

**UNISDR Science and Technology Conference  
on the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030**

**Launching UNISDR Science and Technology Partnership and the Science and Technology Road  
Map to 2030**

To promote and support the availability and application of science and technology to decision-making in  
Disaster Risk Reduction

**Date:** 27-29 January 2016

**Venue:** Geneva International Conference Centre, Geneva, Switzerland

**Practical information**

**Language:** The language of the conference is English. No simultaneous translation will be provided.

**Venue**

The Conference is held at the International Conference Centre Geneva (CICG):

Address: 17 rue de Varembe, CH - 1211 Geneve 20, Switzerland.

Opening hours: 07:00 to 19:00 daily

Visit <http://www.cicg.ch/en/access-map/>

**Access to the CICG Conference Centre:**

**From the airport:**

The International Conference Centre Geneva is 5 kilometres away from the international airport. Access is facilitated by good public transport services, and free bus tickets are available from a machine in the airport baggage claim area.

Geneva Public Transport website: [www.tpg.ch](http://www.tpg.ch)

Public transport from the international airport. Free bus tickets are available in the baggage claim area. (bus stop at arrivals level): Bus 5 : Bus stop "Vermont"

Bus 28 : Bus stop "Nations"

**Taxis:**

Taxis are available at the arrivals level of the airport. They are metered, so costs will vary, but the journey from the airport into the city centre will usually cost around CHF 30. A taxi stand is located on avenue de la Paix, next to the Place des Nations and 200m from the conference centre. Taxis are usually available round the clock. The following direct telephone number will ensure arrival within minutes:

+41 22 331 41 33

### **Parking:**

The Nations Parking lot is accessible from several entry points around the Place des Nations and is 100 metres from the CICG Conference centre.

Hotels and other accommodation in Geneva

Participants are requested to arrange their own hotel bookings for their stay in Geneva, and should contact their Permanent Mission to the United Nations in Geneva or Geneva office for assistance, as required. Early booking and accommodation is advised, as other large events are scheduled to take place in Geneva around the same date.

### **Hotels can be found on the following websites:**

<http://www.bnb.ch>

<http://www.mandint.org/>

<http://www.geneve-tourisme.ch>

<http://www.hotel-les-nations.com>

[http://www.geneve-central.com/liens.asp?id\\_rubrique=31](http://www.geneve-central.com/liens.asp?id_rubrique=31)

<http://www.tbh-ge.ch/en/index.html>

<http://www.booking.com>

<http://www.ebookers.ch>

<http://www.lake-geneva-region.ch/en/Accommodation/Hotels> (around Geneva's lake)

[http://www.tourisme-rolle.ch/net/Net\\_Otr.asp?NoOFS=8102&Sty=&NumStr=30](http://www.tourisme-rolle.ch/net/Net_Otr.asp?NoOFS=8102&Sty=&NumStr=30) (10-50 kms from Geneva)

<http://www.lausanne-tourisme.ch/view.asp?DomID=62865&Language=E> (60 kms from Geneva)

<http://www.hotel-chavannes.ch/> <http://www.citadines.com/> (Ferney-Voltaire Apartments, France)

### **Visas**

Please click on the following link to see if you need a visa to enter Switzerland:

[http://www.bfm.admin.ch/content/bfm/en/home/dokumentation/rechtsgrundlagen/weisungen\\_und\\_k\\_reisschreiben/visa/liste1\\_staatsangehoerigkeit.html](http://www.bfm.admin.ch/content/bfm/en/home/dokumentation/rechtsgrundlagen/weisungen_und_k_reisschreiben/visa/liste1_staatsangehoerigkeit.html)

Please click on the following link for the list of Swiss embassies and consulates abroad. Please consult this list in order to know which Embassy or Consulate General is responsible for handling your visa application in your country of residence. There might be some countries where there is no Swiss representation. In this case, the visa request might have to be lodged in another country where the competent representation is located.

<http://www.eda.admin.ch/eda/en/home/reprs.html>

### How to obtain a Visa?

By clicking on the link indicated hereafter, you will find all information you might need regarding your visa questions / application for Switzerland, such as:

- List of the residence permits issued by Schengen Member States allowing you to enter Switzerland without a visa (as long as traveling with a valid travel document).
- Visa application form.
- List of travel documents entitling the holder to cross the external borders and which may be endorsed with a visa.

### Introduction of the Visa Information System (VIS)

The VIS is used to store the biometric data (10 fingerprints and the facial image) of the applicant applying for a Schengen

visa. [http://www.bfm.admin.ch/content/bfm/en/home/themen/einreise/einfuehrung\\_vis.html](http://www.bfm.admin.ch/content/bfm/en/home/themen/einreise/einfuehrung_vis.html)

For more information please see:

[http://www.bfm.admin.ch/content/bfm/en/home/themen/einreise/merkblatt\\_einreise.html](http://www.bfm.admin.ch/content/bfm/en/home/themen/einreise/merkblatt_einreise.html)

1. If you need a visa to enter Switzerland, it is very important you contact the Swiss embassy or consulate responsible for handling your visa application in your country of residence. The application procedure can take several weeks and up to two months reason for which it is essential you lodge your visa application as soon as possible (maximum 3 months prior to departure). As Switzerland is now part of the Schengen area some persons can travel to other Schengen states but this depends on the type of visa issued. We therefore strongly advise all travelers to check their type of visa before traveling to or transiting through other Schengen states.
2. You must be a registered conference participant before applying for a visa. No application will be handled prior to registration.
3. The Swiss embassy or consulate responsible for handling your visa application in your country of residence can, upon request, provide you with a list of necessary documents needed for your visa application.

Upon request and when necessary, the UNISDR Secretariat can provide a written confirmation of registration which the registered participants can submit to the respective Swiss representations.

Government delegates may wish to contact their Permanent Mission to the United Nations in Geneva for assistance. Please send all visa support letter requests to [isdr@un.org](mailto:isdr@un.org)

### Funding

**UNISDR is not able to fund participation.** Participants are encouraged to seek fund from other sources including for travel and accommodation.

### **Badges**

Distribution will take place from 15:00 to 18:00 on Tuesday 26/01 and from 8:30 to 9:45 on Wednesday 27/01. Participants are invited to pick up their badges at their earliest convenience to avoid delays.

### **Security**

Within UN premises or in premises used for UN conferences such as the CICG (International Conference Centre Geneva), security is the responsibility of UNISDR.

Outside these premises, all external security-related issues are the responsibility of the host country, Switzerland.

All arriving heads of state should alert their permanent missions which will take responsibility for their movements including picking them up at the airport, liaising with airport authorities regarding VIP protocol, arranging for their transportation, accommodation and all other related support while they remain in Geneva.

The Swiss Permanent Mission in Geneva must be kept informed of the arrival in Switzerland of all heads of state including dates of arrival which will be passed on to the Swiss by UNISDR on the basis of confirmed registration and attendance.

### **Internet and electricity**

Free wireless Internet access will be available at the CICG conference centre during all opening hours of the Global Platform conference. One hour of free Internet access is also available at the Geneva airport.

Electricity in Switzerland is 230 Volts, alternating at 50 cycles per second. Please note that a plug converter will be necessary. See the diagram of the Swiss outlet below.



### **Contacts**

Queries on conference preparations may be made to:

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