

Information for participants

14th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)

12-17 February 2024

Silk Road Samarkand Congress Centre,
Samarkand, Uzbekistan



CONVENTION ON MIGRATORY SPECIES

COP 14

SAMARKAND

UZBEKISTAN 12-17 FEBRUARY 2024

Table of Contents

ARRIVAL AT SAMARKAND INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	4
ARRIVAL AT TASHKENT INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	5
PASSPORT AND VISA REQUIREMENTS.....	5
ACCOMMODATION AND TRAVEL.....	8
DAILY TRANSPORT FROM THE HOTEL TO CONFERENCE VENUE:	10
VACCINATIONS.....	10
TRAVEL AND MEDICAL INSURANCE	11
WEATHER.....	12
CURRENCY AND USE OF CREDIT CARDS	12
OFFICIAL LANGUAGE IN UZBEKISTAN	12
ELECTRICAL CURRENT AND POWER SOCKET TYPE.....	12
TIME ZONE.....	13
SAFETY AND SECURITY	13
CODE OF CONDUCT	13
SERVICES FOR PARTICIPANTS AT THE CONFERENCE VENUE.....	13
On-site registration.....	13
List of delegations	14
Documents	14
Working languages of the meeting.....	14
Internet and photocopying facilities	14
MEETING SCHEDULE AND EVENTS ON THE MARGINS	14
Official opening	14
High-Level Segment	15
Champion Night.....	15
Exhibitions	15
Side events.....	15
Time and room allocation.....	16
Technical specifications	16
Catering	16
Shipping of materials for exhibitions and side events	16
Conference excursions.....	17
Tourist information	17

ABOUT UZBEKISTAN AND SAMARKAND

Uzbekistan

Uzbekistan is located in Central Asia, which comprises of Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan. It is one of only two countries in the world that is double landlocked, meaning that the countries it borders also do not have territory connected to an ocean. Uzbekistan has a varied landscape that includes a rolling sandy desert, mountains along the border with Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan, and the Aral Sea in the west. It holds a spellbinding array of architecture and ancient sites in cities such as Khiva, Samarkand and Bukhara, which were among the world's busiest and most important trading centres for millennia and located in the epicenter of the Silk Road. Uzbekistan's glittering, tiled madrasas, towering minarets and sky-blue domes are among some of the most recognizable and beautiful Islamic architecture in the world. Its capital and largest city is Tashkent.

Samarkand

Samarkand is a city in southeastern Uzbekistan and is one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in Central Asia. There is evidence of human activity from the late Palaeolithic Era. Although there is no definitive evidence of when Samarkand was founded, several theories propose that it was established between the 8th and 7th centuries BCE. Prospering from its location on the Silk Road between China, Persia and Europe, at times Samarkand was one of the largest cities of Central Asia. Modern Samarkand is divided into two parts: the old city, and the new city which was developed during the last 150 years. The old city contains historical monuments, shops and private houses; the new city houses administrative buildings along with cultural centres and educational institutions.

VENUE

The 14th Conference of the Parties to CMS will be held at the Silk Road Congress Center in Samarkand, Uzbekistan from 12 to 17 February 2024. Associated meetings will take place on 11 February.

Silk Road Samarkand Congress Center

Address: Rowing Canal, Konigil Massif, Samarkand, Uzbekistan

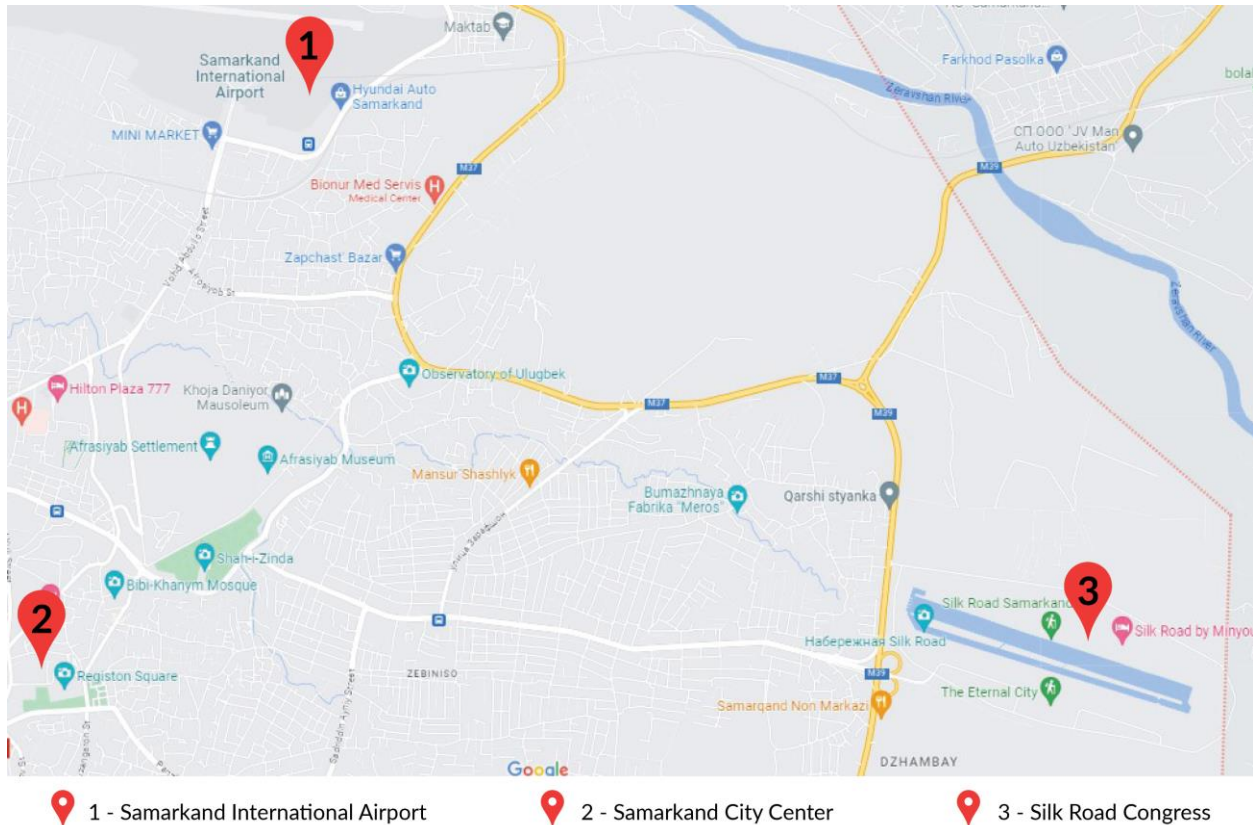
Telephone: +998 557055555

Email: info@silkroad-samarkand.com

Website: <https://www.silkroad-samarkand.com/>

ARRIVAL AT SAMARKAND INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Samarkand airport (**SKD**), is an international airport serving Samarkand and it is the second busiest in Uzbekistan (after Tashkent). It welcomes over 500,000 passengers a year. The airport is located in the northern part of the city. It is relatively small compared with other international airports.



The following international airlines go to Samarkand Airport:

Uzbekistan Airways, Turkish Airlines, FlyDubai, Wizz Air Abu Dhabi, Jazeera Airways, Fly Arystan and Azerbaijan Airways.

Arriving participants may go to the CMS COP14 information desk for assistance inside the terminal. Bus transport to certain locations may be provided by the host government – to be confirmed.

The distance between the airport (SKD) and Samarkand is 6 km. Many of the major hotels offer a shuttle service, which you can book in advance. For the cost of hotel transport, please consult your hotel.

Alternatively, participants may take a taxi. Please take only official, metered or pre-booked taxis. Taxis costs about UZS 20,000 and take less than 20 minutes.

ARRIVAL AT TASHKENT INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Tashkent airport (**TAS**) is the main international airport of Uzbekistan and the third busiest airport in Central Asia (after Almaty International Airport and Astana International Airport in Kazakhstan). It is located 12 km (7.5 mi) from the centre of Tashkent.

The following international airlines go to Tashkent Airport:

Uzbekistan Airways, Turkish Airlines, FlyDubai, Wizz Air Abu Dhabi, Jazeera Airways, Fly Arystan, Azerbaijan Airways, Air Astana, Aeroflot, Air Arabia, Asiana Airlines, China Southern Airlines, Korean Air, LOT Polish Airlines, Malaysia Airlines and Qatar Airways.

Transfer to Samarkand is possible either by a domestic flight, the high-speed bullet train (2.5 hours), the slow train (4 hours) or a bus (5 hours).

Arriving participants may go to the CMS COP14 information desk for assistance inside the terminal.

PASSPORT AND VISA REQUIREMENTS

Citizens of the following countries and territories, marked in **yellow**, that hold ordinary passports, will be able to enter Uzbekistan, visa-free (number of days are noted next to the country name). All citizens of the European Union will be able to enter Uzbekistan without a visa and stay up to 30 days.

Citizens of the countries marked in **blue** can apply for an e-visa here: <https://e-visa.gov.uz/main>
Or apply for a tourist visa in one of the Diplomatic Missions of Uzbekistan.

More information and instructions can be found here: <https://e-visa.gov.uz/what-you-need-to-know>

Countries marked in **green** will need to apply for a visa at an Uzbek Diplomatic Mission. If there is no Uzbek Diplomatic Mission in your country, please contact the Secretariat. In these cases, the host has offered to help with a visa on arrival.

Afghanistan	Albania	Algeria	Andorra (30 days)	Angola	Antigua and Barbuda (30 days)
Argentina (30 days)	Armenia (60 days)	Australia (30 days)	Azerbaijan (60 days)	Bahamas (30 days)	Bahrain
Bangladesh	Barbados (30 days)	Belarus (60 days)	Belize (30 days)	Benin	Bhutan
Bolivia	Bosnia and Herzegovina (30 days)	Botswana	Brazil (30 days)	Brunei (30 days)	Burkina Faso
Burundi	Cabo Verde	Cambodia	Cameroon	Canada (30 days)	Central African Republic
Chad	Chile (30 days)	China (10 days)	Colombia	Comoros	Congo (Brazzaville)
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Cook Islands	Costa Rica (30 days)	Côte d'Ivoire	Cuba (30 days)	Djibouti
Dominica (30 days)	Dominican Republic (30 days)	Ecuador	Egypt	El Salvador (30 days)	Equatorial Guinea
Eritrea	Eswatini	Ethiopia	European Union (all countries) (30 days)	Fiji	Gabon
Gambia	Georgia (60 days)	Ghana	Grenada (30 days)	Guatemala (30 days)	Guinea
Guinea-Bissau	Guyana	Haiti	Honduras (30 days)	Iceland (30 days)	India
Indonesia (30 days)	Iran	Iraq	Israel (30 days)	Jamaica (30 days)	Japan (30 days)
Jordan	Kazakhstan (60 days)	Kenya	Kiribati	Kuwait (10 days)	Kyrgyzstan (60 days)
Laos	Lebanon	Lesotho	Liberia	Libya	Liechtenstein (30 days)
Madagascar	Malawi	Malaysia (30 days)	Maldives	Mali	Marshall Islands
Mauritania	Mauritius	Mexico (30 days)	Micronesia	Moldova (60 days)	Monaco (30 days)

Mongolia (30 days)	Montenegro (30 days)	Morocco	Mozambique	Myanmar	Namibia
Nauru	Nepal	New Zealand (30 days)	Nicaragua (30 days)	Niger	Nigeria
Niue	North Korea	North Macedonia	Norway (30 days)	Oman	Pakistan
Palau	Panama (30 days)	Papua New Guinea	Paraguay	Peru	Philippines
Qatar (30 days)	Republic of Korea (30 days)	Russian Federation (60 days)	Rwanda	Saint Kitts and Nevis (30 days)	Saint Lucia (30 days)
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (30 days)	Samoa	San Marino (30 days)	São Tomé and Príncipe	Saudi Arabia (30 days)	Senegal
Serbia (30 days)	Seychelles	Sierra Leone	Singapore (30 days)	Solomon Islands	Somalia
South Africa	South Sudan	Sri Lanka	Sudan	Suriname	Switzerland (30 days)
Syria	Tajikistan (30 days)	Tanzania	Thailand	Timor- Leste	Togo
Tonga	Trinidad and Tobago (30 days)	Tunisia	Türkiye (30 days)	Turkmenistan	Tuvalu
Uganda	Ukraine (60 days)	United Arab Emirates (30 days)	United Kingdom (30 days)	Uruguay	USA
Vanuatu	Vatican (30 days)	Venezuela	Vietnam	Yemen	Zambia
Zimbabwe					

Correct at time of compilation of information. 14.08.2023

Applying for an Uzbek visa will require that the applicant's passport be valid for six months beyond the applicant's date of departure. The passport must have two blank visa pages.

More information: <https://www.mfa.uz/en/pages/visa-republic-uzb>

ACCOMMODATION AND TRAVEL

Hotel rooms for delegates

Delegates will make their own reservation by guaranteeing their reservation with their own credit card and paying directly to the hotel. Kindly refer to the cancellation conditions.

The host has negotiated special room rates with some designated hotels for participants of COP14. Participants are invited to reserve their accommodation by 20 December 2023 at the latest. After this date, blocked rooms will be released for general booking by visitors not attending COP14.

The hotels listed below are offering special rates for a limited number of rooms for participants, VAT and breakfast included.

You can easily make your accommodation booking through the Silkroad Samarkand website:

<https://www.silkroad-samarkand.com/>

Using the promocode: COP14

For any inquires or more information, please contact the Reservation Department:

reservations@silkroad-samarkand.com or call on: +998 55 705 55

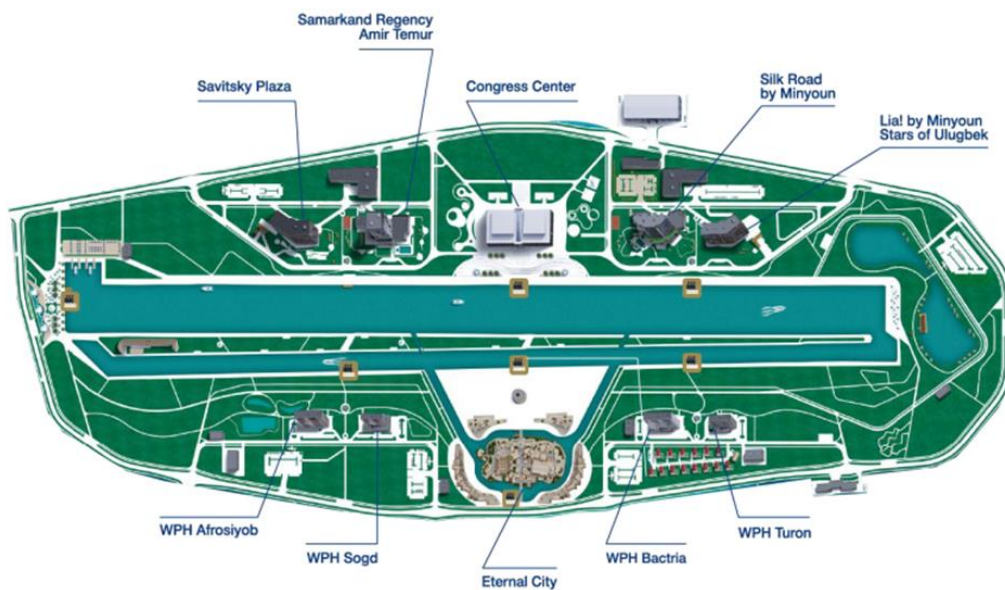
CMS COP14 RECOMMENDED HOTELS

Hotels located at the Samarkand Touristic Center

Hotel	Room Type	SQM	Nightly rate in EUR	Distance from the venue
Wellness Park Hotel Sogd ***	Standard room	24	88€	2.9 km
	Standard room with canal view	24	93€	2.9 km
	Standard room with a mini kitchen	30	115€	2.9 km
	Suite	43	140€	2.9 km
Wellness Park Hotel Turon***	Standard room	24	88€	2.6 km
	Standard room with canal view	24	93€	2.6 km
	Standard room with a mini kitchen	30	115€	2.6 km
	Suite	41	140€	2.6 km
Wellness Park Hotel Bactria ***	Standard room	24	88€	2.8 km
	Standard room with canal view	24	93€	2.8 km
	Standard room with a mini kitchen	30	115€	2.8 km
	Suite	55	140€	2.8 km

Hotel	Room Type	SQM	Nightly rate in EUR	Distance from the venue
Samarkand Regency Amir Temur *****	Superior room	32	250€	400 m
	Superior Room with canal view	32	255€	400 m
	Platinum Suite	60	510€	400 m
	Diamond suite	72	850€	400 m
Silk Road by Minyoun *****	Standard room	39	144€	450 m
	Junior suite	67	245€	450 m
	Suite	79	360€	450 m
	Executive suite	86	504€	450 m
Savitsky Plaza ****	Standard room with a balcony and canal view	32	116€	650 m
	Junior Suite	60	140€	650 m
	Suite	70	182€	650 m
Lia! by Minyoun Stars of Ulugbek ****	Standard room	33	116€	600 m
	Junior suite	61	140€	600 m
	Suite	69	151€	600 m
	Executive suite	80	175€	600 m
Wellness Park Hotel Afrosiyob***	Standard room	24	88€	2.7 km
	Standard room with canal view	24	93€	2.7 km
	Standard room with a mini kitchen	30	115€	2.7 km
	Suite	51	140€	2.7 km

Satellite View of Samarkand Touristic Center



HOTEL SECURITY:

Hotels for delegates have been carefully selected. However, delegates are advised:

- Never give out your room number or invite strangers to your room.
- Never leave valuable property unattended in your rooms, meeting rooms, restaurants, swimming pool area, etc.
- Always use the safety lock on the door, even during the daytime.
- Always use the room safe for valuables or use lockable storage for valuables at the front desk, but make sure they issue a receipt for your items.

DAILY TRANSPORT FROM THE HOTEL TO CONFERENCE VENUE:

Daily group transport from hotel to conference venue and vice versa shall be provided for free at designated pick-up points/stations and time intervals at or near the recommended hotels. The schedule of daily group transport services will be posted in the lobby of the recommended hotels and on the CMS COP14 website.

VACCINATIONS

Required & recommended vaccinations

The only vaccine required by international regulations is **yellow fever**. Proof of vaccination will only be required if you have visited a country in the yellow-fever zone within the six days prior to entering Uzbekistan.

The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends the following vaccinations for travellers to Uzbekistan:

Adult diphtheria and tetanus Single booster recommended if none has been given in the previous 10 years. Side effects include a sore arm and fever.

Hepatitis A Provides almost 100 per cent protection for up to a year; a booster after 12 months provides at least another 20 years' protection. Mild side effects such as headache and a sore arm occur in 5 to 10 per cent of people.

Hepatitis B Now considered routine for most travellers. Given as three shots over six months. A rapid schedule is also available, as is a combined vaccination with hepatitis A. Side effects are

mild and uncommon, usually a headache and a sore arm. Lifetime protection occurs in 95 per cent of people.

Measles, mumps and rubella Two doses of MMR required unless you have had the diseases. Occasionally a rash and flu-like illness can develop a week after receiving the vaccine. Many young adults require a booster.

Polio Only one booster is required as an adult for lifetime protection.

Typhoid Recommended unless your trip is less than a week. The vaccine offers around 70 per cent protection, lasts for two to three years and comes as a single shot. Tablets are also available; however, the injection is usually recommended as it has fewer side effects. A sore arm and fever may occur.

Varicella If you have not had chickenpox, discuss this vaccination with your doctor.

COVID-19 Recommended for all.

The following are recommended only for long-term travellers (more than one month):

Meningitis Single injection. There are two types of vaccination: the quadrivalent vaccine gives two to three years' protection; meningitis group C vaccine gives around 10 years' protection. Recommended for long-term travellers aged under 25.

Rabies Three injections in all. A booster after one year will then provide 10 years' protection. Side effects are rare – occasionally a headache and sore arm.

Tuberculosis Adult long-term travellers are usually recommended to have a TB skin test before and after travel, rather than a vaccination. Only one vaccine is given in a lifetime.

TRAVEL AND MEDICAL INSURANCE

All participants travelling are recommended to have valid travel and medical insurance covering the period of stay in Uzbekistan.

The CMS Secretariat disclaims all responsibility for medical, accident and travel insurance, for compensation for death or disability, for loss of or damage to personal property and for any other loss that may be incurred during travel time or the period of participation. It is therefore strongly recommended that, prior to departure, participants secure international insurance for the period of participation.

WEATHER

The average high temperature in Samarkand in February is 3.1°C (37.58°F). The average low temperature goes down to around -6.6°C (20.12°F)

Rainfall during February is moderate with an average of 78mm (3.1 inches). There are generally around 11 snowy days. The sun will show itself now and again, with 131 hours of sunshine during the entire month.

CURRENCY AND USE OF CREDIT CARDS

The national currency of Uzbekistan is sum (also som, soum). This currency has been in circulation in Uzbekistan since 1994 and today is the only means of payment. There are banknotes of the following value: 1,000, 2,000, 5,000, 10,000, 20,000, 50,000, 100,000 and 200,000 sum. All the banknotes differ in colour. The notes mainly depict cultural and historic monuments of Uzbekistan.

It is best to arrive with some USD, as it can be difficult to withdraw cash at ATMs, especially with a Mastercard. Visa cards are far more common. Credit cards are accepted by most hotels and restaurants in Uzbekistan. **Please** note that you should notify your bank that you are going to use your credit card in Uzbekistan so that they do not block it.

The exchange rate as of August 2023 is 1 US dollar = 11,671.30 UZS.

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE IN UZBEKISTAN

The official language of Uzbekistan is the Uzbek language. However, many other languages are spoken in the country, including several other Turkic languages, Tajik and Russian.

ELECTRICAL CURRENT AND POWER SOCKET TYPE

In Uzbekistan the power plug sockets are of type C and F. The standard voltage is 220 V and the frequency is 50 Hz. Please see pictures below.



TIME ZONE

Uzbekistan Time (UZT) is the time observed throughout Uzbekistan, with a time offset of Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) +05:00. Uzbekistan does not observe daylight saving time (DST) or other seasonal adjustments.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

Emergency and Fire service – 101,1050

Healthcare emergency – 103

Emergency gas service – 104

CODE OF CONDUCT

All participants are expected to behave with integrity and respect towards all other persons attending or involved with the meeting. Discrimination, harassment, including sexual harassment, abuse of authority, and sexual abuse and exploitation will not be tolerated at the meeting. Participants are invited to carefully review the [Code of Conduct](#) for Events Organized under CMS, which will apply to the meeting.

SERVICES FOR PARTICIPANTS AT THE CONFERENCE VENUE

On-site registration

On-site registration will start on 10 February 2024 at 15:30 and run throughout the meeting. Participants are encouraged to register as early as possible in order to avoid congestion right before the opening of the Conference of the Parties, which will take place on 12 February.

Throughout COP14, strict security measures will be observed, and the conference ID should be visible at all times and is mandatory for admission to the conference venue as well as to the various meeting rooms. A lost ID should immediately be reported to the CMS Secretariat.

List of delegations

A list of delegations attending the COP will be made available on the [CMS website](#) under “information documents”, as well as distributed during the meeting. Participants not wishing their full coordinates to appear on the list of participants should notify the Secretariat staff at the registration desk.

Documents

In order to minimize the environmental impact of the meeting and for reasons of economy, pre-session documents for the meeting, including the information documents, can be downloaded from the [CMS website](#). The Secretariat will not print documents for delegates at the meeting.

Working languages of the meeting

The meeting will be conducted in English, French and Spanish, with simultaneous interpretation during plenary sessions.

Internet and photocopying facilities

Wireless Internet (Wi-Fi) will be available everywhere on the meeting premises. Limited printing and photocopying facilities will also be at the disposal of the meeting participants.

MEETING SCHEDULE AND EVENTS ON THE MARGINS

Official opening

The official opening of the COP will take place at the conference venue at 09.00 on Monday, 12 February 2024. The formal sessions of the meeting will be held daily from 09.00. to 12:30 and from 15.00 to 18.45 at the conference venue. These times may change.

High-Level Segment

The High-Level Segment, which will be held in the afternoon of 11 February, will feature a special dialogue, involving Ministers and other dignitaries from around the world, such as executives of international organizations and other leaders.

The event is open to all COP participants. English, French and Spanish interpretation will be provided.

More information about the High-Level Segment will be made available in due course on the CMS website.

Champion Night

An Award Ceremony of the Migratory Species Champion Programme will take place on the evening of 11 February, and will be followed by a reception.

The event is open to all COP participants.

More information about the Champion Night will be made available on the CMS website.

Exhibitions

The Expo Center, located a few minutes on foot from the venue, offers a space for international and national exhibitions throughout the week. All COP14 participants are encouraged to present their work or any related issues relevant to the objectives of the Convention on Migratory Species and to the COP14 Agenda in the form of an exhibit.

For more information, please consult the dedicated website: [COP14](#)

Side events

Parties, observers and other entities participating in COP14 are encouraged to contribute actively to the success of the meeting by showcasing their work or any related issue of interest in the form of a side event. Initiatives and projects to be presented should be relevant to the objectives of the Convention and preferably to the items on the COP agenda.

The deadline for submitting proposals for side events is 30 September 2023.

Proposals can be submitted here: <https://meetings.cms.int/meetings/SideEvents/registration>

Please find more information about side events here: [COP14](#)

Time and room allocation

Side event space will be provided free of charge at the venue throughout the conference period. The Secretariat will allocate the accepted applications after the indicated deadline and will issue confirmation to organizers approximately one month prior to the conference. The Secretariat may have to decline or combine some of the applications due to space constraints.

Side events are typically scheduled at lunch time or in the evening and have a maximum duration of one hour to avoid overlap with important Working Groups and Committee meetings.

The following criteria will be taken into consideration for the allocation of side events:

1. Relevance to the Convention's work and COP agenda;
2. Feasibility and preference for certain dates in accordance with the COP programme;
3. Avoidance of thematic overlaps in each time slot;
4. The expected level of participation and room size;
5. Order of request (when the registration is received).

It should be noted that side events could be rescheduled in the interest of the official sessions of the meeting.

Technical specifications

Side event rooms are normally equipped with a computer, a projector, a screen, Internet access and power sockets. No interpretation for side events will be provided.

Organizers of side events are free to bring their own equipment, including technical items, at their own risk.

Catering

Organizers of side events might wish to offer food and drinks. Catering for the side event may be provided only by the official caterer for the venue. Contact details will be posted on the [CMS website](#) as soon as they become available.

Shipping of materials for exhibitions and side events

Organizers of exhibitions and side events that wish to ship items (information and display materials and/or equipment) to the conference venue may contact the designated person. Contact details will be posted on the CMS website as soon as they become available. Organizers of exhibits and side events will be responsible for the transport, setting up and dismantling of the materials and their customs clearance.

Conference excursions

Conference excursions organized by the Government of Uzbekistan will take place in the vicinity of Samarkand on 16 February 2024. Participants will be able to choose between various options. We recommend bringing outdoor shoes and suitable clothes.

Tourist information

Information about Uzbekistan (e.g., excursions, museums, activities) will be provided at the information desk in the venue. Further information, including on tour operators, is also available on the following websites:

<https://uzbekistan.travel/en/>

<https://uzbektourism.uz/en>

<https://uzbekistan.travel/en/i/samarkand/>