



11<sup>TH</sup> EDITION OF WAIGF 2019  
AND  
2<sup>ND</sup> EDITION OF WASIG



## Banjul, The Gambia: 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> July 2019

### PARTICIPANT INFORMATION GUIDE – (ENGLISH)

#### 1. Event venue:

##### The Kairaba Beach Hotel

Senegambia / Kerr Serign

Telephone: +220 446 29 40/1/2

Email: [info@kairabahotel.com](mailto:info@kairabahotel.com)

URL: <https://kairabahotel.com/>

#### 2. Local Host Focal Point:

##### Mrs Beran Dondéh-Gillen

Tel: +220 376 9020 / +220 796 9021 (Also on WhatsApp)

Email: [berandondéh@gmail.com](mailto:berandondéh@gmail.com)

[bgillen@itag.gm](mailto:bgillen@itag.gm)

##### Miss Amie Njie – (For all hotel and transportation issues)

Tel: +220 255 6936 (Also on WhatsApp)

Email: [njieamy03@gmail.com](mailto:njieamy03@gmail.com)

##### Mr Poncelet Ileleji

Tel: +220 991 2508 (Also on WhatsApp)

Email: [pileleji@ymca.gm](mailto:pileleji@ymca.gm)

#### 3. Visa

Entry into The Gambia is subject to the presentation of a valid passport, a letter of invitation (when a visa is required), a return air-ticket reservation, and an international vaccination certificate. Participants are advised to contact the Embassy of The Gambia in their country to find out if they require a visa to enter the country.

Nationals of ECOWAS countries do not need a VISA to enter the country.

If you do not have any Embassy or diplomatic representation of The Gambia in your country of origin, please contact the focal points above for arrangements/clearance as soon as possible.

The persons mentioned above, Mrs. Beran Dondéh-Gillen and Mr. Poncelet Ileleji are available to address questions for clarifications.

For more information, please visit <http://www.accessgambia.com/information/visas-requirements.html>

or visit <http://www.visitthegambia.gm/visas-and-passports>

#### 4. Hotel Accommodation

Participants may book their hotel rooms directly with the hotel of their choice. It is recommended that participants complete the attached hotel booking form and send to the LOC focal points Miss Amie Njie at [njieamy03@gmail.com](mailto:njieamy03@gmail.com), and cc: Mr. Max Jonga at [maxjonga@gmail.com](mailto:maxjonga@gmail.com). This form **MUST be received before the 12th of July 2019**.

The Local Organizing Committee can assist in obtaining a hotel booking. *Preferential rates have been negotiated for WAIGF participants at Kairaba Beach, African Princess, Tamala and Metzzy Hotels.*

Please note that transportation from the hotel to the venue and back will only be provided for the recommended hotels. Participants who opt for other hotels will need to make their own arrangements, even though the hotels are all within walking distance to a maximum of 5 miles away from the event venue. The choice of a hotel other than those proposed will not be the responsibility of the organizers.

HOTEL NAME	Website	Star Rating	Preferential Rate
Kairaba Beach	<a href="https://kairabahotel.com/">https://kairabahotel.com/</a>	5	\$ 100.00
African Princess	<a href="http://africanprincesshotel.com/">http://africanprincesshotel.com/</a>	3.5	\$ 100.00
Tamala Hotel	<a href="https://www.ving.se/gambia/gambia/sunprime-tamala-beach">https://www.ving.se/gambia/gambia/sunprime-tamala-beach</a>	3.5	\$ 80.00
Metzzy Hotel	<a href="https://www.metzzyresidencehotel.com/">https://www.metzzyresidencehotel.com/</a>	4.0	\$ 45.00

You can [click HERE for information about other hotels](#) in the area.

#### 5. Transportation

Airport pick-up will be provided to all participants at no cost upon arrival and departure and to the meeting venue. In order to ensure airport pick-up upon arrival and departure, participants are requested to complete and return the attached Airport Transfer Form to the local host contact: Miss Amie Njie at [njieamy03@gmail.com](mailto:njieamy03@gmail.com), and cc: Mr. Max Jonga at [maxjonga@gmail.com](mailto:maxjonga@gmail.com), indicating their flight details and their hotel accommodation, **as soon as possible, and no later than 15<sup>th</sup> July 2019**.

#### 6. Information about the country

A travel guide as well as detailed information about The Gambia can be found at the following address: <http://www.visitthegambia.gm/>. A visitor's guide is also at <http://www.visitthegambia.gm/download/Gambia-Official-Guide.pdf>

#### 7. Restaurants in the Venue Area

The Gambia boasts of being a prime tourist destination, particularly the area around the meeting venue. The surrounding area, mostly within walking distance has many excellent restaurants and bars, serving food ranging from local to international cuisine, fine dining including Continental, Italian, French, American, Greek and other wonderful and tasty food. The local variety has international cognizance and is the choice of most visitors. Visit the links below to find more information about these wonderful places:

- <http://www.accessgambia.com/information/restaurants-bars.html>
- [https://www.tripadvisor.com/RestaurantsNear-g480198-d316659-Senegambia\\_Beach\\_Hotel-Serekunda\\_Banjul\\_Division.html](https://www.tripadvisor.com/RestaurantsNear-g480198-d316659-Senegambia_Beach_Hotel-Serekunda_Banjul_Division.html)

## 8. Some Things to do While in The Gambia

It would be a missed opportunity not to sample the rich cultures and most friendly society, as well as attractions that beckon immediately you arrive in Banjul. There is always something to do that makes you love the area and rue leaving.

- <https://www.gambia.co.uk/blog/top-10-things-to-do-in-the-gambia-for-first-time-visitors>

## 9. Hospitals and Clinics

There are a few government Hospitals and local clinics within a ten-mile radius. Some private clinics also operate in the vicinity of the meeting venue. More information is available at:

- <http://www.accessgambia.com/extra/private-health-clinics.html>

Participants are urged to bring along any special medications that they may need for the duration of the meeting.

## 10. Weather and Time Zone

The Gambia country enjoys virtually uninterrupted sunshine and high daytime temperatures with almost no rainfall from November to June

### **Seasons:**

- The Dry Season Characterized by Dry Savannah winds from November to June also known as the Harmattan period
- The Wet Season Characterized by wet and lushly green environment from July-October.

During the WAIGF in July 2019, the seasonal average temperatures are, 23°C (73°F) low, and 32°C (90°F). The average duration of days is 13:00 hours, the sun rises at 6:38 am and sets at 07:37 pm.

## 11. Currency, Finance and Payments

### **Currency:**

Dalasi (GMD), pronounced da-la-si

There is no fixed exchange rate for major currencies, as it is determined by market forces, location and facilities.

Indicative rates as at June 26<sup>th</sup> for CFA(XOF), US\$ and EUR are:

1 EUR = GMD 56.00

1US\$ = GMD 50.00

5000F CFA = GMD 430.0

### **Financial Institutions**

Many hotels and many of the restaurants in The Gambia accept Visa, MasterCard and American Express but please confirm with management before making a transaction. Cash in major currencies can be converted at banks, exchange bureaus and other locations throughout the country.

### **ATMs**

There are ATMs in several local banks, commercial locations and shopping areas where you can withdraw money using a VISA card.

### **Payment cards (credit / debit)**

Diners Club, MasterCard and VISA are accepted in a few places only. It is recommended to carry cash in local currency

### **Official Working Hours**

**Government Agencies:** 8:00am to 4:00pm. Mondays to Thursdays and 8:00am to 12:30pm on Fridays

**Banks:** In addition to the above hours, most banks are open on Fridays between 2:30 to 4:00 pm, and Saturdays from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm.

## **12. Telecommunications**

The country code for The Gambia is +220. There are four Mobile Network Operators in The Gambia Africell, Gamcel, Comium and Qcell. Sim cards are free at the airport and some kiosks in town but need to be registered at the point of sale before they are activated.

Their respective prices on data, voice and roaming can be found on their respective websites or Customer Care centres.

[www.africell.gm](http://www.africell.gm)   [www.qcell.gm](http://www.qcell.gm)   [www.comium.gm](http://www.comium.gm)   [www.gamcel.gm](http://www.gamcel.gm)

## **13. Internet Access**

WiFi Internet access will be available to participants during the meeting at the venue.

## **14. Electricity (voltage used) and water**

- Electricity: The voltage is 220 Volts on the power distribution network of Cote d'Ivoire; the main voltage is 220 Volts / 50 Hz.
- The outlets are standard British three-pin (though some hotels use the EU standard two-pin)
- Water: Running water is safe; however, it is recommended to use bottled water.

## **15. Language**

The official language in The Gambia is English.

## **16. Health**

An international certificate of vaccination is no longer compulsory for visitors to the Gambia. However, a yellow fever vaccination will be required for visitors from Europe and North America.

Visitors are advised to take necessary precautions such as anti- malaria medicine and consult with their doctor for appropriate prescriptions.

Visitors are also advised to bring along insect repellents, sun screen, anti-fungal creams and disinfectant unobtainable in certain parts of the country. There are several government hospitals and clinics as well as those operated by private practitioners.



## Application for airport transfer



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### **PARTICIPANT INFORMATION:**

Name and surname (in capital letters): .....

Title or Function / Service: .....

Name of the organization: .....

Country / Entity: .....

Business address: .....

Telephone number: ..... Fax number: .....

E-mail address: .....

Arrival Date: ..... Arrival Time: ..... Flight number: .....

Departure date: ..... Departure time: ..... Flight number: .....

**Please return this form duly completed no later than 15<sup>th</sup> July 2019 to the following contacts:**

Miss Amie Njie at [njeamy03@gmail.com](mailto:njeamy03@gmail.com), and copy Mr. Max Jonga at [maxjonga@gmail.com](mailto:maxjonga@gmail.com)

### Hotel Reservation Form



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#### HOTEL RESERVATION FORM

*(participants are requested to complete and return this form, indicating their flight details and their choice*

*of hotel accommodation, as soon as possible and no later than 12 March 2018 to*

Miss Amie Njie at [njieamy03@gmail.com](mailto:njieamy03@gmail.com), and cc: Mr. Max Jonga at [maxjonga@gmail.com](mailto:maxjonga@gmail.com) )

(IN CAPITAL LETTERS)

1. Mr / Mrs \_\_\_\_\_

(Family Name)(Given Name)

2. Country: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Address: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Tel.: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail : \_\_\_\_\_

SEND DIRECTLY TO THE FOCAL POINTS WITH COPY TO HOTEL CHOSEN.

5. Name of the hotel \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number of the hotel \_\_\_\_\_

Reservation of a single room

Reservation of a double room

Reservation from : \_\_\_\_\_ to : \_\_\_\_\_

Number of nights : \_\_\_\_\_

6. Date of arrival :

Day: \_\_\_\_\_ time : \_\_\_\_\_ Flight N: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Date of departure :

Day : \_\_\_\_\_ time : \_\_\_\_\_ Flight N: \_\_\_\_\_

Date : \_\_\_\_\_ Signature : \_\_\_\_\_