



General information about Malawi and List of Recommended Hotels in Preparation for ITU Regional Workshop on ICT Statistics for Africa

Lilongwe, Malawi

Practical Information

1. Event venue

Bingu International Conference Centre (BICC)
Chilebwe Road, City Centre
Lilongwe 3, Malawi
Tel: +265 1 789 888
Web: www.umodzipark.co.mw

2. Local Host Focal Point

Ms Linda Kambale
Economist
Email: lkambale@macra.org.mw
Mobile: +265 999 042 442

Mr Andrew Nyirenda
Economic Regulations Manager
Email: anyirenda@macra.org.mw
Mobile: +265 999 953 224

3. About Malawi

Malawi is a landlocked country of about 118,484 Km² with a fresh water lake called Lake Malawi occupying about 20% of that area. The country shares its borders with Zambia to the northwest, Tanzania to the northeast and Mozambique on the east, south and west.

4. Visa

A valid passport, with at least six months to expiry date from intended exit date, is required to enter Malawi. If your passport is likely to expire you should make sure to get a new one before arriving. Visas can be organized prior to travelling, through the nearest Malawian Embassy or High Commission. Please note that all commonwealth countries do not require a visa to Malawi. If you are not sure of whether you need a visa to the country or not, please visit your nearest Malawi embassy or check the website for Immigration department of Malawi at www.immigration.gov.mw.

Where it is not possible to get a visa in advance, a visa can be obtained at the port of entry in Malawi. However upon receiving the registration confirmation participants are required

to send the copy of passport, flights details and hotel booking information to the host focal points prior to arrival and no later than 12th March 2018. They will then receive a letter signed by the immigration department to be presented at the airport at arrival and a visa fee of US\$70 shall apply.

5. Accommodation

Participants are requested to book their hotel accommodation directly with the hotel of their choice. It is recommended that participants book their own hotel reservation, by fax or email, and send a copy of the hotel reservation to the focal points of the meeting.

Hotel Details	Price	Additional Information
President Walmont Hotel, Peermont Tel: +265 1 789 888 Email: info@umodzi.co.mw Web: www.umodzi.co.mw	USD140	Conference venue
Sunbird Capital Hotel Tel: +265 1 773 388 Email: capitalres@sunbirdmalawi.com Web: www.sunbirdmalawi.com	USD120	500m from the conference venue
Sunbird Lilongwe Hotel Tel: +265 1 756 333 Email: lilongwehotelres@sunbirdmalawi.com Web: www.sunbirdmalawi.com	USD120	5km from the conference venue
Ufulu Gardens Tel: +265 1 794 060 Email: reservations@ufulugardens.mw Web: www.ufulugardens.mw	USD100	3km from the conference venue
Mafumu Lodge Tel: +265 1 750 982 +265 994 184 214 Email: reservations@mafumu.net Web: www.mafumu.net	USD80	5km from the conference venue
Golden Peacock Hotel Tel: +265 1 776 666 Email: jkl_mw@afecc.com Web: www.sogeceagoldenpeacock.com	USD80	1.5km from the conference venue
Pacific Hotel Tel: +265 1 776 575 +265 1 776 571	USD60	3km from the conference venue

Simama Hotel Tel: +265 1 725 830 Email: info@simamahotels.com	USD50	8km from the conference venue

6. Transportation

Airport pick-up will be provided to all participants at no cost upon arrival and departure and to the meeting venue. Participants are therefore requested to complete and return the Airport Transfer Form in Appendix I to the local host contact: Ms Linda Kambale at lkambale@macra.org.mw and Mr Andrew Nyirenda at anyirenda@macra.org.mw indicating their flight details and their hotel accommodation, as soon as possible, and no later than 16th March 2018.

7. Weather

In March, the average temperature is fairly hot at 23 degrees Celsius, the weather is not exactly dry with rain now and again. It is sunny approximately 50.4% of daylight hours and cloudy 49.6% of daylight hours.

8. Currency

The unit of currency is the Kwacha (MK) and Tambala (t). One Malawi Kwacha is equivalent to 100 Tambala. The MK can fluctuate depending on the market forces but currently the exchange rate for major currencies to the Kwacha is as detailed below:

1	US Dollar	=	725.65 Kwacha;
1	British Pound	=	1003.02 Kwacha;
1	SA Rand	=	60.96 Kwacha;
1	Euro	=	891.39 Kwacha.

Credit cards such as visa, MasterCard, American express are accepted in major hotels and banks. Travellers' cheques are also widely accepted and exchanged. It is however advisable to take some hard currency in Pounds Sterling, US Dollar, Euro or South African Rand, where possible.

9. Language

Official language for communication is English while the national (local) language is Chichewa. English is understood by most people, even in the rural areas; so in case of critical need or general assistance one would easily be helped anywhere in the country.

10. Water and Electricity

Water: The tap water is safe enough to drink, but bottled water is highly recommended and readily available.



Electricity: Malawi uses the standard British square electricity plugs with a voltage supply of 240 V / 50 Hz.

11. Business Hours

The normal business hours are usually from 07.30 hrs - 17:00 hrs from Monday to Friday. However, most banks do operate from 08:00 hrs – 15:00 hrs from Monday to Friday and from 08:00 hrs – 11:00 hrs on Saturdays. Most businesses are closed on Sundays as it is a prayer day for most churches.



Airport Transfer application

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION:

Name and surname (in capital letters):

Title or Function / Service:

Name of the organization:

Country:

Telephone number: Fax number:

E-mail address:

Arrival Date: Arrival Time: Flight no.:

Departure date: Departure time: Flight no.:

Please return this form duly completed no later than 16th March 2018 to the following contacts: lkambale@macra.org.mw; anyirenda@macra.org.mw and cmwafulirwa@macra.org.mw