



Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

Secretariat provided by the United Nations Environment Programme



TECHNICAL MEETING FOR THE ELABORATION OF A CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR MIGRATORY SHARKS and THIRD MEETING ON INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON MIGRATORY SHARKS UNDER THE CONVENTION ON MIGRATORY SPECIES

Manila, Philippines, 8-12 February 2010

FACT SHEET

I. MEETING VENUE

Address:

The Heritage Hotel Manila

Roxas Boulevard corner EDSA

Pasay City 1300

Metro Manila

Philippines

Tel: (+63 2) 854 8888

Fax: (+63 2) 854 8833

Email: dhai.caminos@heritagehotelmanila.com or guest@heritagehotelmanila.com

Website: www.heritagehotelmanila.com

II. SERVICES TO PARTICIPANTS

Telephone and telefax

Telecommunication services are available within the Heritage Hotel.

Internet services:

A limited number of computers will be available for free at the Hotel. Internet connections can be provided by the Hotel but participants would have to pay for this service.

Opening and registration

The Technical Meeting on the Elaboration of a Conservation and Management Plan for Migratory Sharks will be opened at 09:00 on 8 February 2010. Delegates are requested to arrive at 08:00 for registration and to pick up any meeting materials. The registration for the Technical Meeting and Third Meeting on International Cooperation on Migratory Sharks under CMS will remain open on the following days. Upon registration, participants will receive an identity badge valid for the duration of the meeting.

There is no registration fee for the participation in the meeting.

Official languages of the meetings

The working languages of the meetings will be English, French and Spanish. Simultaneous interpretation between these languages will be available during official sessions.

For reasons of economy, documents are printed in a limited number, and will not be distributed at the meeting. Delegates are kindly requested to bring their copy to the meeting and not to request additional copies.

Documents

All documentation for the meetings will be exclusively available from the CMS website:
< http://www.cms.int/bodies/meetings/regional/sharks/sharks_Mtg_Manila.htm >.

In order to minimize the environmental impact of the meeting and for reasons of economy, delegates are kindly reminded that they should bring their own copies of the pre-session documents for the meeting, including the Information documents. The organizers will provide only documents such as the agenda, list of participants and a limited number of other documents upon request.

Reception

A reception dinner is planned by the Host Country. Details will be announced during the meeting.

Field trip

A half-day field trip is planned by the Host Country for Wednesday morning February 10th. Please wear something comfortable (see below for information on weather).

Cafeteria and restaurants:

Most hotels have breakfast included in their package (Please see Annex I). Lunch and snacks for the duration of the Meetings are provided for all participants at Heritage Hotel Manila. Unless announced earlier, participants will have to make their own arrangements for dinner.

III. HOTEL ACCOMMODATION

Sponsored delegates: Accommodation will be booked and pre-paid by the organizers. Participants should not make their own booking.

Non-sponsored delegates: For accommodation in the Heritage Hotel, non-sponsored delegates can book through the Hotel Account Manager Dhai Caminos at dhai.caminos@heritagehotelmanila.com to obtain a special rate. With a view to obtaining the special rate, participants should indicate their participation in the meeting.

Non-sponsored delegates have also the option to use the service of the UNEP/CMS in-house travel agency, Westtours-Reisen GmbH.

Please note that the Westtours travel agency needs a valid credit card - copy of credit card and passport to be delivered in advance for flight payments. Hotel reservations will only be guaranteed when the delegate has forwarded his/her credit card. The room will then be paid for directly by the delegate to the hotel.

For any requests for service and details please contact the focal point of the Westtours travel agency:

Mr Hans Henn email:

Email: hans.henn@westtours.de

Tel: +49 (0)228 815 09-63

Fax: +49 (0)228 815 09-66

Westtours-Reisen GmbH

United Nations Premises

Hermann-Ehlers-Str. 10 D – 53113, Bonn

Internet: www.westtours.de

For more information about hotels in the vicinity of the Meeting venue and their location see **Annex I** and **Annex II**.

IV. AIRPORT INFORMATION

Please note that there are two (2) international air terminals serving international air travellers coming into Manila. If you are coming in via Philippine Airlines or Air Philippines you would be using the Ninoy Aquino International Airport Terminal II or what is also called Centennial Terminal. If you are flying with other airlines, you will be arriving at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport Terminal I.

The **Ninoy Aquino International Airport Terminals I and II** are both a 20-minute drive to the Meeting venue during non-peak hours.

Budget airlines from East and Southeast Asia also operate from the **Diosdado Macapagal International Airport** in Clark, Pampanga. Participants who choose this route should inform the Secretariat beforehand.

Airport Information and Help Desks: Airport information desks are open for all flights. Tourist information counters are available in Arrivals and Departures areas.

Airport Tax: A Departure Tax or Terminal Fee of PhP750 (approximately US\$13 to US\$15) is charged for all destinations from Ninoy Aquino International Airport Terminals I and II.

V. AIRPORT TRANSFER

The Host Country will make every effort to meet and bring participants to their hotels. A Meeting point exclusive to participants will be set up at the airport to provide information regarding the shuttle service in both terminals. If for some unforeseen circumstance you could not be met, please book a coupon taxi or a pre-paid taxi at one of the taxi desks before leaving the airport. The taxi fare to your hotel should be about 300 Philippine pesos or about US\$6.50. **Flagging a taxi on the road outside the airport is not advisable.** The journey time to the Heritage Hotel Manila should be about 20 minutes during non-peak hours.

VI. VISAS

Guidelines on the Entry of Temporary Visitors to the Philippines

Nationals from countries listed below who are travelling to the Philippines for business and tourism purposes are allowed to enter the Philippines without visas for a stay not exceeding twenty-one (21) days, provided they hold valid tickets for their return journey to port of origin or next port of destination and their passports valid for a period of at least six (6) months beyond the contemplated period of stay. However, Immigration Officers at ports of entry may exercise their discretion to admit holders of passports valid for at least sixty (60) days beyond the intended period of stay:

Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil*, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cote d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Gibraltar, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel*, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia,

Senegal, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Vietnam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

All nationals from other countries do require a visa to enter the Philippines.

Note: All tourists wishing to stay longer than 21 days need a visa.

The following are allowed to enter the Philippines without a visa for a stay not exceeding fifty-nine (59) days:

- Holders of Brazilian passports; and
- Holders of Israeli passports.

The following are allowed to enter the Philippines without a visa for a stay not exceeding seven (7) days:

- Holders of Hong Kong Special Administrative (SAR) passports
- Holders of British National Overseas (BNO) passports
- Holders of Portuguese Passports issued in Macao
- Holders of Macao Special Administrative Region (SAR) passports

Important Note:

Nationals who are subject of deportation/blacklist orders of the Department and the Bureau of Immigration shall not be admitted to the Philippines. Further inquiries may be addressed to the Visa Division (Telephone numbers: 834-4854, 834-3707, and 834-4810), Department of Foreign Affairs, 2330 Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City or to any Philippine Embassy or Consulate abroad.

The following are the minimum requirements in applying for a temporary visitor's visa:

Passport/Travel Document Valid for at least six (6) months beyond the intended period of stay in the Philippines;

- Duly Accomplished Visa application forms;
- Passport Photos (2 pieces);
- Proof of bona fide status as tourist or businessman;
- Confirmed tickets for return or onward journey to the next port of destination; and
- Payment of Visa Fees.

Delegates obliged to request visas for the Philippines and other transiting points should take into account that formalities may take some time, so requests should be made well in advance.

To facilitate any other visa request, the Secretariat will send you a letter upon request, where we will confirm your participation as delegate in a UN conference. Please send your request for the letter to: secretariat@cms.int.

VII. IMMIGRATION FORMALITIES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS

Arrival procedures:

All arriving passengers are also required to fill out an Arrival Card and Customs Declaration to be admitted to the Philippines. These cards, which are attached to each other, are distributed on board the airplane and should be filled up before disembarking to avoid any delay. The Arrival Card is presented to the Immigration agent together with the passport.

Baggage Pick-up

Baggage may be picked from your flight's designated carousel in the baggage-claim area. After picking up your baggage, please proceed to Customs. The Customs Declaration is surrendered to an agent who will

collect it as you leave the Customs area and enter the Arrival lobby. Please be ready with your baggage claim tag as you enter the Arrival lobby. This will be checked against the tag attached to your baggage.

VIII. OTHER PRACTICAL INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

Time Zone

The standard time zone is GMT +8 hours.

Weather

Manila features a tropical and dry climate that borders on a tropical monsoon climate. Manila lies entirely within the tropics. Its proximity to the equator means that the temperature range is very small, rarely going lower than 20°C or higher than 38°C. However, humidity levels are usually very high which makes it feel much warmer. It has relatively short dry season from January through April. February is cooler than the rest of the year, average high 30°C/86°F and average low 21°C/70°F. Rains are not expected but prepare for it anyway. It is advisable to wear light cool clothes especially outside the Meeting venue and your hotel.

Currency

The official currency of the Philippines is peso (or piso) - Internationally abbreviated to PHP, which is divided into 100 centavos (or centimo). Coins are available in denominations of 1, 5, 10 and 25 centavos and 1 and 5 pesos. Bank notes in denominations of 10, 20, 50, 100, 200, 500 and 1000 pesos.

Money Exchange:

It is best to exchange foreign currencies to Philippine pesos at the airport upon arrival. Hotels also offer exchange facilities but at a different rate.

Rates as at 01 January 2010 are approximately:

1 United States dollar = 46.57 Philippine pesos

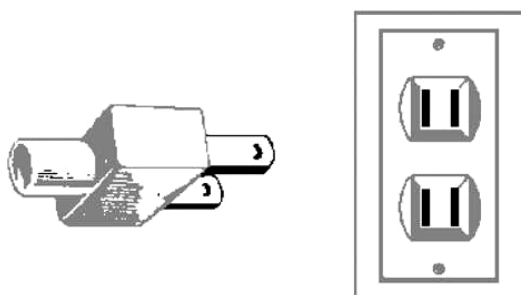
1 Euro = 66.394 Philippine pesos

Banking services:

Banks are within easy reach nearby. Transport to a bank can be arranged through the hotel. Most banks in the country are open between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. from Monday to Friday.

Voltage and type of plugs/pins:

Voltage and frequency in Philippines are 220 – 240 volts/ 60 Hz.



ANNEX I - LIST OF HOTELS

5-Star Hotels	
<p>Hotel Intercontinental Manila Ayala Avenue, Makati City Superior Single –(Local) – PhP5,500.00 +++ Superior Single –(Foreign)- PhP7,700+++ * Inclusive of buffet breakfast for 2</p>	<p>Mandarin Oriental Hotel 1226 Makati Avenue, Makati City Superior Single PhP12,000.00+++ *Inclusive of buffet breakfast</p>
<p>Makati Shangri-La Manila 1226 Makati Avenue, Makati City Superior Single –(Foreign) PhP11,000.00+++ Superior Single – (Local) PhP 8,500.00+++ *Inclusive of buffet breakfast</p>	<p>Manila Peninsula Hotel 1226 Corner Ayala Avenue, and Makati Avenue, Makati City Superior Single/Double – PhP12,000.00+++ *No Breakfast</p>
<p>The Heritage Hotel Manila Roxas Boulevard, corner, EDSA Extension, Pasay City De Luxe Single/ Double – Php4,500.00 *Rates are net and inclusive of buffet breakfast</p>	<p>Dusit Thani Hotel 1223 Ayala Ave., Makati City Single de Luxe – PhP7,356.00net *Rates are net and inclusive of buffet breakfast</p>
3-Star Hotels	
<p>City Garden Hotel 7870 Makati Ave., Makati City Superior Single Room – PhP 2,900.00 *Rates are net and inclusive of buffet breakfast</p>	<p>Herald Suites 2168 Chino Roces Avenue, Makati Standard Single/Double- (Foreign) \$90++ (Local) PhP 4,000.00net *Inclusive of breakfast for 2</p>
<p>Ascott Makati Hotel Glorietta IV, Ayala Center Makati City, Standard Single – PhP10,5000.00net *Rates are net and inclusive of buffet breakfast for 2</p>	<p>Oxford Suites Durban Cor., P. Burgos Street Makati City Single/Double PhP 3,600.00net *Inclusive of buffet breakfast</p>
<p>The A.Venue Hotel Suite 7829 Makati Avenue, Makati City Superior Single –PhP 6,500.00net *Inclusive of buffet breakfast</p>	<p>Salcedo Suites 116-LPL. Manor Bldg. L.P. Le Viste St., Salcedo Village Makati City Single Room PhP 1,813.00.00net *No breakfast</p>
<p>Great Eastern Hotel 7842 Makati Avenue, Makati City Superior Single –Php1,500.00net *Rates are net and no breakfast *Buffet breakfast cost PhP198.00</p>	

ANNEX II – MAP OF HOTELS

