

Regional seminar on climate change for the parliaments of Latin America and the Caribbean

10-11 August 2022, San José, Costa Rica

Organized jointly by the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the Parliament of Costa Rica

GENERAL INFORMATION

VENUE AND DATE

The seminar will be held in the Legislative Assembly of Costa Rica in San José on 10-11 August 2023

Agenda outline

Wednesday, 9 August	Arrival of delegates
Thursday, 10 August	Seminar meeting
Friday, 11 August	Field visit
Saturday, 12 August	Departure of delegates (continued)

PARTICIPATION

The seminar is open to the following IPU Member Parliaments: Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State Of), Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic Of).

Parliaments may send delegations of up to three members (four members for bicameral parliaments) including parliamentarians and parliamentary staff who work directly on climate change-related topics. Parliaments are encouraged to send gender-balanced delegations and include parliamentarians who represent different political affiliations.

National parliaments in the region that are not currently IPU Members are also invited to attend. In addition, IPU Associate Members and Observers are welcome to participate.

ORGANIZATION OF PROCEEDINGS

In keeping with standard IPU practice, all participants will have equal speaking rights. To ensure that the discussions are as vibrant and dynamic as possible, the following rules will apply:

- There will be no list of speakers on any agenda item.
- Participants are asked not to read out prepared statements, but rather to engage in lively discussions. Subject to alternative arrangements that chairpersons of sessions may make to suit the circumstances, oral contributions may not exceed three minutes. Participants may speak several times on each item, particularly to respond to other statements.
- The sessions will include presentations by experts and resource persons, debates and interactive discussion panels in moderated plenary sittings.

DOCUMENTS

Presentations on the topics discussed at the seminar will, wherever possible, be posted by the IPU Secretariat on the IPU's website.

Participants wishing to distribute relevant documentation to their colleagues will be required to provide the material in sufficient quantities and to place it on a designated table.

LANGUAGE

The working languages will be Spanish and English.

REGISTRATION

Participants should complete the enclosed registration form as soon as possible, and **no later than 15 July 2023**. Please note that a separate registration form is required for each participant.

Please send the form **by e-mail to the Parliament of Costa Rica and the IPU at:**

Unidad de Cooperación internacional

Asamblea Legislativa

Av Central y Primera, Calle 15 y17

San José, Costa Rica

E-mail: melissa.vargas@asamblea.go.cr

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WhatsApp: +506 88 89 54 74 (Sra. Melissa Vargas)

+506 88 60 86 86 (Sra. Florencine Fernández)

Inter-Parliamentary Union

Chemin du Pommier 5

Case postale 330

1218 Le Grand-Saconnex

Geneva

Switzerland

E-mail: postbox@ipu.org

Tel.: +41 22 919 41 50

VISAS

Entry visas are required except for citizens of countries that have visa exemption agreements with Costa Rica.

Delegates participating in the seminar are kindly requested to contact the diplomatic mission of Costa Rica in their country to obtain a visa if necessary.

VACCINATIONS

The Yellow Fever vaccine is mandatory for people coming from endemic countries: Burkina Faso, Cameroon, French Guiana, Gabon, Gambia, Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela, Benin, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ghana, Nigeria, Sudan, Brazil and Angola)

Participants are recommended to be vaccinated against Hepatitis A, Tetanus-diphtheria, Triple Viral; and in special situations against Hepatitis B, Flu, Typhoid Fever, Pneumococcal Disease.

The Costa Rican government does not request a negative COVID-19 test to enter the country.

SWORN DECLARATION FORM TO ENTER THE COUNTRY

N/A

HOTEL ACCOMMODATION

Delegates will bear the costs of their air transport, accommodation and subsistence. The cost of accommodation is the responsibility of the delegate and is payable directly to the hotel.

Suggested hotel that participants may wish to book are as follows:

- **Hotel Radisson:**
<https://www.radissonhotelsamericas.com/en-us/hotels/radisson-san-jose-costa-rica>
- **Hotel Holiday Inn San José Aurola:**

https://www.guestreservations.com/holiday-inn-san-jose-aurola/booking?gclid=Cj0KCQjw7uSkBhDGARIsAMCZNJt59P6LqZsPXehxIRGqR5kNNDiYNDwtrXCDduyCSctCjxcfkYzFfAaAnAUEALw_wcB

- **Hotel Parque del Lago:**
<https://reservations.orbebooking.com/Search/Init/moraviachi/es>

- **Hotel Presidente:**
https://www.hotel-presidente.com/es/?gclid=Cj0KCQjw7uSkBhDGARIsAMCZNJslBxg1HWPmtzncYKHYi5Lf-yi5j9PLCKjPNPIANA_FBxYNzNav300aAuTQEALw_wcB

NATIONAL TRANSPORT

All participants are kindly requested to send their hotel and travel details to the IPU Secretariat and the Legislative Assembly using the registration form mentioned above.

The cost of transportation Airport-Hotel-Airport is \$40.00 + tax per way, for one or two people. The transfer from airport-hotel and airport-hotel must be covered by the participants.

Transportation from the hotel to the Legislative Assembly, and from the Legislative Assembly to the hotel, as long as it is one of the aforementioned hotels, will be provided by the Legislative Assembly; as well as transportation for the field visit.

To ensure an efficient reception service, all participants are requested to provide full arrival and departure information on the registration form, including date, flight number and time of arrival and departure.

SECURITY

The authorities of the Legislative Assembly will take all the necessary security measures. Participants are required to wear their name badges at all times while at the meeting venue and at all other official functions during the seminar.

FIRST-AID SERVICE

During the seminar, first-aid facilities will be provided at the venue. All other medical care will be at the participants' own expense. Delegates are advised to take out comprehensive **medical insurance policies** to cover medical emergencies, including the cost of evacuation to other countries in the region.

INSURANCE

Participants must have travel insurance that covers their stay. It is recommended that participants take out their own insurance policies that cover all risks.

CLIMATE

In San José, where the Parliament is located, the temperature is around 22° Celsius and the days are generally rainy, especially in the afternoons.

DRESS

Business dress or national dress is appropriate for meetings and evening events. Participants are also advised to bring comfortable clothing and shoes for the field visit.

ON-SITE SERVICES

The following services will be available on the premises of the main venue:

- lunch
- coffee breaks

- cocktail reception

CURRENCY REGULATIONS

Currency exchange bureaus sell most major currencies, and it is possible to exchange money at the airport, most hotels and banks. The currency in Costa Rica is the Costa Rican colon. Visa and MasterCard credit cards are widely accepted.

The exchange rate as of June 2023 with respect to the US dollar, according to information from the Central Bank:

- Purchase: 541.33 colones for 1 USD\$
- Sale: 546.26 colones for 1 USD\$

OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION

- Time zone: Costa Rica standard time is GTM-6 time zone
- Electricity: In Costa Rica the common voltage is 120 V. The frequency is 60 Hz. The plugs and sockets are type A / B.
- Telephone: The international code to call from Costa Rica to any destination is 00, followed by the country code, the area code and the number. The country code to call Costa Rica is +506