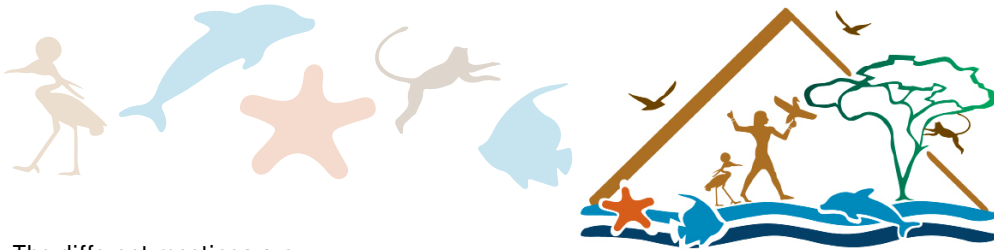


# UN BIODIVERSITY CONFERENCE SURVIVAL TIPS

## THE FOURTEENTH CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION OF MIGRATORY SPECIES

**COP14 • CP/MOP9 • NP/MOP3 • SHARM EL SHEIKH, EGYPT • NOVEMBER 2018**



**UN BIODIVERSITY  
CONFERENCE**  
Investing in biodiversity for people and planet  
**COP14 - CP/MOP9 - NP/MOP3**  
Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, 2018

The different meetings are:

- **FOURTEENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY (COP 14)**
- **NINTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES SERVING AS THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY (CP/MOP9)**
- **THIRD MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES SERVING AS THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE NAGOYA PROTOCOL ON ACCESS TO GENETIC RESOURCES AND THE FAIR AND EQUITABLE SHARING OF BENEFITS ARISING FROM THEIR UTILIZATION (NP/MOP3)**

## PREPARING FOR YOUR JOURNEY

### SUGGESTIONS ON WHAT TO PACK

- There is a lot of walking done at these meetings so you may want to make sure you have good comfortable shoes – remember comfort over fashion!
- The dress code at these meetings can be FORMAL, particularly during the first day (ie the opening plenary), and ministerial events. For men, that means a tie and suit jacket. Note, however, that a sulu/traditional dress is ALSO considered formal, and island dress always makes a welcome change in a sea of bland suits!
- Please note you may want to ensure you have modest clothing. In Egypt women must keep their chest and shoulders covered, it is recommended they wear three-quarter pants or long skirts. We are still awaiting official notification from the CBD on the dress code for the conference.
- Pack clothing with island flair but still dressy and within the recommended dress code for the conference and country.
- It is expected to be summer so nice summer apparel will help, but please note that it can be cold inside the conference/meeting rooms due to the air conditioning so you may want to bring a wrap or such.
- Bring your business cards so they can be handed out to people as part of your networking.
- Try to stay healthy – bring water bottles, eat fruit and veggies, at all times make sure you keep hydrated.
- You may want to travel by the “if you lose it and you will cry, then don’t take it” philosophy when it comes to packing jewellery and other precious items.



## DON'T FORGET TO MAKE SURE

- Your passport is valid for 6 months plus.
- You have all your visas for transit stops as well as for Egypt.
- You come with several printed copies of your COP14 Priority pass or if you can a copy of your credentials as well as a copy of your Visa assistance letter.

## THINGS TO NOTE:

- When packing medicines it must be noted some medicines are banned in Egypt, you may want to check these.
- If wondering about a healthy travel packing list for Egypt please visit: <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/egypt/traveler/packing-list>
- As with many countries you may want to be wary of drinking tap water and where you eat.
- If you would like to learn more about the types of vaccines required for Egypt please visit: <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/egypt>
- When going to religious places people are advised to dress conservatively, so you may also want to consider that when packing.
- While touring around the city people are advised to wear a hat or sun cap.

## UPON ARRIVAL AT THE AIRPORT

- The Government of Egypt will offer complimentary transportation to and from Sharm El Sheikh airport to the venue of the meetings and the designated hotels from 11 November to 29 November 2018 ONLY for delegates staying at one of the designated hotels. The schedule of services will be available in due course.
- Airport Facilitation Counter with COP-14 signage for the convenience of delegates and welcome desks will be located after the Customs clearance counter and will service all international and domestic flights, at both Cairo and Sharm El Sheikh international airports, from 11 to 26 November 2018.
- A COP registration priority pass issued by the CBD Secretariat will be required to access this service.
- Participants are requested to ensure the availability of this document in hard-copy format.
- Upon arrival in Cairo, the welcome desk will assist participants with their flight transfer and, upon arrival at Sharm El Sheikh International Airport, with transfers to designated hotels.
- Upon departure, the help desk at Sharm El Sheikh International Airport will be operational for all flights departing on 29 and 30 November 2018. Airport websites: <http://sharm-el-sheikh-airport.com> [www.cairo-airport.com](http://www.cairo-airport.com)

## ONSITE REGISTRATION FOR THE CONFERENCE

- Badges with photographs will be issued at the Registration Centre located in front of the main entrance upon the presentation of the Priority Pass, a valid passport or an identification card with a photograph, along with a copy of the letter of nomination or credential referred to in item
- Registration will commence on 12 November and continue until 29 November.
- The hours of registration will be between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. daily.
- Registration will be extended to 7:00 p.m. from 12 to 17 November 2018.
- For security reasons, the display of conference badges is mandatory at all times to gain access to the venue and meeting rooms.
- Any loss of a conference badge should be reported immediately to the staff at the registration counter.

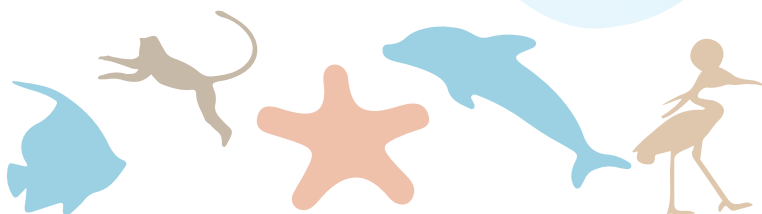
## TRAVELING TO AND FROM YOUR HOTEL AND THE CONFERENCE VENUE

- Complementary transportation will be provided ONLY for delegates staying at one of the designated hotels to/from the designated hotels to/from the conference venue only.
- If you are staying outside of the CBD designated hotels, you will need to coordinate your own transport to and from the venue
- You can find out if your hotel is on the CBED list of accommodations at this site: [www.cop14-egypt.com/participants/accommodation/](http://www.cop14-egypt.com/participants/accommodation/)

## ON YOUR FIRST DAY:

It is useful to familiarise yourself with the venue to find key points such as:

- Toilets and bathrooms
- IT help desk
- Computer rooms where you can check internet and print for free
- Bank or money machines
- Water cooler machines
- Power points and desks
- Restaurants or food carts
- Shops in case you need key minor items e.g. batteries, gum, Panadol
- Where exits are in case of emergencies
- Key meeting rooms such as the main plenary and exhibition sites etc.



For further information please refer to the **CBD COP14 Information Note** at: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/cop/cop-14/other/cop-14-info-note-en.pdf>

## OTHER HELPFUL INFORMATION

- A list of delegations attending each of the meetings will be prepared by the Secretariat and made available on the website of the Convention shortly after the closing of COP-14, CP-MOP-9 and NP-MOP-3. Participants not wishing to have their full coordinates appear on the list of participants should notify the Secretariat staff at the registration counter.
- A variety of commercial services will be available at the venue, including a lounge for delegates, restaurants, cafeterias, internet café, post office, banking machines/ATMs, travel desk, hotel reservation service, information desks, telephones, telephone cards, photocopier, fax machine, scanner, plug adaptors, and the possibility to purchase a small range of office supplies.
- A medical unit will also be available on site for emergencies. Further details on these services will be provided shortly.
- The Government of Egypt will be introducing “Meatless Monday” at the UN Biodiversity Conference where no meat will be served at the venue on each Monday of the COP. “Meatless Monday” is an international campaign that encourages people to refrain from eating meat on Mondays to improve their health and the health of the planet.
- The currency in Egypt is the Egyptian pound. The exchange rate is not fixed, therefore we recommend checking the current exchange rate before departure and upon arrival in Egypt. Currency exchange facilities are readily available at the venue and in banks and hotels.
- In November, temperatures in Sharm El Sheikh range from between a maximum of 27°C during the day and a minimum of 19°C at night
- The official language in Egypt is Arabic. However, in Sharm El Sheikh, English is widely spoken and understood in hotels and restaurants
- The time zone is GMT/UTC +2 hours. More information can be found at: [worldweather.wmo.int/en/city.html?cityId=1269](http://worldweather.wmo.int/en/city.html?cityId=1269).
- The voltage and frequency in Egypt is 220V, 50 Hertz as illustrated below.

