



**2ND AFRICAN POPULATION EXPERTS COMMITTEE (APEC) MEETING AND
THE FIRST MEETING OF THE MINISTERS OF POPULATION AS A WORKING
GROUP OF THE SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON HEALTH,
POPULATION AND DRUG CONTROL (STC-HPDC-2)**



INFORMATION NOTE – GHANA

WELCOME TO GHANA

Ghana, before the attainment of independence, was called Gold Coast. It is a republic in West Africa, on the Gulf of Guinea. It is bordered to the north by Burkina Faso, to the east by Togo, to the south by the Atlantic Ocean, and to the west by the Ivory Coast. Accra is the capital of Ghana and its administrative and communications centre. The country has a land area of 238,535 sq. km.

Official language: English

Currency: Ghana Cedi in the following denominations: -

Notes: 50, 20, 10, 5, 2 and 1 (GH¢)

Coins: 50, 20, 10, 5, 1, pesewa(s)

Exchange Rate: UN rate (Four Ghana Cedi and Seventy-One Pesewas (GH¢4.71) is equivalent to one United States dollar (US\$1) and subject to fluctuation.

TIME ZONE GMT +00:00

ARRIVAL

Kotoka International airport is within the following kilometers from the meeting venue and selected hotels as follows:

Alisa Hotel

16 minutes (6.4 km) via Casely Hayford Rd/S liberation Link

15 minutes (6.2 km) via Hilla Limann Hwy

15 minutes (6.5 km) via Liberation Road

Movenpick Ambassador Hotel

16 min (7.1 km) via Liberation Road and Independence Ave

20 min (8.3 km) via Hilla Limann Hwy

30 min (7.4 km) via Independence Ave

Accra City Hotel

15 min (7.4 km) via Liberation Road and Independence Ave

19 min (8.6 km) via Hilla Limann Hwy

28 min (7.7 km) via Independence Ave

Facilities at the airport include a bank and bureau de change, restaurants and bars, duty-free and gift shops, travel agents, a post office, a tourist help desk, Paid and Free Wi-Fi at departure lounge and transit area.

IMMIGRATION REQUIREMENTS

All nationals of African countries except for citizens from 15 states of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) bloc require visas before entry into Ghana. However, nationals from Rwanda, Kenya and Eswatini, Lesotho, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa (holders of Diplomatic and Service Passports only), Tanzania, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda and Zimbabwe are exempted from acquiring visa before entry into Ghana.

With exception of Morocco, citizens of all other AU member states requiring visas before visiting Ghana can do so by acquiring one at any Ghana mission abroad or on arrival at Kotoka International Airport at a fee of \$150 (GH¢ 707). This is in line with a 1st July 2016 policy of Government of Ghana. Visas acquired on arrival are valid for a maximum of 30-day duration.

Requirements from applicants of such visas from immigration are as follows:

1. An application letter to The Comptroller-General from the host/institution stating;
 - a. the arrival date
 - b. the reason for the visit
 - c. the duration of stay
 - d. lodging place.

2. Attached to the application would be a copy of the biodata page of the African visitor and evidence of citizenship or residence of the host as the case may be. The latter requirement would be waived where the host is an institution or corporate entity registered under the laws of Ghana.

Note: All delegates who require visas should send the above requested information to the Conference Secretariat at the earliest possible time but no later than 20th September 2018 to info@aunistersforpopulation.net.

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

Visitors to Ghana should be in possession of a valid health certificate for yellow fever. Vaccination against cholera is also required for any person who has visited or transited a cholera-infected area within six days prior to arrival in the country. For participants coming from Malaria non-endemic countries, prescribed dosages of Malaria prophylactics should be taken according to a physician's recommendation.

Hospital	Contact No
Korle Bu Teaching Hospital	+233 (0) 30 267 4072
Accra Regional Hospital (Ridge)	+233 (0) 30 222 8348
37 Military Hospital	+233 (0) 30 277 7595

University Hospital, Legon	+233 (0) 24 416 6387
The Trust Hospital	+233 (0) 30 276 1975
Lister Hospital	+233 (0)30 340 9030
Nyaho Medical Centre	+233 (0) 30 708 6490
Achimota Hospital	+233 (0) 30 240 0553; (0)30 240 0211; (0) 30 240 0212

SHIPPING/CUSTOMS CLEARANCE

Conference participants and/or journalists coming to Ghana with special equipment such as professional cameras, computers, exhibition equipment and materials should ensure that a list of these equipment, including model and serial numbers where applicable, are sent to the conference organisers in advance. Equipment that is not cleared by the Ghana Customs Service prior to their arrival may not be allowed into the country.

ACCOMMODATION IN GHANA

Kindly note that the following are five and four hotels within the capital city. Conference Delegates will enjoy discounted rates. Refer for rates in Annex A.

- Alisa Hotel
- Accra City Hotel
- Movenpick Ambassador Hotel

VENUE OF THE MEETING

The Conference will be held at the Alisa Hotel, Accra Ghana. Accommodation has been provided at the hotel at negotiated rates for all room types. Delegates are encouraged to stay at the conference venue. Make your reservation by 20th September 2018 at the conference website at www.auministersforpopulation.net Please note rooms are reserved on a first come first serve basis.

Address

Phone Number: + 233 (0)30 221-4233
Location: Accra Central
Region: Greater Accra
Street Address: 19 Dr. Issert Street, North Ridge
Postal Address: P.O. Box 1111, Accra, Ghana

PARTICIPATION TO THE MEETING

The Commission expects that at least one senior population expert and a Minister in charge of population will attend the meeting. The nominated Member State representative(s) should kindly contact their respective UNFPA country offices.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

All delegates must register at the conference website www.auministersforpopulation.net on or before 20th September 2018.

ICT SERVICES

The Conference Secretariat is setup to provide Internet connectivity to WiFi enabled laptops and personal computers. Participants are welcome to take advantage of these services. Kindly note that technical support for presentations must be arranged in advance.

MOBILE PHONE SERVICES

Participants are encouraged to come to Ghana with their dual band mobile handset. Ghana Telecommunication network operators (MTN, VODAFONE, TIGO, AIRTEL, GLO) operators offers SIM Cards.

FOOD FACILITIES AVAILABLE

Restaurant and cafeteria at the Venue of conference Opens from 06:30 - 22:00. Currency accepted are Ghana Cedis, USD, British Pounds or Euros. Major credit cards including VISA and MASTER CARD are accepted.

ELECTRIC SUPPLY

Electric supply in Ghana is 220-240 volts, 50 cycles AC accessible via 13-amp. Recommended plugs are 2-pin round or 3-pin square.

GETTING AROUND IN ACCRA

There is easily accessible transport network. A mix of taxi, private commercial bus (normally called "trotro"), Bus Rapid Transit, Metro Mass Transit and Uber services facilitate movement of people in and around the city. The cost ranges from GH¢10 for short trips, to GH¢50 or more for a longer trip or having the taxi wait for you.

Walking is the preferred method of transport within the city centre. There is a digital address system (GhanaPostGPS) to help you navigate around the city. This can be used on Phone, Computer, Laptop, and Tablet to search, explore and find your way around Ghana. On your computer, point your browser to www.ghanapostgps.com and on your phone or tablet use GhanaPostGPS app. It can be accessed on play store and App store. Car hire can be organised through international agencies in Ghana and hotels.

SHOPPING

- 1. Accra Mall:** The **Accra Mall** is a major shopping centre in Accra, Ghana, located on the Spintex road adjacent to the Tema Motorway. It is one of the most modern shopping malls in West Africa and the first large-scale shopping centre in Ghana. It is owned by Atterbury Property Development, Sanlam and the Morladza family.

The mall is an enclosed, fully air-conditioned shopping centre. It has 20,000 square meters of retail space with parking for over 900 cars. The Accra Mall accommodates 65 line-shops of which 30% are operated by Ghanaian retailers. It showcases a food court operated by international franchises such as Barcelos,

Pizza Hut, Ocean Sting and Rhapsody's. The Accra Mall is anchored by two South African retail giants: Shoprite and Game stores. Participants can purchase items of all kinds from the Accra mall.

- 2. Osu Oxford Street Mall:** Located at Osu Oxford Street. The mall has a wide range of consumer items. When it comes to household groceries shopping, you'll find some of the finest supermarkets here. The Mall is located on the Oxford Street which showcases a street mall where you can buy just about anything you need with locally owned shops and restaurants. Remember to negotiate on prices of items quoted.
- 3. West Hills Mall:** is a 27 700m² mall incorporating popular South African brands as well as a mix of local and international retailers, restaurants, banks and a cinema complex. The site is situated on the Cape Coast highway on the western side of Accra, 20km from the existing Accra Mall in the east. Excellent access is provided via a dedicated underpass bridge structure from the highway to the shopping centre. West Hills Mall is situated in a rapidly developing middle-class residential area, which is a 30-minute drive from the Accra CBD. It forms the gateway into the greater Accra region from western Ghana.
- 4. Makola Market:** is a renowned market place and shopping district in the centre of the city of Accra, the capital of Ghana. A wide array of products is sold in the markets and its surrounding streets. If you need anything you haven't been able to find, you can most probably find it at Makola Market.
- 5. Arts Centre (Centre for National Culture)** Known locally as the Arts Centre and located in the central business district of Accra. It comprises of a theatre hall where local dance groups and actors perform and numerous stalls exhibit and sell traditional arts and crafts. Hawkers rush from all sides as soon as you arrive, but with care you can find carvings, baskets, drums, bags, beads, fabrics, sandals, sculptures, stools, rugs and occasionally antiques. It's a place to unearth some incredible finds and gifts. The best bet is to head past the hassle which you'll inevitably encounter at the entrance and make your way towards the back of the complex, where it is more relaxed. Negotiation is expected. There is also an art gallery, which sells prints and paintings at reasonable prices.

GUIDELINES ON PERSONAL SECURITY AND SAFETY

Ghana is generally a peaceful country with relatively low security risk. There is security provision at and around the conference venues. Personal security is an individual responsibility for private dealings. Being conscious of the environment and being alert can reduce risks. The aim of these security and safety guidelines is to provide visitors and conference participants, with the necessary personal security advice, making them aware of the existing security rules and regulations that apply within Ghana. Accra, unlike other developing State capitals, has a low record of common crimes. The city is considered to be one of the safest capitals in Africa. However, for your safety, please maintain a high state of vigilance at all times. Petty theft, pickpockets and purse snatching are common crimes when opportune. They can occur at any time of the day and night; be alert and follow these simple rules:

- Keep to the main parts of Accra and do not be tempted to go to places that you are not sure of.
- Keep to the main roads and avoid short cuts, down back alleys, etc.
- Do not display high value jewellery and large amounts of money, especially on the streets. It may lead to unnecessary attacks; and
- Never walk alone at night in the centre of Accra, even for a short distance. Always take a taxi.
- If you are in doubt contact the conference secretariat, which will be located at the conference venue.

CLIMATE

The climate of Accra is tropical, but temperatures vary with season and elevation. There is not much rainfall in Accra all year long. Accra is close to the equator; the daylight hours are practically uniform during the year. Relative humidity is generally high, varying from 65% in the midafternoon to 95% at night. The temperature here averages 26.6 °C.

CONTACTS

Joint Conference Secretariat

Government of Ghana	AUC	UNFPA/Ghana
<p>Ms. Marian Kpakpah Director, Social Planning Division Ministry of Planning</p> <p>info@aministersforpopulation.net +233-20-270-8772</p> <p>Mrs. Rose Bentsil-Quaye Programme Officer Social Planning Division Ministry of Planning</p> <p>info@aministersforpopulation.net +233-20-270-8772</p>	<p>Dr. Margaret Agama-Anyeti Head of Division African Union Commission</p> <p>Agama-Anyeteim@africa-union.org</p> <p>Mrs. Hilina Wassihun Project Officer, African Union commission WassihunH@africa-union.org</p>	<p>Erika Golson Dep. Representative UNFPA Ghana</p> <p>goldson@unfpa.org +233 (0)24-435-5750</p> <p>Mutaru Goro Iddrisu National Programme Associate UNFPA/Ghana midddrisu@unfpa.org +233-(0)24-422-9730 +233(0) 26-566-116</p>

Annex A.

LIST OF HOTELS AND RATES			
ACCRA CITY HOTEL			
Distance to Movenpick - 400m, 1 minute drive, 5 minutes walk			
Distance to Alisa Hotel – 2.9km, 8minutes drive 35 minutes walk			
N°	Room	Rate	Contact
1.	Standard room (single occupancy)	150	Email - info@accracityhotel.com
2.	Standard room (double occupancy)	170	Tel: +233 (0) 30 263 3863
Remarks		<p>Inclusions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • free breakfast in our Restaurant, • free minibar, • free wifi, • complimentary phone calls to selected countries on handy phones • free shuttle service to and from the airport. <p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The above rate is per room per night inclusive of all applicable taxes. • Please note rates & government tax are subject to change without notice. • The guest can book their rooms till 20th September 2018, after that the room will be subject to availability. • We will be requiring the credit card details from all guests for the guarantee purpose. <p>Reservations can be made via the conference website at www.auministersforpopulation.net or directly with the hotel at https://bit.ly/2PqwPoX, using the booking code: MOPSEPT2018</p>	

ALISA HOTELS ACCRA		
Distance to Movenpick Ambassador Hotel - 3.1km, 9minutes drive, 31minutes walk		
Distance to Accra City Hotel - 2.9km, 8minutes drive; 35 minutes walk		
Type of Room	Rate in USD	Contact
All Room Types	140	www.swisspirithotels.com/alisa-accra info@alisahotels.com +233 (0)30 221 4233
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast • Two-Way airport transfer • Free Gym • Free WiFi Internet access • Complimentary tea and coffee making facilities • Spacious work desk • 40-inch LCD TV • Bars • Tennis Court • Restaurant 		
Reservations can be made via the conference website at www.auministersforpopulation.net or directly with the hotel at https://bit.ly/2PqwPoX , using the booking code: MOP2018		

MÖVENPICK AMBASSADOR HOTEL ACCRA**Distance to Alisa Hotel - 3.1km, 9minutes drive, 31minutes walk****Distance to Accra City Hotel - 400m, 1 minute drive, 5minutes walk**

Type of Room	Rate in USD	Contact
Superior	190	rohit.makhija@movenpick.com +233 30 261 1000 wwwimovenpick.com
Deluxe	210	
Executive	280	

Inclusions:

- Daily Breakfast
- Complimentary Wifi
- LCD TV,
- Complimentary tea and coffee making facilities,
- Laptop safe,
- Individually controlled air conditioning,
- Work desk and minibar

Notes:

- The above rate is per room per night inclusive of all applicable taxes.
- Please note rates & government tax are subject to change without notice.
- The guest can book their rooms till 15th September 2018, after that the room will be subject to availability.
- Credit card needed to guarantee reservation.

Deposit & Cancellation Policy:

- Notice of cancellation should be received 5 days prior to arrival date. In the event of no-show or late cancellation within 30 days of arrival, retention charge of one night' room rate plus taxes would be applicable.

Reservations can be made via the conference website at www.auministersforpopulation.net or directly with the hotel using the following email rohit.makhija@movenpick.com and Selom.Bani@movenpick.com and quoting the booking code: **AU Conference**.