



## Logistical Information

In preparation to your participation in the Meeting “From vulnerability to resilience - Exchange of DRR experiences in the Greater Caribbean region” to be held on 7 & 8 March 2018 in Managua, Nicaragua, the organizer team would like to share with you some logistical information.

### Contact

Mrs Kenika Espinosa, ACS, Email: [kespinosa@acs-aec.org](mailto:kespinosa@acs-aec.org)  
 For general information Sra Arlen Martinez, SINAPRED, Email: [amartinez@sinapred.gob.ni](mailto:amartinez@sinapred.gob.ni)  
 related to the workshop: Mrs Luisa Pareja, UNISDR, Email: [lpareja@eird.org](mailto:lpareja@eird.org)

### Meeting Location

The event will be held in the **Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure**: Opposite the old Denis Martinez National Stadium in Managua.



SINAPRED will provide the transport transfer from and to the Crown Plaza Hotel - Managua to the Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure and vice versa in the days of the event. All participants are kindly asked to be in the lobby in a timely manner at the time corresponding to each day.

Wednesday, March 7th 2018	<b><u>8:00am</u></b>
Thursday, March 8th, 2018	<b><u>8:15am</u></b>

## General information on Nicaragua



The Republic of Nicaragua is the largest country in the Central American isthmus, bordered by Honduras to the north, the Caribbean to the east, Costa Rica to the south, and Pacific Ocean to the west. The country covers 119,990 square kilometers of land and 10,380 square kilometers of water, making it the 98th largest nation in the world with a total area of 130,370 square kilometers. Managua is the country's capital and largest city and is also the third-largest city in Central America, behind Tegucigalpa and Guatemala City. The country counts with a population of six million. The main language is Spanish. Native tribes on the Mosquito Coast speak their own languages and English.

### Currency

The currency of Nicaragua is the Cordoba (NIO), but most establishments accept payment in US dollars. The Córdoba is sometimes also referred to as the Peso. The exchange rate is approximately 30.98 NIO per US Dollar (Feb 15th, 2018). Notes are issued in denominations of C\$10, 20, 50, 100, 200, 500, and 1000. Coins are issued in C\$5, 10, 25, 50 cents, and C\$1, C\$5, C\$10 Nicaraguan Cordoba. Most major credit cards are widely accepted, and traveler's cheques are not a recommended source of money due to its difficulty for exchange. ATMs can be found in the airport and at all banks. You may check <http://www.bcn.gob.ni/conversor/index.php> for more currency exchange information.

### Time Zone and Climate

Local Time is UTC – 6 hours

Temperatures in Managua range from an average low of 22°C /73°F degrees to an average high of 33°C/92°F for the month of March. In your spare time, light and casual clothes are recommended.

Special Circumstances: Nicaragua is prone to seismic and volcanic activity, hurricanes (Jun-Nov), severe storms and flooding (Apr-Oct). For the time being make sure you know what to do if a tremor or earthquake occurs. Read the hotel earthquake instructions.

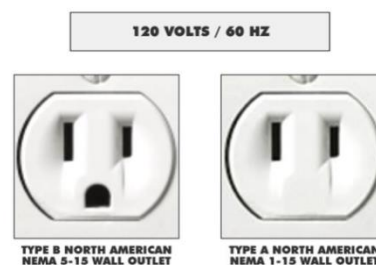
Dengue fever is endemic to Latin America and the Caribbean and there has been a recent significant increase in the number of reported cases. Cases of Chikungunya virus have been confirmed in Nicaragua. Additionally, Nicaragua has been classified as having a risk of Zika virus. we encourage you to visit the PAHO website [www.paho.org](http://www.paho.org) for the latest disease outbreak updates and travel advice prior to your travel.

Electrical Plug/Outlets – Voltage Information

Electricity in Nicaragua is 110-120 volts/60 Hz. There is a reliable electricity supply.

Standard plug types are:

- Flat blade (2 flat blades)
- Flat blades with round grounding pin



**Emergency Phone Numbers**

<b>Police</b>	<b>118</b>
<b>Medical/Ambulance</b>	<b>128</b>
<b>Fire Department</b>	<b>115; 120</b>
<b>Traffic</b>	<b>125</b>
<b>Emergency Line and Tourist Assistance</b>	<b>101</b>

**Medical Facilities**

<b>Facility Name</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Address</b>
<b>Hospital Metropolitano Vivian Pellas</b>	(505) 2276-2142	Km 9 3/4 Carretera a Masaya 250 mts. al Oeste
<b>Hospital Bautista</b>	(505) 2264-9020	Bo. Largaespada; detrás de la universidad RUCFA
<b>Hospital Salud Integral</b>	(505) 2251-2030	Montoya 1 c. al lago, 1 c. abajo.
<b>Hospital Militar</b>	(505) 2222-2763	Contiguo a la Laguna Tiscapa, Managua
<b>Hospital Central Managua</b>	(505) 2278-1566	Altamira, Frente a los Semáforos de Loselza Managua, Nicaragua

## **Visa**

Please note that participants are responsible for making arrangements to request an entry visa to the destination country (if applicable). The information shared here is for reference only; please make sure with the official representation of the Republic of Nicaragua in your country of residence of the conditions and requirements to enter the country.

### Countries exempt from Visa

Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Brazil, Brunei-Darussal, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Madagascar, Malaysia, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of South Korea, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Special Administrative Regions of the People's Republic of China: Hong Kong, St. Lucia, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan Republic of China, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Tuvalu, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland - Persons from other British territories will be treated as visa exempt (A), United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Vatican City, Venezuela and International Organizations (OAS, UN, European Commission)

Among the countries of the Americas that require a consular visa or border visa for citizens with ordinary passports are: Bolivia, Colombia, Dominica, Ecuador, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Peru, Dominican Republic, Suriname. People from these countries with official or diplomatic passports are exempt from visa.

Among the countries in the region of the Americas that citizens require a consulted visa (approved by the General Directorate of Migration and Immigration) are: Cuba and Haiti. People from Cuba who have an official or diplomatic passport are exempt from a visa. People from Haiti who have an official or diplomatic passport must process a consular visa.

### Vaccinations

The Ministry of Health and Migration of Nicaragua has informed that from February 2017 onwards all visitors and citizens coming from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, French Guyana, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Venezuela and the African continent (except The Democratic Republic of Congo, Tanzania, Santo Tomé and Prince, and Somalia) should present upon arrival to Nicaragua the International Yellow Fever Vaccination Certificate.

## Accommodation

You can either stay at the [Crowne Plaza Hotel](#) or find accommodation on one of the hotels listed below (See map for reference). Participants are kindly asked to make their booking directly with the preferred hotel.

### Crowne Plaza Managua

A special rate is offered by the Crowne Plaza Managua Hotel to the meeting participants. Each participant is responsible for its own booking.

Standard Sencilla	85 USD + taxes (15% IVA + 2% Intur)
Standard Doble	100 USD + taxes (15% IVA + 2% Intur)
Junior Suite	120 USD + taxes (15% IVA + 2% Intur)
Suite	135 USD + taxes (15% IVA + 2% Intur)

To take advantage of the special rate, please contact the hotel by sending an email to [edith.conde@ihg.com](mailto:edith.conde@ihg.com) or [carolina.escobar@ihg.com](mailto:carolina.escobar@ihg.com) making reference to the United Nations group rate and indicating the preferred room and dates. The group rate will be available for bookings up to March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018.



### InterContinental Managua at Metrocentro Mall

Address: Frente A Centro Comercial, Carretera a Masaya, Managua 14005, Nicaragua

Phone Number: +505 2276 8989

Website:

[https://www.ihg.com/intercontinental/hotels/us/en/managua/mgahb/hoteldetail?cm\\_mmc=GoogleMaps--IC--NI--MGAHB](https://www.ihg.com/intercontinental/hotels/us/en/managua/mgahb/hoteldetail?cm_mmc=GoogleMaps--IC--NI--MGAHB)

Rooms from \$202usd tax excl.

### Hilton Princess Managua

Address: Av Miguel Obando y Bravo, Managua 14003, Nicaragua

Phone Number: +505 2255 5777

Website:

<http://www3.hilton.com/en/hotels/nicaragua/hilton-princess-managua-MGAHFHF/index.html>

Rooms from \$149usd tax excl.

### Seminole Plaza

Address: Bancentro carretera a Masaya 1c oeste, 1c al sur, 10 Av Sureste, Managua 14003, Nicaragua

Phone Number: +505 2270 0061

Website: [www.seminoleplaza.com](http://www.seminoleplaza.com)

Rooms from \$149 usd tax excl.

## **Airport transfer / local transport**

Transportation from the Managua airport to the Hotel on the day of the arrival and vice versa on the day of departure will be provided and arranged by SINAPRED. It is important you share your flights information to be able to coordinate the transfers by February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018 to Luisa Pareja, [lpareja@eird.org](mailto:lpareja@eird.org)

Getting around can be easy, enjoyable and safe throughout Nicaragua. Radio-dispatched taxis are available at the airport and major hotels. Major rental car companies are located at the airport and in other locations. Visitors can use their driver's license for thirty days after entering the country. Taxis are plentiful and relatively inexpensive throughout the country. It is advisable to use officially registered taxis, which have red license plates (numbers must be legible), or authorized tourist guides. Intercity buses are also plentiful

## **Information regarding the Meeting**

Session concept notes and other relevant documents can be found on the meeting website: <https://www.preventionweb.net/go/56743>

## **Food and Beverages**

Breakfast and dinner are the own responsibility of participants. If you are staying at the Crowne Plaza Managua Hotel, where the meeting will take place, the special rate offered by the hotel includes breakfast.

Lunches and Coffee Breaks (one in the morning and one in the afternoon) will be provided on the days of the meeting

## **Security**

- Be cautious when using public transport, including taxis. Always be vigilant, particularly after dark and take sensible precautions:
- Don't carry your credit card, travel tickets and money together - leave spare cash and valuables in a safe place
- Don't carry your passport unless absolutely necessary and leave a copy of your passport (and travel and insurance documents) with family or friends at home
- Avoid showing flashy garments (jewelry, watch, etc.) and large sums of money in public and don't use ATMs after dark, especially if you're alone. Check no one has followed you after conducting your business
- Avoid dark and unlit streets and stairways, and arrange to be picked up or dropped off as close to your hotel or apartment entrance as possible
- Make sure that your accommodation has adequate security
- Keep a close eye on your personal belongings and hold on to them in public places such as internet cafés, train and bus stations

## **Local Laws and customs**

Don't become involved with drugs of any kind. Possession of even very small quantities can lead to imprisonment. Remember, the local laws apply to you as a visitor and it is your responsibility to follow them. Be sensitive to local customs, traditions and practices as your behavior may be seen as improper, hostile or even illegal.

### Attire

For the meeting, formal dressing clothes are advisable.

### Nicaraguan Food

Rice, beans and corn are staples of Nicaraguan cuisine. Nicaraguan grass-fed beef results in juicy steaks, often cooked over wood-burning grills. Since the country borders on the Pacific Ocean and the Caribbean Sea and home to one of the largest lakes in the Americas, fresh seafood is readily available. At the finest restaurants, steaks and seafood can be available for under \$15. Nicaragua is known for their *gallo pinto* (fried rice and red beans mixture), *nacatamals* (pork or chicken tamales), *caballo bayo* (a buffet of traditional delicacies to be eaten on homemade tortillas, for special occasions), vigorón (a mixture of cooked yucca, fried pork and cabbage salad) and quesillo (a combination of corn tortilla, quesillo, cream and pickled onion salad).

### Tipping

For airport/hotel baggage handlers, US \$1.00 per bag is acceptable. For restaurants and other services, 10-15% of value of service is customary but not obligatory.