

68th meeting of the UNWTO Regional Commission for the Americas and Seminar on Sustainable Investment: A Strategy towards Competitiveness

Quito, Ecuador
27- 28 June 2023

CAM/68/NI
Madrid, 3 May 2023
Original: Spanish

INFORMATION NOTE

1. PLACE AND DATES

The 68th Meeting of the UNWTO Regional Commission for the Americas (CAM) and the Seminar on Sustainable Investments: A Strategy towards Competitiveness will take place in the city of the Metropolitan District of Quito, on 27 and 28 June 2023.

Venue of the meetings

Hotel Swissotel Quito

Address: Av. 12 de octubre 1820 y Luis Cordero

Telephone: +593 2 393 5200

Website: <https://www.swissotel.com/>

2. REGISTRATION

The participation form for both events is available on the meeting's [website](#).

Participants are requested to complete the form, specifying their itinerary, before **15 June 2023**. For any questions or requests for additional information, please contact:

World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)

Regional Department for the Americas

Tel.: +34 91 567 81 00

E-mail: rdam@unwto.org

Web: www.unwto.org

3. GUIDELINES FOR ENTERING CONTINENTAL ECUADOR BY AIR

IMMIGRATION GUIDELINES

- Travel document (passport) or identification document valid for at least 6 months prior to entering the country.
- Record of entry or exit in format defined by the immigration control authority.



- Valid visa for cases established by law or the human mobility authority, which will be granted free of charge by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility of Ecuador, upon request made to the Ministry of Tourism of Ecuador. For more information: <https://www.ministeriodegobierno.gob.ec/requisitos-para-ingresar-a-ecuador/>
- The immigration control officer must verify the immigration status claimed by the foreign person at the time of presentation at the official immigration control point.

HEALTH GUIDELINES

The Resolution of the Emergency Operations Committee (National EOC), of Thursday, 16 February 2023, established the following:

- The requirement of the Traveller's Health Declaration form is eliminated, except for those people who arrive in Ecuador and present symptoms such as raised temperature, cough, malaise, loss of smell, loss of taste, skin rashes, who must fill out the document, available at the following link: <https://declaracionsalud-viajero.msp.gob.ec/>
- If the physical form is required, it will be available upon arrival at the airport or border post and must be deposited in the box intended for it.
- The National EOC also recommends the voluntary use of a mask in public and air transport.
- It is important to remember that, at this date, the Ministry of Public Health does not require travellers to present a COVID-19 vaccination card or certificate, or the negative result of the PCR or antigen test.

CUSTOMS GUIDELINES

Upon passing through customs control, the corresponding allowances will be applied to the personal luggage of the arriving person, and where appropriate, also the diplomatic franchises that may be applicable.

4. RECEPTION AND FACILITIES

AIRPORT

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility in coordination with the Ministry of Tourism have arranged personnel for the reception of the authorities of the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), authorities of member countries with their respective delegations and international guests at the Mariscal Sucre International Airport in Quito.

In order to provide the corresponding protocolary facilities and assistance, it would be necessary for the participants' itineraries to be specified in the [registration form](#), before **15 June 2023**.

HOTELS

Participants of the 68th meeting of the UNWTO Regional Commission for the Americas (CAM) and the Seminar will be able to benefit from preferential rates at the hotels selected for the event:

HOTELSWISSOTEL QUITO – VENUE OF THE MEETINGS

Address: Av. 12 de octubre 1820 y Luis Cordero

Contact: Wendy Huaillas, Sales Manager

Bookings: <https://www.swissotelquito.com/67va-reunion-omt-cam>

HOTEL NH COLLECTION ROYAL QUITO

Address: Cordero 444 – Av. 12 de octubre

Contact: Ximena Rodríguez, Properties and Regional Sales Manager

Bookings: xr.rodriguez@nh-hotels.com

HOTEL HILTON COLÓN

Address: Amazonas N 1914 y Av. Patria

Contact: María Alexandra Martínez

Bookings: alexandra.martinez@hiltoncolon.com



TRANSPORT

Complimentary transportation service has been organized for participants of the 68th meeting of the UNWTO Regional Commission for the Americas and panellists of the Seminar on Sustainable Investments: A Strategy towards Competitiveness. It includes transfers between the Mariscal Sucre International Airport in Quito and the selected hotels indicated in this information note, both on arrival and departure.

In order to provide this service, it would be necessary for the itineraries to be specified in the [registration form](#), before **15 June 2023**.

5. REGISTRATION AND ACCREDITATION BADGES

Access to the areas reserved for meetings will be allowed only to participants who carry their accreditation badges. Participants can obtain their badges at the registration desk at the Hotel Swissotel Quito, venue of the event.

6. WORKING DOCUMENTS

The UNWTO Secretariat will provide participants with the electronic version of the working documents of the 68th session of the UNWTO Regional Commission for the Americas, together with the documents related to the Seminar, on the [event website](#).

It is recalled that, following the United Nations system-wide environmental protection policy, documents for the CAM meeting and the Seminar will not be distributed in paper form at the venue. For this reason, participants are requested to bring their own printed documents, if they so require.

7. WORKING LANGUAGES

The working languages of the 68th meeting of the Commission and of the Seminar shall be English and Spanish. There will be simultaneous interpretation for both languages.

8. LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

The UNWTO Secretariat shall prepare a provisional list of participants, based on the replies received to the invitations, and circulate it together with the decisions of the meeting of the Commission.

9. GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE VENUE

- **Name:** Republic of Ecuador
- **Capital:** Metropolitan District of Quito
- **Main cities:** Quito, Guayaquil, Cuenca and Manta
- **City of the event:** Metropolitan District of Quito

Quito is the capital of Ecuador, is located at the foot of the Pichincha volcano, surrounded by mountainous elevations that give it its landscape and Andean culture. Its full name is San Francisco de Quito, declared by UNESCO in 1978 as a World Cultural Heritage Site. This metropolis lies over ravines and among its main characteristics is its very well preserved particular colonial architecture, as well as its rich culture and natural wealth. The historic centre of Quito is indeed not only the best preserved in the region, but also probably the largest in Latin America.

The historic centre of Quito features impressive architecture built since the sixteenth century. It has squares made of volcanic material, large republican buildings, monasteries, convents, churches that display baroque and gothic aesthetics, and museums full of depictions of its history. Among the most popular, the Cathedral and La Compañía are perfect examples of the baroque and gothic aesthetic that encompasses the city, which is adorned with the masterpieces of Bernardo de Legarda and Miguel de Santiago.

Quito is the second highest capital city in the world at 2,850 meters above sea level, has an area of 4,183 km² and about 2.7 million inhabitants. The city has been developed on the north-south axis (it is more than 80 km long and 5 km wide) and is on the western side of the Andes Mountains, in the middle of the world. It is divided into five sectors: north, north centre, historic centre, south and surrounding valleys.

- **Climate:**

The climate of Quito is variable, with temperatures that can range from 25°C during the day to 10°C at night and it is not unusual for heavy rains, low temperatures and bright sunshine to be experienced within the same day. A rain jacket or coat should be carried even on sunny days. Nevertheless, there is a dry season (from May to September) and a rainy season (from October to December).

- **Currency:**

The legal tender currency in the Republic of Ecuador, including the Galapagos Islands, is the United States dollar (USD). International credit cards are accepted in most hotels, restaurants or commercial establishments in general.

- **Business hours:**

- Government offices have working hours from Monday to Friday between 08:30 and 17:00.
- Most shops have opening hours from 07:00 to 22:00 from Monday to Saturday.
- Shopping centres are open every day of the week, from 10:00 to 21:00.
- The opening hours of financial institutions are from Monday to Friday from 09:00 to 16:00.

- **Taxes:**

The acquisition of goods and services in the Republic of Ecuador is taxed with 12% Value Added Tax (VAT).

- **Tipping:**

In most commercial establishments, 10% service charge is included in the bill. In the event that this amount is not added, tipping is voluntary.

- **Local time:**

The Metropolitan District of Quito is located in the UTC -5 time zone.

- **Electric current:**

Most of Ecuador uses single-phase voltage of 120v, two-phase voltage of 220v and three-phase voltage of 220v, with the most common voltage in residential units being single-phase at 120v with a frequency of 60Hz.

- **Telephony:**

(+593)	Ecuador country code
(2)	Pichincha regional code
(+593)	Mobile phone code

Additionally, the only emergency number in the Republic of Ecuador (National Police, ambulances, firefighters or traffic agents) is 911.