelsalam@azalahotels.com Website: azalahotels.com 10 min. drive from the meeting venue</p>	<p>Single Room: 90.000 Double Room: 90.000</p>	<p>Accepted credit card: Visa Free Wi-Fi Connexion</p>
<p>4. Laico Hotel El Farouk ***** Address: BP 5063 Bd. 22 Octobre 1946 Bamako Tel.: (+ 223) 20 23 10 30 / 20 22 30 30 Fax: (+ 223) 20 22 61 61 Email: Sales.elfarouk@laicohotels.com Website: www.laicohotels.com 15 min. drive from the meeting venue</p>	<p>Single Room: 89.000 Double Room: 99.000</p>	<p>Accepted credit card: Visa, American Express and Dinners Club Free Wi-Fi Connexion</p>
<p>5. Hotel Plaza **** Address: Niarela Sud, behind the Russian Embassy in Bamako Tel.: (+ 223) 20 21 50 30 / 20 21 50 32 Fax: (+ 223) 20 21 50 34 Email: hotelplaza@cefib.com 25 min. drive from the meeting venue</p>	<p>Single Room: 40.000 Double Room: 50.000</p>	<p>Accepted credit card: Visa</p>
<p>6. Azalai Grand Hotel **** Address: Centre Commercial BP : 104 Bamako Tel.: (+ 223) 20 22 24 92 Fax: (+ 223) 20 22 26 01 Email: azalaigrandhotel@azalahotels.com Website: azalahotels.com 20 min. drive from the meeting venue</p>	<p>Single Room: 80.000 Double Room: 80.000</p>	<p>Accepted credit card: Visa, American Express and Dinners Club Free Wi-Fi Connexion</p>
<p>7. Résidence Komé *** Address: BP : 1060 Hamdallaye ACI 2000 Tel.: (+ 223) 22 29 00 00 Fax: (+ 223) 20 29 29 99 Email: komerésidence@arc.net.ml Hotel nearby the Radisson Hotel, venue of the meeting</p>	<p>Single Room: 35.000 Double Room: 40.000</p>	<p>Accepted credit card: Visa</p>
<p>8. Hotel Massaley *** Address: Hamdallaye ACI 2000 BP : E 3245 Tel.: (+ 223) 20 29 54 56 Fax: (+ 223) 20 29 50 53 Email: massaleyhotel@yahoo.fr 5 min. walk from the meeting venue</p>	<p>Single Room: 35.500 Double Room: 35.500</p>	<p>Accepted credit card: Visa</p>

Hotels	Special Price in F. CFA (VAT included)	Remarks
9. Azalai Hotel Nord Sud *** Address: BP : 2566 Hamdallaye ACI 2000 Avenue du Mali Tel.: (+ 223) 229 69 01 Fax: (+ 223) 229 69 00 Email: azalainordsud@azalahotels.com 5 min. walk from the meeting venue	Single Room: 55.000 Double Room: 55.000	Accepted credit card: Visa Free Wi-Fi Connexion
10. Hotel Mandé *** Address: Cité du Niger BP : 2639 Tel.: (+ 223) 20 21 19 95 / 20 21 44 85 Fax: (+ 223) 20 21 19 69 Email: mandehotel@afribonemali.net 15 min. drive from the meeting venue	Single Room: 47.500 Double Room: 53.000	Accepted credit card: Visa Free Wi-Fi Connexion
11. Hotel Résidence Bouna ** Address: BP : 3216 Hamdallaye ACI 2000 Tel.: (+ 223) 20 29 07 42 - 20 29 04 42 Fax: (+ 223) 20 29 68 98 Email: Bouna@afribone.net.ml 10 min. walk from the meeting venue	Single Room: 33.000 Double Room: 38.500	Free Wi-Fi Connexion
12. Hotel Les Colonnes** Address: Hamdallaye ACI 2000 Tel.: (+ 223) 20 29 46 30 Fax: (+ 223) 20 29 46 28 Email: lescolonnes2002@yahoo.fr 10 min. walk from the meeting venue	Single Room: 25.500 Double Room: 37.500	Free Wi-Fi Connexion
13. Hotel Columbus ** Address: Hamdallaye ACI 2000 Tel.: (+ 223) 20 29 68 83 Fax: (+ 223) 20 29 68 84 Email: Colombushotel12005@yahho.fr 10 min. walk from the meeting venue	Single Room: 30.500 Double Room: 32.500	

N.B.: The exchange rate by March 2009 is 1 US Dolar for **513.914 XOF** (Francs CFA) and 1 Euro for **655,957 XOF** (Francs CFA).

IX. REGISTRATION AND BADGES

17. The registration desk will be open at the **Radisson Hotel** on **Tuesday, 5 and Wednesday, 6 May, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.** and **from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.** and on **Thursday, 7 May, from 9 a.m. onwards.** Badges will be issued at the time of registration.

18. Participants are requested to wear their identification badges throughout the Council session in the area reserved for the meetings, as well as at all social events.

X. WORKING LANGUAGES

19. The documents for the Council session will be distributed in Arabic, English, French, Russian and Spanish, and simultaneous interpretation of the Council discussions will also be provided in English, French, Russian and Spanish.

XI. WORKING DOCUMENTS

20. The majority of the working documents for the Council session will be dispatched as soon as possible, in accordance with the statutory provisions. Delegates are requested to bring with them copies of the documents sent to them in advance.

XII. LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

21. A provisional list of participants, based on the replies referred to in paragraph 2 above, will be drawn up on **Monday, 4 May**. The final list of participants, prepared on the basis of the data entered by delegates and observers in their registration forms, will be distributed later on during the Council session.

XIII. SOCIAL PROGRAMME

22. A social programme is currently being prepared. More detailed information will be given in the forthcoming Information Note.

23. In order to visit other places of interest of the country, many travel agencies will offer to the participants organized tours on the spot.

XIV. PRACTICAL INFORMATION

- **Official currency and exchange rate:** Mali's official currency is the Franc CFA. The rate of exchange applicable in March 2009 is 1 USD for **513.914 XOF** (Francs CFA) and 1 Euro for **655,957 XOF** (Francs CFA).
- **Climate:** The average temperature in Bamako in May is about 26 and 40 degrees C.
- **Clothing:** For meetings, women generally wear normal business attire and men a jacket and tie. Participants are advised to bring comfortable, light clothing, preferably made of cotton and suitable for summer-like weather.
- **Local time:** The official time in Mali is Greenwich Mean Time (GMT).
- **Official language:** The official language in Mali is French.
- **Electricity:** The electric current in Mali is 220 Volts. Power outlets take two round pin plugs.
- **Business hours:** Banks are open from 8.30 a.m. to noon and from 3 a.m. to 6 p.m. from Monday to Friday and from 8.30 a.m. to noon on Saturday. Department stores are open from 9 a.m. to 8.p.m., while shops, souks and artisans are open the whole week.