



UNWTO Commission for the Middle East

Fortieth meeting

Dubai, United Arab Emirates, 5 May 2015

CME/40/Info.Note1

Madrid, March 2015

Original: English

40th Meeting of the UNWTO Commission for the Middle East and Ministerial Forum on intra-Arab Tourism

Dubai, United Arab Emirates, 5 May 2015

GENERAL INFORMATION NOTE I

I. PLACE AND DATE

1. At the invitation of the Government of the United Arab Emirates and under the patronage of H.H. Sheikh Nahyan Bin Mubarak Al Nahyan, Minister of Culture, Youth and Social Development and Chairman of the National Council of Tourism and Antiquities, **the fortieth meeting of the UNWTO Commission for the Middle East** and the **Ministerial Forum on intra-Arab Tourism: *Addressing the challenges and seizing the opportunities***, will be held in **Dubai, United Arab Emirates, on 5 May 2015**.

2. The meetings will be held at:



**Al Multaqua Ballroom
Arabian Travel Market (ATM)
Dubai - UAE**

Tel +971 4 332 1000

www.dwtc.com

II. REPLIES TO INVITATIONS

3. Participants of the 40th UNWTO Commission meeting and the Ministerial Forum on intra-Arab Tourism: *Addressing the challenges and seizing the opportunities* are kindly requested to complete the online registration, **by 25 April 2015 at the latest**, at the following link:
<http://middle-east.unwto.org/webform/participation-form-1>

III. STATUS OF PARTICIPANTS

4. Throughout their stay, participants invited by the Organization will benefit from the privileges and immunities provided for in the Agreement concluded between the Organization and the National Council for Tourism and Antiquities of the UAE.

IV. ENTRY FORMALITIES

5. All nationalities would require an entry visa to the United Arab Emirates, except nationals from the Gulf Countries (GCC). Delegates who require an entry visa are requested to contact diplomatic or consular missions of the UAE in their countries in order to obtain their entry visas.

6. For more information regarding entry visa please visit the following link: <http://www.mofa.gov.ae>

7. Delegates in whose countries the United Arab Emirates has no diplomatic mission are requested to contact the UNWTO Regional Programme for the Middle East (rpme@unwto.org) sufficiently in advance, by **20 April 2015** at the latest, indicating all the necessary information below, in order to enable the authorities of the UAE to take the necessary measures in this respect:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| - Name and surname | - Place and date of birth |
| - Nationality | - Validity of passport (no less than 6 months) |
| - Number and type of passport | - Travel information (date, time and flight number) |

V. ACCOMMODATION

8. A list of hotels with special rates for participants at these meetings is attached as Annex I. Delegates are invited to contact directly the hotels for reservations, indicating that they will participate in the 40th meeting of UNWTO Commission for the Middle East and/or in the Ministerial Forum on intra-Arab Tourism.

9. Special rates for participants are also offered for transfer services. Participants who may wish to book a transfer, are invited to fill in the Transfers Reservation Form attached as Annex II and send it directly to the specified email addresses in the form.

VI. REGISTRATION AND BADGES

10. A registration desk will be open at Al Multaqua Ballroom on Monday, 4 and on Tuesday, 5 May 2015, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 5 p.m. Badges will be issued at the time of registration. Participants are requested to wear their identification badges in the area reserved for the meetings.

VII. WORKING LANGUAGES

10. The working languages of the meetings are Arabic and English. A simultaneous interpretation service will be provided.

Important note: In compliance with the United Nations system's environmental protection policy, the working documents **will not be distributed on paper** at the venue of the event. Therefore, **the delegates are requested to bring with them copies of the documents sent to them by email before the meetings.**

VIII. PRACTICAL INFORMATION

12. Local Currency and exchange rates: the local currency is the Dirham. The applicable exchange rate in March 2015 is approximately 0.256 AED for 1 Euro / US\$1 = Dhs3.679.

13. Weather: Dubai enjoys sunny days in May. The average maximum temperature is 35° C and the average low is 21° C.

14. Official language: the official language of the UAE is Arabic. English is also widely spoken and understood and used in business and commerces.

15. Official time: the official time in the UAE is GMT plus 4 hours

16. Electricity: the electricity in the UAE is 230 Volts.

Annex I

LIST OF HOTELS

Hotel	Rates in AED (based on bed and breakfast per person per night)	Contact
The Palace Down Town Hotel*****	Single room: 1295 AED Double room: 1390 AED	Address: The Old Town Island - Mohammed Bin Rashid Boulevard, Downtown - Dubai - UAE Phone: +971 4 428 7888 Email: ISrappyan@theaddress.com info@thepalace-dubai.com
The Address Dubai Mall Hotel*****	Single room 1295 AED Double room: 1390 AED	Address: Dubai Mall P.O. Box 31166, Dubai, UAE Phone: + 971 4 438 8888 Fax: + 971 4 438 7888 Email: ISrappyan@theaddress.com dubaimall@theaddress.com
The Address Down Town Hotel*****	Single Room: 1415 AED Double Room:1510 AED	Address: Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Blvd - Dubai - UAE Phone: +971 4 436 8888 Email: ISrappyan@theaddress.com downtowndubai@theaddress.com
The Radisson Royal Hotel*****	Single Room: 850 AED Double Room: 950 AED	Address: Plot 49, Sheikh Zayed Road, Trade Centre District - Dubai - United Arab Emirates Phone: +971 4 308 000 Email: christine.tablante@radissonblu.com Contact us: http://www.radissonblu.com/contact-us
Hyatt Regency Dubai Creek Heights***** (New Property, 10 minute drive, near to Grand Hyatt)	Single Room:780AED Double Room: 840AED	Address: Dubai - UAE Phone: +971 4 553 1234 Fax: +971 4 553 1235 Email: rajesh.pandita@hyatt.com dubaicreekheights.regency@hyatt.com
Vida Down Town Hotel****	Single Room: 915 AED Double Room: 990 AED	Address: Mohammed Bin Rashid Boulevard, The Old Town, Downtown Dubai - UAE Phone: +971 4 428 6888 Email: ISrappyan@theaddress.com info@vidahotelsandresorts.com

Rose Rayhaan Rotana Hotel****	Single Room: 720 AED Double Room: 720 AED	Address: Shk Zayed Road, Dubai Phone: +97143230111 Fax: +97143230222 Email: rose.rayhaan@rotana.com
The Emirates Grand Hotel****	Single Room: 400 AED Double Room: 450 AED	Address: Shk Zayed Road, Dubai Trade Centre - 2 Phone: +97143230000 Fax: NA Email: info@emiratesgrandhotel.com
Avenue Hotel ****	Single Room: 380 AED Double Room:380AED	Address: Al Rigga Street, Deira Dubai Phone: +97142970808 Fax: NA Email: groups@whitesands.ae
Flora Grand Hotel ****	Single Room: 400 AED Double Room:400AED	Address: Al Rigga Street, Deira Dubai Phone: +97142233344 Fax: NA Email: groups@whitesands.ae

* Above rates are per room per night basis.

* Inclusive of applicable tax and services charges.

* Tourism Dirham's Fee of 20 AED /- Net per room per night is applicable for 5-star hotels, above the nights rates.

* Tourism Dirham's Fee of 15 AED /- Net per room per night is applicable for 4-star hotels, above the nights rates.

All these hotels are easily accessible to the Arabian Travel Market venue using Metro <http://dubaimetro.eu/dubai-metro-map>

Annex II

TRANSFER SERVICE

Airport Transfers:

Private Transfer one way, using luxury cars (BMW/MERCEDES) @ 150 AED

Private Transfer one way, using 7 seater minivan (Toyota – 5 pax) @ 250 AED

Airport Transfer by Coach

15 Seater, Private Transfer, one way, 300 AED

28 Seater, Private Transfer, one Way, 400 AED

49 Seater, Private Transfer, one way, 650 AED

All quoted rates and payments to be made in UAE Dirhams. The approx. rate of exchange 1 US\$ = 3.67 AED

For booking transfer service, please fill in the Transfer Reservation Form and send it directly to vipin@whitesands.ae / groups@whitesands.ae