

REPUBLIC OF
TUNISIA



UNITED NATIONS

Economic
Commission
for Europe



Economic and
Social Commission
for Western Asia

Economic and Social
Commission for Asia
and the Pacific

Economic Commission
for Africa

Economic Commission
for Latin America
and the Caribbean

Fifth International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development

Place and date: Hammamet, Tunisia, 4-7 November 2014

Hotel “Riu Palace Oceana”

Co-organizers:

Government of Tunisia, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (ESCAP), United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)

Meeting languages: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Spanish and Russian with simultaneous interpretation

INFORMATION NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS (Draft-24Sep2014)

BRIEF INFORMATION ON THE FORUM

The **Fifth International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development** will be held in Hammamet, Tunisia, on 4-6 November 2014. The Forum is organized by the Government of Tunisia, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA).

The Forum will emphasize attaining the three objectives of the Sustainable Energy for All (SE4All) Initiative of the UN Secretary-General through a regional agenda: ensuring universal **access to modern energy services**, doubling the global rate of improvement in **energy efficiency** and doubling the share of **renewable energy** in the global energy mix by 2030. The Forum will share experiences from all regions of the world.

One of the key events will be a High-Level Dialogue on “International Cooperation towards Sustainable Energy for All” with participation of the Executive Secretaries of UN Regional Commissions (RCs) and ministers responsible for implementing sustainable energy policies. The High-Level Dialogue is expected to adopt a declaration that will reaffirm the roles of key stakeholders in promoting sustainable energy policies and call for joint efforts to achieve SE4All objectives.

The Forum will include a Global Workshop of the UN Development Account (UNDA) project “Promoting Energy Efficiency Investments for Climate Change Mitigation and Sustainable Development”, implemented jointly by all five UN RCs. The Workshop will gather government officials and project developers from the regions along with major domestic and foreign investors to facilitate exchange of expertise, lessons learned and best practices and to promote greater investment flows into energy efficiency projects. The event will share experiences with programmes for training on financial engineering and business planning as well as case studies on policy reforms to promote energy efficiency investments and discuss a project pipeline from each region.

A new UNDA project “Promoting Renewable Energy Investments for Climate Change Mitigation and Sustainable Development” will be launched by ESCWA and UNECE. The project is expected to improve capacity of government officials, national financial institutions, national energy experts and project developers to develop renewable energy investment projects in the private and public sectors. The project will also improve capacity for governments to adopt policies and measures to improve opportunities for banks and commercial companies to invest in renewable energy projects through the development of new financing mechanisms.

The Forum will be held in Hammamet, Tunisia (<http://www.beintunisia.com>) in the Hotel “Riu Palace Oceana - Hammamet” (<http://www.riu.com/en/Paises/tunisia/hammamet/hotel-riu-palace-oceana-hammamet>).

REGISTRATION AND ACCOMODATION

Participants are requested to register for attending the Forum (registration form is available at: <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=35706>). Participants are advised to stay at the Hotel “Riu Palace Oceana - Hammamet” (venue of the Forum) for the duration of the Forum. **To book a room at the hotel, please send an e-mail to Ms Amira BEN HADJ ALI, before October 28, 2014,** to the following e-mail address: riu.resa@oceana.tourism.tn **indicating that you are participating in the Fifth International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development and your preferred room option based on the table below. Please advise the Tunisian organizers team once your hotel booking is confirmed** by sending an e-mail with the Subject: “Hotel booking-5th Int. Forum ESD” to the following e-mail address: nagati_oussama@anme.nat.tn, before October 30th, 2014.

Hotel RIU Palace OCEANA 5* - Jinène Hammamet

DESCRIPTION	UNIT COST in Tunisian Dinars (TND) per room and per night
Junior suite single	120 TND (about 70 US\$ @ current x-change rates)
Junior suite double	170 TND (about 100 US\$ @ current x-change rates)
Prestige suite (4 Pax Maximum)	600 TND (about 345 US\$ @ current x-change rates)
Royal suite (4 Pax Maximum)	700 TND (about 405 US\$ @ current x-change rates)
Services & Features Included:	Complimentary Buffet breakfast at the main restaurant Complimentary WiFi Internet in all rooms and in Public areas
Payment Conditions:	The following credit cards are accepted: VISA & MASTERCARD Please Check with hotel for other modes of payment
Contact info for booking	Booking contact person: Ms Amira BEN HADJ ALI Address e-mail: riu.resa@oceana.tourism.tn Tel: +216 72 227 227

For identification and security reasons, all participants are requested to follow the instruction or advice from the organizers and hotel staff.

PAYMENT OF HOTEL BILLS

All participants are responsible for paying all their accommodation costs directly to the hotel. Payment is made in local currency (TND). Exchange of major foreign currencies can be done at the hotel, or through banks and post offices.

VISA REQUIREMENTS

Valid passports (Minimum 6 months) are required for visitors of all nationalities. Entry visas into Tunisia have to be secured by all concerned participants from the Tunisian embassy to their respective countries before traveling to Tunisia. There is no visa requirement for nationals of the following countries:

- **Arab Maghreb Union:** Algeria, Libya, Morocco and Mauritania
- **Europe :** Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the Vatican
- **Gulf Countries:** Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, United Arab Emirates, Oman , Kuwait, Qatar
- **Africa:** Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Mauritius, Niger, Senegal, Seychelles,
- **Other countries:** Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, Dominica, Japan, Malaysia, Turkey, the United States of America

Participants should confirm with the Tunisian embassy to their respective countries the VISA requirements as soon as possible.

It should also be noted that all nationals that are not resident in Tunisia will have to purchase a 30 TND fiscal stamp and present it to the border police when leaving the Tunisian territory.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Climate and weather:

The climate in Tunisia, especially on the coastal areas, is a Mediterranean type. Average temperatures vary in relation to the seasons and regions but remain mild even during the winter time.

In November, temperatures in Hammamet typically fluctuate between 14°C (minimum) and 20°C (maximum). For further information, kindly consult: www.meteo.tn

Electricity:

Electrical current – 220 Volts, 50 Hz. EU standard plugs (i.e. Type C, E & F) work throughout Tunisia.

Time Zone: (UTC+1)

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

The official currency in Tunisia is the Tunisian Dinar usually indicated as TND. The Tunisian Dinar is subdivided into 1000 Millimes. There are exchange desks in many areas of Hammamet and at hotel Riu Palace Oceana. Major hotels accept credit cards but please check outside the main cities. Cash point machines are available throughout major towns and cities.

The most accepted cards in Tunisia are: Visa, MasterCard, Euro Card, American Express.

The exchange rate is approximately (25 September 2014):

1.740 TND per 1 USD

2.280 TND per 1 EUR

COMMUNICATIONS

The country code is +216 and the area code for Hammamet is 72. Tunisian mobile operators (Telecom, Orange and Ooredoo) cover almost the whole territory of the country and most of them offer special short term packages for visitors, including access to the internet (All have service booths at the Airport).

TRANSPORTATION TO TUNISIA

Commercial flights to Tunis-Carthage International Airport (Non-stop or with connecting flights) are available from major cities throughout the world. Non-stop flights can be taken from almost all Arab countries, most major European cities, and some Asian and American major cities.

Many European hubs have daily connections to Tunis-Carthage International Airport from the world's major cities.

Tunisia is also accessible by ferry from Marseille (France) and Genoa / Palermo and Salerno (Italy).

TRANSPORT FROM AND TO AIRPORT

Transport to and from the Forum venue during the Forum period (3-7 November 2014) will be gracefully provided by the Tunisian National Agency for Energy Conservation (ANME) to all participants from Tunis-Carthage International Airport through four (4) shuttle bus trips on arrival and departure days. **Please inform the organizers of your itinerary by October 30, 2014** by sending an e-mail with the Subject: "Itinerary information for transfer to Forum" to e-mail address: nagati_oussama@anme.nat.tn. (Schedule for the 4 trips will be communicated at a later date).

HEALTH AND MEDICAL SERVICES

As with undertaking any form of travel, adequate medical insurance is strongly advised. Tunisia has excellent medical facilities. For medical emergency services please call 190, which is 24 hour emergency response center. 190 is reachable from both mobile and land lines.

We suggest that participants bring any medications that they take regularly with them. If participants feel uncomfortable or ill during the forum, please do not hesitate to notify the organizers immediately.

FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS (where applicable)

For all participants, including those for whom the participation costs are born by the organizers, the organizers will not assume responsibility for any other expenditure, including the following:

- (i) All expenses in the home country incidental to travel abroad, including expenditures for visas, medical examination, inoculations and other miscellaneous items and internal travel to and from the airport of arrival and departure in the home country;
- (ii) Salary and related allowances for the participants during the period of the meeting;
- (iii) Costs incurred by participants in respect of travel, accident and medical insurance, medical bills or hospitalization fees in connection with attending the meeting;
- (iv) Compensation in the event of death or disability of participants in connection with attending the meeting;
- (v) Any loss of or damage to personal property of participants while attending the meeting or losses or damages claimed by third parties as a result of any negligence on the part of the participants;
- (vi) Any other expenses of personal nature, not directly related to the purpose of the meeting.