



**GOVERNMENT OF THE  
GAMBIA**



**UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC  
COMMISSION FOR AFRICA**

**EIGHTH AFRICA REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON WOMEN (BEIJING + 15)**

**November 16<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup>, 2009 Banjul, The Gambia**

**INFORMATION NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS**

Dear Participants

Welcome to the Gambia on the smiling coast of Africa and to the Eighth Africa Regional Conference on Women (Beijing + 15)

Please find below some general information on meeting arrangements which you may find useful.

**1. GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE GAMBIA**

The Republic of The Gambia, a former British colony in West Africa, is surrounded by Senegal on the north, east and south and by the Atlantic Ocean on the west. The country occupies a total land area of 10,689 square kilometers. This makes it one of the smallest countries in Africa. The country is divided into two equal parts by the River Gambia, one of Africa's finest waterways. It has a typical Sahelian climate with two distinct seasons. The rainy season starts in early June and ends in late October. The short rainy season partly explains the limited nature of agricultural activities in the country. The dry season begins in late October and ends in June. The cool season is shorter and daytime temperatures are very high between March and June. Sunny periods occur on most days even during the rainy season. Participants are advised to **come with light cloths**.

**2. VISA AND IMMIGRATION REQUIREMENTS**

In order to enter the Republic of The Gambia, all visitors must have a valid passport and evidence of Yellow fever vaccination. Entry visas must be obtained by all participants from Diplomatic Missions of the Republic of The Gambia in their country of origin, except the countries that do not require entry visas to The Gambia. Where there is no Gambian diplomatic representative, participants shall obtain entry visa at the International Airport upon arrival. In such case participants should inform the ground coordinators of the meeting in advance i.e. two weeks before arrival in Banjul, and as well as Fax or email their passport reference as soon as possible to: The National Coordination Office (email: [info@gambiwomen.org](mailto:info@gambiwomen.org) / [hydaraida@yahoo.com](mailto:hydaraida@yahoo.com) / [korojo99@yahoo.com](mailto:korojo99@yahoo.com))  
**Telephone: (+220) 4201263, Fax: (+220) 4229846.**

The Immigration Department will provide a Desk Officer assigned specially to the delegates of the conference on arrival and departure. The cost of **VISA is D300** equivalent in US\$ dollars and participants from ECOWAS Countries do not require entry visa.

### **3. CUSTOMS AND EXCISE**

The Gambia has strict laws on the import and export of illegal and narcotic drugs. Visitors may enter The Gambia with 200 cigarettes or 50 Cigars/cigarettes or mixed prorate e.g. 250gr of other mixed tobacco, 1 litre of spirits plus 1 litre of wine. Travelers in possession of prescription drugs should show proof of their prescription, such as labelled containers. It is against the law for visitors to photograph or film government buildings, including airport, military installation or embassies due to security concerns. Press equipment are allowed into the country temporarily, provided an exhaustive list is submitted before hand.

### **4. FLIGHTS AVAILABLE TO/FROM BANJUL AND DAKAR**

The International Airlines operating in The Gambia and currently flying to/from Banjul and Dakar are as follows: Brussels Airlines, Arik Air, Tui Arkefly Spanair, Elysian Airlines, Air Senegal International, Viking Airline, Belleview Airline, Virgin Nigeria, Ethiopian, South African Airway, Kenyan Airway, Air Ivoire, Air Burkina, Royal Maroc, Libyan Air, Afriqiyah, Gabon Air, Air Mali, Air Mauritania, and Carbon Verde. Take your tickets with you when you go to the travel agent for confirmation.

Details of flights can be accessed on the website ([www.gambiwomen.org](http://www.gambiwomen.org)) Beijing +15.

### **5. INFORMATION AND PROTOCOL DESK**

The Department of Immigration in collaboration with the Conference Coordination Office will provide an information and protocol desk at the Banjul International Airport to facilitate entry and departure formalities for delegates. Each country will be assigned a protocol and usher during the meeting.

### **6. LOCAL TRANSPORTATION**

The Government of The Gambia will put in place a vehicle or Saloon cars at the disposal of each member country's official delegation. Mini buses will be provided to transport delegates from the airport to the hotels and between the hotels and Kairaba Conference Centre.

### **7. HOTEL ACCOMMODATION**

Participants shall pay for their accommodation in the hotels of their choice. Preliminary arrangements have been made to support participants with accommodation booking at their expense in various hotels provided they send their request to the National Coordination Office not later than **30<sup>th</sup> October 2009**. You are also strongly advised to make your online booking or directly contact the hotel of your choice. See hereunder the attached list of selected hotels, room types, rates and contact details. Payment is in Dalasis, Dollar or Euro preferably in cash, even though some hotels accept Visa Credit Card.

### **8. CURRENCY**

The Gambia's currency, the Dalasis, is freely convertible but not widely available outside the country. The Gambia has a cash economy and visitors should carry sufficient currency to cover all expenses for their visit. Visitors can exchange currency in Banks, the Airport, Exchange Bureaus and in some major hotels in different locations. Visa and, Master Card can be used.

Currently 1US\$ (dollar) is equivalent to D26 (Gambian Dalasis) and one Euro is equivalent to D35 (Gambian Dalasis)

## **9. CONFERENCE VENUE**

The Ministerial Meeting of the 8<sup>th</sup> African Regional Conference on Women (Beijing +15) will be held at: **The Kairaba Beach Hotel Conference Centre, Telephone: (+220) 4461410, Fax: (+220) 4461100, Email: [info@kairabahotel.com](mailto:info@kairabahotel.com), Website: [www.kairabahotel.com](http://www.kairabahotel.com)**

Civil Society Organizations/ Non-Governmental Organization meeting will be held at : **Paradise Suites Hotel ; Attention : Mrs. Amie Lette, Tel (220) 9906857 / (220) 4463429, [www.paradisSuites.gm/saffien@hotmail.com](http://www.paradisSuites.gm/saffien@hotmail.com)**

## **10. REGISTRATION FOR PARTICIPANTS**

The Registration desk at **The Kairaba Beach Hotel Conference Centre** will open from 14 November 2009, daily from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 14:30 p.m. to 20:00 p.m. All delegates and participants are encouraged to register as soon as possible upon arrival in Banjul. Each delegate or participant will be given a badge for the purpose of identification during the period of the meetings. To expedite procedures, delegates and participants are requested to register online using the Registration Form on the Conference Website, or report to the Registration Desk at **The Kairaba Beach Hotel Conference Centre** with their passports or other means of photographic identification.

## **11. SHOPPING FACILITIES**

The women of the Gambia will be organizing a grand shopping facility (exhibition ) at the conference site for all delegates at the Kairaba Beach Hotel. The facility will have all types of fashion products you may wish to buy or see during your stay in the Gambia. The prices will be at discounted rates and the committee will be at your disposal to assist at any time. The facility will open from 7am to 9pm every day during the conference. For more details visit the ([www.gambiwomen.org](http://www.gambiwomen.org)) Beijing +15 Shopping facilities. A selected set of hairdressing saloons and restaurant are being identified and all information can be assessed from the website above or from your ushers.

## **12. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT**

For information regarding substantive Conference issues, please contact:

**Chief  
Gender and Women in Development  
African Centre for Gender and Social Development  
United Nations Economic Commission for Africa  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
Tel:+(251-11)5-44.34.48; Fax:+(251-11)5-51.27.85**

For any other issues pertaining to logistics, please contact:

Chief,  
Publications and Conference Management Section (PCMS)  
Telephone Nos.: +251-11 551 4945 or +251-11 544 3556  
Fax Nos.: +251-11 551 3155 or +251-11 551 0105  
e-mail : [uncc-aa@uneca.org](mailto:uncc-aa@uneca.org);

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Please note that these are selected list of hotels with reasonable discount rates and within a short distance from the conference venue.

## Sheraton Gambia Hotel Resort & Spa



Rating: 5 Star

Visit Website: <http://sheraton.com/gambia>

Email: [reservations.gambia@sheraton.com](mailto:reservations.gambia@sheraton.com)

### Type Of Rooms Available

Classic, Deluxe, Junior Suites, Presidential

**Cost Per Room/Night:** \$80 Single and \$90

Internet Facility available 24/7

**Contact Person :** Arafang Saine

**Contact Tel:** (220) 4410889 / (220) 7754402

**Contact Email:** [arafang.saine@sheraton.com](mailto:arafang.saine@sheraton.com)

## Kairaba Beach Hotel



Rating: 5 Star

Visit Website: <http://www.kairabahotel.com>

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

### Type Of Rooms Available

Standard; Deluxe; Premium

**Cost Per Room/Night:** US \$80,00; US \$85,00 ; US \$118.0

**Facilities Available:** Internet Service; Swimming Pool; Medical; Supermarket

**Contact Person:** Cecilia M Sambou Abdourahman Barry

**Contact Tel:** (220) 4461410 / (220) 7754486

(220) 7375732 / (220) 9911498

**Contact Email:** [sales@kairabahotel.com](mailto:sales@kairabahotel.com); [barryabdourahman@hotmail.com](mailto:barryabdourahman@hotmail.com)

## Paradise Suites Hotel



Rating: 4 Star

Visit Website: <http://www.paradisesuites.gm/>

Email: [info@paradisesuites.gm](mailto:info@paradisesuites.gm)

### Type Of Rooms Available

Standard

### Cost Per Room/Night

US \$50.00

### No. of Rooms Available

50

### Block Booking

**Distance from Hotel to Conference Venue:** 2 Minutes Drive

**Facilities Available:** Internet Services; 2 Swimming Pools; 3 Restaurants  
Mini Market; Fashion Shop; Conference Halls (Capacity: 500, 70 and 50)

**Contact Person :** Amie Lette

**Contact Tel:** (220) 9906857 / (220) 4463429

**Contact Email:** [saffien@hotmail.com](mailto:saffien@hotmail.com)

## Jerma Beach Hotel & Resort



Rating: 5 Star

Email: [reservations@jermahotel.gm](mailto:reservations@jermahotel.gm)

**Type Of Rooms Available:** Standard; Villa-Single; Villa-Double; Deluxe; Presidential

**Cost Per Room/Night:** US \$50.00; US \$75.00; US \$150.00; US \$75; US \$250

**Distance from Hotel to Conference Venue:** 1 KM

**Facilities Available:** Internet Service; Swimming Pool; Medical ; Supermarkets ;  
Massage Center ; Beauty Shop/Clothes

**Contact Person:** Modou Conteh

**Contact Tel:** (220) 9925412

**Contact Email:** [contehbaa@yahoo.com](mailto:contehbaa@yahoo.com)

## Senegambia Beach Hotel



Rating: 4 Star

Visit Website: <http://www.senegambiahotel.com/>

Email: [sales@senegambiahotel.com](mailto:sales@senegambiahotel.com)

**Type Of Rooms Available:** Standard; Deluxe; Suites

**Cost Per Room/Night:** US \$76.00; US \$130.00; US \$100.00

**Distance from Hotel to Conference Venue:** 50M

**Facilities Available :** Internet Service; Swimming Pool; Clinic; Supermarkets; Massage Center; Fashion Shop; Tennis Lawn; Mini Golf Lawn

**Contact Person:** Sagar Faal

**Tel:** (220) 9942642

**Email:** [faalsagar@hotmail.com](mailto:faalsagar@hotmail.com)

## Baobab Holiday Resort



Rating: 2 Star

Visit Website: <http://www.baobabgm.com>

Email: [baobab@excite.com](mailto:baobab@excite.com)

**Type Of Rooms Available:** Standard Single; Standard Double

**Cost Per Room/Night:** US \$60.00; US \$75.00

**Distance from Hotel to Conference Venue:** 3 Minutes Drive

**Facilities Available:** Internet Service; Swimming Pool; Restaurant; Conference Hall (Capacity: 120, 70 and 50 people)

**Contact Person:** Abdoulie Kandeh

**Contact Tel :** (220) 9905787 / (220) 4465518

**Contact Email:** [kandehabdoulie@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:kandehabdoulie@yahoo.co.uk)

## Ocean Bay Hotel & Resort



Rating: 5 Star

Visit Website: <http://www.oceanbayhotel.com/>

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

**Type Of Rooms Available:** Standard Single; Standard Double; Deluxe Single; Deluxe Double; Premium Single; Premium Double; Executive

**Cost Per Room/Night:** US \$75.00; US \$95.00; US \$75.00; US \$95.00; US \$109.00; US \$125.00

**Distance from Hotel to Conference Venue:** 7KM

**Facilities Available:** Internet Services; Restaurant & Bar; Beauty and Health Centre; Conference and Meeting Facilities; Swimming Pool; Medical Clinic; Hair Dressing Saloon

**Contact Person :** Mr Famara Gassama; Ida Conteh

**Tel:** (220) 4494265 / (220) 4495664 / (220) 9909817 / (220) 7795761

**Contact Email:** [fom@oceanbayhotel.com](mailto:fom@oceanbayhotel.com)

## Coco Ocean Resort & Spa



Rating: 5 Star

Visit Website: <http://www.cocoocean.com>

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

**Type Of Rooms Available:** Junior Suites; Deluxe Suites; Superior

**Cost Per Room/Night:** EURO 160.00; EURO 180.00; EURO 200.00

**Distance from Hotel to Conference Venue:** 5 Minutes Drive

**Facilities Available:** Internet Services; Pools; Conference Hall (Capacity: 300) ; 24Hrs Medical Services

**Contact Person:** Mary Dymore Brown

**Tel:** (220) 4466500

**Contact Email:** [info@cocoocean.com](mailto:info@cocoocean.com)

## Seaview Gardens Hotel



Rating: 4 Star

Visit Website: <http://www.seaviewgardenshotel.gm/>

Email: [reservations@seaviewgardenshotel.gm](mailto:reservations@seaviewgardenshotel.gm)

**Type Of Rooms Available:** Standard Single; Standard Double; Suites Single; Suites; Double Villa

**Cost Per Room/Night:** US \$57.00; US \$76.00; US \$57.00; US \$96.00; US \$173.00

**Distance from Hotel to Conference Venue:** 4 Minutes Drive

**Facilities Available:** Internet Services; Pool Bar; Table Tennis; Conference Hall (Capacity: 100 People)

**Contact Person :** Yaya Sonko

**Contact Tel:** (220) 9915799

**Contact Email:** [reservations@seaviewgardenshotel.gm](mailto:reservations@seaviewgardenshotel.gm)

## Sunbeach Hotel & Resort



Rating: 5 Star

Visit Website: <http://www.sunbeachhotel.com/>

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

**Type Of Rooms Available:** Superior Rooms; Single Superior Rooms; Double

**Cost Per Room/Night:** US \$120.00; US \$154.00

**No. of Rooms Available**

**Facilities Available :** Internet Services; B. Center

**Contact Person :** Sandigie Njie

**Contact Tel:** (220) 7779974 / (220) 4497190

## Sarges Hotel



Rating: 3 Star

Visit Website: <http://sargeshotel.gm/>

Email: [info@sargeshotel.gm](mailto:info@sargeshotel.gm)

**Type Of Rooms Available:** Standard Single; Suite Single; Studio Single; Standard Double Studio; Double Suite

**Cost Per Room/Night:** US \$49.00; US \$60.00; US \$52.00; US \$63.00; US \$67.00; US \$75.00

**Distance from Hotel to Conference Venue:** 50 Meters

**Facilities Available:** Swimming Pool; Bar and Air Conditioned Restaurant

**Contact Person :** Lang Kangi; Fanta Mboge

**Contact Tel:** (220) 9903705; (220) 9922465

## Coconut Residence



Rating: 5 Star

Visit Website: <http://www.coconutresidence.com/>

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

**Type Of Rooms Available:** Junior Suite; Deluxe Suite; Superior Suite

**Cost Per Room/Night:** EURO 100.00; EURO 120.00; EURO 140.00

**Distance from Hotel to Conference Venue:** 3 Minutes Drive

**Facilities Available:** Internet Service; 2 Swimming Pools; Restaurant & Bar ; Conference Hall (Capacity: 100) ; On Call Prof. Doctor

**Contact Person:** Mary Dymore Brown

**Contact Tel:** (220) 4463377 / (220) 4463399

**Contact Email:** [info@cococean.com](mailto:info@cococean.com)

## Lemon Greek Hotel Resort



Rating: 3 Star

**Type Of Rooms Available:** Single Room; Studio; Small Suite; Big Suite

**Cost Per Room/Night:** US \$96; US \$106; US \$115; US \$192

**Distance from Hotel to Conference Venue:** 5KM

**Facilities Available:** Wireless Internet; Swimming Pools; Medical Service; Massage Centre; Conference Hall (Capacity: 40)

**Contact Person:** Ernest Jarju

**Contact Tel:** (220) 9992700 (220) 6611500

**Contact Email:** [ernestjarju@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ernestjarju@yahoo.co.uk)

## Bijilo Beach Hotel



Rating: 3 Star

Visit Website: <http://www.bijilohotel.com/>

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

**Type Of Rooms Available:** Standard Rooms Suites; Apartment

**Cost Per Room/Night**

US \$95; US \$100; US \$100

**Distance from Hotel to Conference Venue:** 3KM

**Facilities Available:** Internet Service ; Swimming Pool; First Aid Box ; Massage Centre ; Shop

**Contact Person :** Ebrima Bojang

**Contact Tel:** (220) 9946200 / (220) 4462701

**Contact Email:** [bijilobeach@airtip.gm](mailto:bijilobeach@airtip.gm) ; [bijilohotel@gambianow.com](mailto:bijilohotel@gambianow.com)