

**Meeting of the Study Group 3 Regional Group for Latin America and the
Caribbean (SG3RG-LAC)**

Nassau, Bahamas – April 21 – 24, 2015

Practical information for participants

1 Event venue

British Colonial Hilton Nassau Hotel

Address: No. 1 Bay Street
P. O. Box N-7148
Nassau, Bahamas
Tel.: 1-242-322-3301
Fax: 1-242-302+9010
E-mail: tonya.bethel@hilton.com
Website: <http://www.hiltonbahamas.com>

2 Hotels

Recommended Hotel **British Colonial Hilton**
One Bay Street
Nassau, Bahamas
Telephone: 1-242-322-3301

Hotel website : www.bchiltonnassauhotel.com

The list of proposed hotel may be found in **Annex D**. Preferential group rate has been secured at the Hilton for a limited time only (expires February 18, 2015).

3 Arrival and transportation

To/from Lynden Pindling International Airport (LPIA):

Taxis are located outside the airport/hotels and may also be hired by the hour. From the Nassau airport taxi rates are approximately \$27 to downtown Nassau (venue location), \$18 to Cable Beach and \$33 to Paradise Island (plus the bridge toll). Fares are based on two passengers; there is an additional charge for extra passengers and extra luggage.

Event Shuttle Service:

A courtesy shuttle will be provided during the event to transport delegates between the Melia and Breezes resorts and the event venue at the Hilton hotel. Persons who are interested in this service must reserve a spot by **March 20, 2015**.

To reserve a spot please contact:

Keva Robinson

Email: krobinson@urcabahamas.bs

4 Visa – Formalities for entering the Bahamas

Entry requirements differ depending on what country you are a resident and citizen of. Visit the following link to find out the necessary documentation you will need to ensure a smooth entry into The Bahamas <https://www.bahamas.com/entry-requirements>

For any questions regarding visas, please visit the following link: <http://nassau.usembassy.gov/>

5 Currency and exchange

The Bahamian Dollar is the currency of Bahamas

Symbol: BSD\$

Minor Unit: 1/100 = Cent

Coins: Freq Used: \$1, \$20, 1, 5, 25, 50

Banknotes: Freq Used: \$1, \$2, \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50, \$100

The approximate exchange rate is:

1 USD = BSD \$1.00

1 Euro = BSD \$1.15442 may vary

Credit cards and travelers checks are accepted at most locations on Nassau & Paradise Island. +PLUS and Cirrus ATMs can be found at banks on Nassau & Paradise Island and on most of the major Out Islands.

6 Language

English (more British than American) is the national language of The Bahamas and is intertwined with an appealing Bahamian dialect.

7 Climate

The climate in the Bahamas is sub-tropical. In the islands there are basically two seasons: Wet and Dry. Average temperatures range between 70 to 90 degrees Fahrenheit. The Wet Season is from June through November which is also the hurricane season. The height of the tropical activity is traditionally between August and October. Brief heavy showers are common throughout the year.

8 Local time

Standard Time Zone: UTC/GMT -5 Hours

Daylight Savings Time +1 Hour

Current Time Zone UTC/GMT -4 Hours

DST started on Sunday, March 8, 2015 at 2:00 AM local standard time.

DST ends on Sunday, November 1, 2015 at 2:00 AM local daylight time.

*****DST – Daylight Savings Time**

9 Telecommunications

The country code for Bahamas is +1 242

Both visitors and business travellers will find that telecommunication services in The Bahamas are comparable with the service found in most developed nations. A 100% digital switching system allows direct-distance dialing to more than 100 countries. The US and Canada are a direct-dial away and most hotels provide direct-dialing service from guest rooms and/or the conference centre.

For those who refuse to be unleashed from their cell phones, it is very easy to stay connected while visiting The Islands of The Bahamas. Local Service providers have in place, roaming agreements with 128 companies worldwide. To access the local GSM roaming system, simply turn on your phone and wait while it connects to the network.

10 Electricity

The following plugs/sockets are used:

Electrical outlets in The Bahamas are 60 cycles/120 volts, which is compatible with all US appliances. British and European appliances require a flat two-pin adaptor and 220-volt converter.



11 Health

Two hospitals are fully equipped to respond to emergency medical situations. Princess Margaret Hospital and Doctor's Hospital are both located in Nassau

Vaccination Requirements

A **YELLOW FEVER VACCINATION CERTIFICATE** is required from travelers over age one arriving from countries with a risk of Yellow Fever transmission or having transited for more than 12 hours through the airport of a country with a risk of yellow fever transmission; as identified by the World Health Organization (WHO).

For a full listing of countries required to have a Yellow Fever Vaccination Certificate for entry into The Bahamas kindly visit: <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/yellowbook/2014/chapter-3-infectious-diseases-related-to-travel/yellow-fever#4259>

*****American Airlines requires a Yellow Fever Vaccination Certificate for Trinidadians travelling to The Bahamas.**

CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina	French Guiana	Peru
Bolivia	Guyana	Suriname
Colombia	Panama	Trinidad & Tobago
Ecuador	Paraguay	Venezuela

12 Internet connectivity

Internet connection will be available at the meeting venue. Payment may be required at certain hotels.

13 Contact

For any questions, please contact:

Mrs. Barbara Moss

Tel.: 1-242-396-5214

E-mail: bmoss@urcabahamas.bs

ANNEX D: LIST OF HOTELS:

List of hotels

NAME OF HOTEL	TYPE OF ROOM	PRICE including tax	CONTACT/COMMENT
*British Colonial Hilton	Deluxe City View Room Single	US\$229.00	<p>Group Sales – 302-9032</p> <p>Persons may contact the Hilton Reservations Department directly and make their bookings by calling (242) 302-9000 or (242) 322-3301 and reference group code URCA-URC15 or by emailing to make bookings to reservations.nassau@hilton.com and reference the group code.</p> <p>Cut off for group rate(\$229.00) is Feb. 18, 2015, thereafter participants will be subject to pay at regular rate www.bchiltonnassauhotel.com</p>
**Melia Nassau Beach	Classic Island View Single	US \$270.40 (advance purchase, no cancellation allowed)	<p>Melia Reservations – 1-242-327-6000</p> <p>or</p> <p>www.melianassaubeach.com/</p>
	Double	US \$398.80 (advance purchase, no cancellation allowed)	
Deluxe Pool Single	US\$ \$294.40 (advance purchase, no cancellation allowed)		
Double	US\$420.80 (advance purchase, no cancellation allowed)		
***SuperClubs Breezes Resort & Spa	Deluxe GardenView Single	US\$260.62	<p>Breezes Reservations – 1-242-327-5356</p> <p>http://www.breezes.com/</p>
	Double	US\$347.50	

***: Include High speed internet/ daily housekeeping services.**

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*****: Include all meals & drinks/ land & water sports**