

15th MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE
11 – 13 December 2019, Bristol, United Kingdom

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR MEETING PARTICIPANTS

Meeting date and venue

The 15th Meeting of the Standing Committee of the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA) is kindly being hosted by the Government of The United Kingdom and will take place on 11-13 December 2019 in Bristol, United Kingdom.

The 15th Meeting of the AEWA Standing Committee will be held at the

Conference venue:

Rivergate Bristol,
2 Rivergate,
Temple Quay,
Bristol,
BS1 6EH
0330 024 5792



The meeting will start on Wednesday 11th December at 9:00 and due to close on Friday 13th December at 17:00 h

| Date | Location | Time |
|-------------------------------------|--|------------|
| Wednesday 11 th December | Rivergate (rooms 7 & 8) | 9:00-17:00 |
| Thursday 12 th December | Rivergate (rooms 7 & 8) | 9:00-17:00 |
| Friday 13th December | Field Trip to Slimbridge Wetland Centre (back to Bristol at 4 p.m.) | 9:00-16:00 |

The Ministry is located near the centre of Bristol within walking distance of the central station. A registration desk will be set up in the hall of the building. Registration will be open from 08:00 to 09:00 on 11 December 2019. Please be aware that you will have to pass through security when entering the building and make sure to allow sufficient time for the security check. Please bring your passport as ID. All delegates will be guided to the meeting room.

Meeting contact numbers

In case of any questions or if you require assistance, before the meeting, please contact the meeting organiser:

- Ms Marie-Therese Kaemper (UNEP/AEWA Secretariat): +49 228 815 2413
mt.kaemper@unep-aewa.org

In case of any questions or if you require assistance during the meeting, please contact:

- Mr Simon Mackown (DEFRA): Tel. +44 208 026 6900
simon.mackown@defra.gov.uk
- or
- Dr Jacques Trouvilliez (UNEP/AEWA Secretariat) : +49 151 14571325
jacques.trouvilliez@unep-aewa.org

Accommodation

- All participants are requested to make their own hotel reservations.

**Participants are advised to book accommodation at the earliest convenience.
The following hotels are conveniently situated in the vicinity of the meeting venue.**

| Hotel | Location | Distance | Price | Contact |
|---|--|-------------------------------|--|---|
| Travelodge Bristol Central Mitchell Lane | Mitchell Lane, Bristol, BS1 6BU | 0.4 miles (5 minute walk) | £80.75 per night Double room with Breakfast | For bookings: 08719 848 484 For enquiries: 08719 848 484 Website: www.travelodge.co.uk |
| Holiday Inn Express Bristol | South End, Temple Gate House, Bristol BS1 6PL | 0.2 miles (4 minute walk) | £81.00 per night Double room with Breakfast | For bookings: 0371 423 9001 Website: www.hiexpress.com |
| Ibis Bristol Temple Meads Quay | Avon Street, Bristol BS2 0PS | 0.3 miles (6 minute walk) | £65.33 per night Double room with Breakfast | For bookings: 0871 663 0624 Website: https://ibis.accorhotels.com/gb/discovering-ibis-hotel/index.shtml |
| Mercure Holland House Hotel and Spa Bristol | Redcliffe Hill, Bristol BS1 6SQ | 0.5 miles (10 minute walk) | £86.00 per night Double room with Breakfast | For bookings: 0871 663 0624 Website: https://mercure.accorhotels.com/Bristol/Holland_House |

Meals

The host government will kindly offer lunch for all participants on the days of the meeting. For any special dietary requirements, please inform the Secretariat at (mt.kaemper@unep-aewa.org) if you have not already done so while pre-registering online. Participants are requested to make their own arrangements for breakfast and dinner, as well as for lunches on the days before and after the meeting, as applicable.

Visas

All registered meeting participants requiring visas will be provided with personal invitation letters, as well as verbal notes to support their visa applications. Please note that it is absolutely necessary that you obtain your visa before travelling to the UK.

Participants are responsible for making arrangements for obtaining their visa for the UK if applicable. Information is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/browse/visas-immigration/tourist-short-stay-visas>

For nationals of countries requiring visas, application of the visa must be made ahead of your departure as visas are not issued on arrival. Please apply for your visa as early as possible as processing times can be long.

The visa costs of funded participants will be covered.

Participants experiencing any difficulties with immigration or customs upon arrival in the UK should contact the meeting organisers (see contact information above).

On arrival at the airport

You are kindly requested to make your own arrangements for a shuttle to your hotel in Bristol. We recommend using either a taxi or the airport bus from the airport.

- The A1 airport bus runs between Bristol Temple Meads and Bristol Airport every 15 minutes.
- A taxi will cost roughly £20 and will take 15 minutes to the city centre.

If you are flying to one of the London airport terminals, you can get the Heathrow Express, the tube or taxi to London Paddington Train station. For more information, use the Transport for London website to plan your journey. <https://tfl.gov.uk>

Meeting language, documents and Wi-Fi

The meeting language will be English.

The documents for this meeting will be made available for download from the AEWA website:

<https://www.unep-aewa.org/en/meeting/15th-meeting-aewa-standing-committee>

Hard paper copies of the meeting documents will not be distributed before or during the meeting. However, free wireless internet will be available to all participants in the meeting room.

Wireless internet is available at all selected hotels and 4G is widely available.

Telephone use

It is possible to buy a local SIM card starter kit from kiosks at most airports, as well as at supermarkets. Make sure you take your charger and suitable adaptor as necessary. You may need your passport to register the SIM.

Please remember that with international calls you may incur roaming charges depending on your network provider.

Currency exchange

The currency in the UK is British Pound (£ /GBP).

We advise participants to bring sufficient cash and/or credit cards with them to cover their expenses for the duration of their stay. There are foreign exchange bureaus and ATM cash machines at Bristol Airport if cash is needed on arrival.

There are also ATM cash machines situated around Bristol – particularly in the city centre.

Banking hours for most banks are 09:00-17:00.

Credit Cards

Credit cards such as MasterCard and Visa, are widely accepted. For lost or stolen cards contact the following:

Visa International (0800 990 475)

MasterCard (0800 990 418)

Official language and local time

The official language is English. UK standard time is GMT.

Weather

The average weather in Bristol in December is cold with temperatures ranging from 4-10 °C. It can also be very wet so we advise to bring warm clothes, waterproof coats and shoes.

Electricity

In the United Kingdom the standard voltage is 230 V and the frequency is 50 Hz. You can use your electric appliances in the United Kingdom, if the standard voltage in your country is in between 220 - 240 V (as is in the UK, Europe, Australia and most of Asia and Africa) it is advisable to bring your own adaptor, if required, or purchase one at the airport upon arrival.

Plug sockets (see image).



Travel and health insurance

Participants are responsible for their own travel and health insurance. It is recommended that all participants take out comprehensive policies before arriving in the UK.

Health and Emergency numbers

The Nearest hospital is Bristol Royal Infirmary (Open 24 hours)

Bristol Royal Infirmary
NHS Trust Hospital
Marlborough Street, Bristol BS2 8HW
0117 923 0000 - www.uhbristol.nhs.uk

Please also ensure that you have travel insurance and be up to date on routine vaccinations while traveling to any destination. Some vaccines may also be required for travel.

Field Trip to Slimbridge - Excursion Site

Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust (WWT) is one of the world's largest and most respected wetland conservation organisations working globally to safeguard and improve wetlands for wildlife and people.

<https://www.wwt.org.uk/wetland-centres/slimbridge/>

Slimbridge Wetland Centre is conveniently located near to the M5 between Gloucester and Bristol. A coach will be provided to transport participants from Bristol to the Wetland Centre.



Address:
Slimbridge Wetland Centre,
Bowditch,
Slimbridge,
Gloucestershire,
GL2 7BT

