

Meeting of the Group of Experts on National Accounts

Palais des Nations 25 - 27 April 2023 Room XXIII, (Building E)

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1. General information

The meeting of the Group of Experts on National Accounts will be held in the Palais des Nations, in Geneva, Switzerland, starting at 9:30 CEST on 25 April 2023.

The working languages of the meeting are English, Russian and French. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in these languages.

Timetable, presentations and other documents for the meeting will be made available on the <u>Meeting of the Group of Experts on National Accounts | UNECE</u> webpage.

Participants are encouraged to download papers from the websites and, where feasible, use electronic devices to minimize paper use. Documents posted on the websites will not be distributed in the meeting rooms. Free Wi-Fi is available in all meeting rooms in the Palais des Nations.

Participants must register before 6 April 2023 by completing the online registration available on the meeting webpage.

2. How to enter the Palais des Nations / United Nations Building

The meeting will be held in room XXIII at the Palais des Nations. To enter Palais des Nations, all participants need to collect an access badge.

Please read the following instructions carefully as, due to current renovation work, the procedure for entering the Palais des Nations has changed temporarily.

To obtain an access badge to enter the Palais des Nations, you first should go to the UN Pass and ID Accreditation Services located at the Villa Les Feuillantines (please see the map):

Address: Avenue de la Paix 13, 1211 Genève 10 Working hours: from 08:00 to 16:45 on weekdays

Public transportation: Tram 15 or Buses: 5, 8, 11, 20, 22, F (stop "Nations")

Please bring your photo ID (e.g., passport, or national identity card for EU citizens) to present it at the UN Pass and ID Accreditation Services on the first day of the meeting. Your entry badge will last for the whole duration of the meeting.

It is advisable to arrive at the Villa Les Feuillantines 1-1.5 hours before the meeting to collect your badge and make your way to the meeting room. It may take time to find the Villa Les Feuillantines and there may be a long queue to obtain your badge, as well as to enter the Palais des Nations, due to other meetings starting on the same day. After entering the Palais des Nations grounds, you may need up to 15 minutes to walk to the meeting room.

Following issuance of your badge you may access Palais des Nations through the new Peace Gate, which is across the street from Villa Les Feuillantines. To enter you must show your badge to the UN Security staff.

For identification and security reasons, participants are requested to always wear their badges while inside the Palais des Nations.

We advise participants not to bring any large items of luggage to the Palais des Nations as such luggage is not permitted in the building. You may bring into the Palais only the type of luggage that is normally considered as carry-on luggage by airline companies e.g., computer bags, rucksacks and handbags.

3. How to get to the meeting room

Please see this map on how to get to meeting room XXIII (Building E) from the entrance of the Palais des Nations.

4. Lunch at the Palais des Nations

The UN cafeteria proposes a daily menu of CHF 12-16, or sandwiches. Payment in the cafeteria is accepted by credit cards and CHF cash.

5. Public transport in Geneva

5.1 Getting from the Airport to Geneva

Geneva Airport is approximately four kilometres from the city centre. The train is the most efficient way to get into the city centre. Follow the signs to the airport railway station from the arrivals area. All trains leaving from the airport stop at the central Geneva-Cornavin station. The journey takes six minutes.

Buses from the airport go to various parts of Geneva:

- Palais des Nations / United Nations: bus 5 stop Nations, bus 28 stop Appia
- Direction Geneva city centre: trolleybus 10 (Aéroport Rive), bus 5 (Aéroport Thônex-Vallard)

Taxis are available at the airport. They are metered, so costs will vary, but the journey from the airport to the city centre will usually cost around CHF 30.

5.2 Transport to and from the Palais des Nations

Geneva is a small city and easy to explore on foot. It takes about 25 minutes to walk from Cornavin, the Central Train Station, to the Place des Nations.

Alternatively, you can use public transport to move around the city. When checking-in at your hotel you should receive a free Geneva Transport Card, enabling you to use the entire Geneva public transport system free of charge throughout your stay.

Tram No. 15 goes from Cornavin to Place des Nations. From Cornavin take the tram in the direction 'Nations', which is also the name of the last stop where you should get off.

Buses 5, 8, 11, 20, 22, 28, F, V, and Z serve the Place des Nations (Peace Gate and Villa des Feuillantines) and stop close to the Nations gate. Buses 8, 20, 22, 28, F, V and Z also stop near the Pregny Gate at the bus stop named **Appia**.

Should you need to purchase public transport tickets, you may do so from the ticket machines at bus stops or by SMS (text 'tpg1' to 788 for a single ticket for the 'all Geneva' zone, zone 10, valid for one hour. For other SMS ticket options,

route maps and itineraries use the 'TPG Preview' app). The tickets are sold **only on bus F and 20**. Further information is available on the site of the Transports Publics Genevois (<u>www.tpg.ch/</u>).

Taxis are expensive but generally easy to find. Taxis are usually available around the clock. The following direct telephone number will ensure arrival within minutes: +44 (0)22 331 41 33, website http://www.taxi-phone.ch/.

6. Accommodation in Geneva

Participants and/or their offices are requested to make their own travel arrangements and hotel reservations.

It is advisable to book your hotel well in advance as available rooms may be limited due to other meetings and events taking place in Geneva at the same time. A list of hotels and other valuable information about Geneva are available on the following website: https://www.geneve.com/en/.

The following accommodation options are close to the Palais des Nations:

- The closest hotel to Palais des Nations is the 5-star Intercontinental.
- There are several 3- and 4-star hotels near Cornavin train station. These hotels are located about 10 minutes by bus or tram and 25-30 minutes on foot from the Palais des Nations.

7. Visa requirements for Switzerland

Participants travelling to Switzerland must have a valid passport and, if required, a visa¹. Prior to leaving their country of residence, participants are requested to make their own arrangements for obtaining a Schengen visa or any other travel permits that may be required for the entire journey, including countries of transit.

If necessary, the UNECE secretariat can provide an invitation letter to facilitate visa procedures. Such letters can be requested by contacting the secretariat at national.accounts@un.org.

8. Covid-19 measures in Switzerland

Participants are encouraged to check the latest situation with Covid-19 and requirements for testing, vaccinations and COVID certificates at the <u>website of the Swiss Federal Office of Public Health</u>.

Participants are not required to wear masks at the United Nation building. However, please do not come to the UN premises if you develop any COVID-like symptoms or test positive for the virus. Everyone is also encouraged to maintain other protective hygiene measures, e.g. frequent washing of hands and keeping physical distances.

9. Contact information

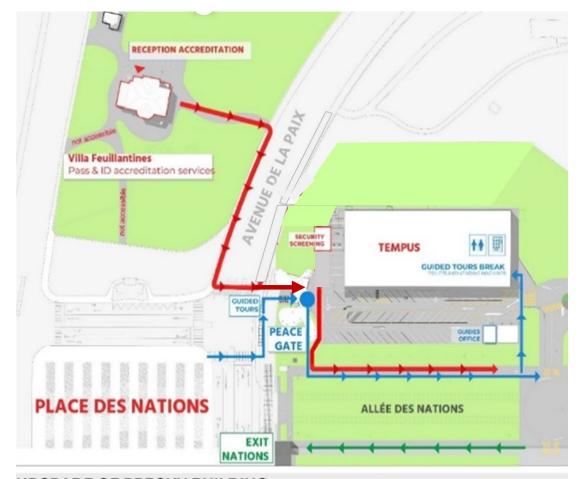
For any general queries with regards to the meeting, please write to national.accounts@un.org. You can also contact either Ms. Tihomira Dimova (e-mail: tihomira.dimova@un.org) or Mr. Rami Peltola (e-mail: rami.peltola@un.org).

In true emergencies, please dial the following emergency numbers: General emergency calls: 112. Ambulance: 144. Police: 117. Fire service: 118.

¹ Information on visa requirements according to the traveler's nationality can be found on the website of the Swiss government: https://www.eda.admin.ch/eda/en/fdfa/entry-switzerland-residence/visa-requirements-application-form.html.

10. Maps

Access from Villa Les Feuillantines to Palais des Nations



UPGRADE OF PREGNY BUILDING
Temporary relocation of Pass & ID Accreditation Services from September 2022 to May 2023

Getting to the meeting room (E Building, Room XXIII) from entrance (Peace Gate)

