Practical Information

**Visa**

Switzerland joined the Schengen visa scheme in December 2008. Therefore, all foreign nationals who require a visa for entry into Switzerland will now require a Schengen visa.

Delegates are advised to seek information on applicable requirements from Swiss diplomatic or consular missions in their home countries. For information on visa and other relevant regulations for travelling to Switzerland, please also refer to the website of the [Federal Office of Migration of Switzerland](#).

In countries where no Swiss representation exists, missions from other European Union member States should be contacted. Where a visa is required, applicants are advised to apply at least six weeks prior to departure for Geneva.

**Accommodation**

Participants are responsible for making their own accommodation arrangements. Geneva has a full range of hotels of different categories. You may reserve your room via a tourist operator or through the [Geneva Tourist Office](#).

As many international meetings and events take place in Geneva, it is important that hotel reservations be made as soon as possible.

**Transport**

Arrival in Geneva and transportation. Geneva airport is approximately four kilometres from the city centre.

A free ticket to use public transport for your journey into Geneva is available from a machine in the baggage collection area of the airport (just before passing through customs). This ticket entitles you to free use of the Geneva public transport system (train, tram, bus, boat) for up to 80 minutes. In the event of a ticket inspection, anyone holding this type of ticket may be asked to show their
airline ticket. Look for the machine pictured below after collecting your luggage and before walking out through the customs area.

Geneva public transport system. Taxis, Buses and the railway service link the Geneva Airport with the Cornavin Station (main station) in downtown Geneva every few minutes. From here, most hotels can be accessed via a range of public transport options including bus, trams and taxis.

Transport tickets can be purchased at the ticket machines next to the tram/ bus stops and can also be bought at the Geneva Transport Office (TPG office on the ground floor of the Gare Cornavin (main train station). Cards for multiple trips can also be purchased at a reduced rate from newsagents in town bearing the "TPG" sign.

Taxis are only available on call and cannot be hailed in the streets although there are taxi ranks in almost all main squares in Geneva and outside the Palais des Nations. Taxis can be called on the following local numbers: +41 22 320 2020, +41 22 320 2202, +41 22 311 4133

**Conference Venue**

Centre International de Conférences de Genève (CICG)

17 rue de Varembé
CH - 1211 Geneva 20
T +41 22 791 91 11
F +41 22 791 90 64

[CICG Map](#)

**Voltage**

Electricity in Switzerland is generally 230 volts (50 cycles). Travelers with computers and other appliances are advised to carry a plug adapter kit for the kind of plugs and sockets that are in use in Switzerland

**Currency**

**Swiss Francs.** The monetary unit is the Swiss franc, made up of 100 centimes. Notes are issued in denominations of 10, 20, 50, 100, 200 and 1000 francs, and coins of 5, 10, 20, 50 centimes and 1, 2 and 5 francs. 1 Swiss Franc is equivalent to approximately 1.05 US$ or 0.82€

Travelers cheques. Travelers cheques, credit cards and foreign currency notes of all major currencies are accepted. The UBS operates a Branch close to CICG. Address: Chemin Louis-Dunant, 1202 Geneva [UBS Map](#)