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**2015 Caribbean Sub-regional meetings:
SUBWOC March 27
SUBRAC March 28 - 29**

Practical Information

Accommodation

Trupial Inn, Hotel and Casino
Groot Davelaarweg 5
Curaçao
Tel: (599-9) 737-8200
www.trupialinn.com

All reservations are in the name of the participant(s).

The hotel is located within walking distance of a shopping mall which has restaurants. Other restaurants are nearby.

Travel to/from Curaçao

Please check the websites of the airlines to prepare for travel. Take advantage of online check-in where available.

American Airlines - www.aa.com

Insel Air - www.fly-inselair.com/en/

Suriname Airways - <http://www.flyslm.com/>

LIAT - http://www.liatairline.com/navSource.html?page_id=157

Caribbean Airlines – <http://www.caribbean-airlines.com/>

Note especially the baggage guidelines. Caribbean Airlines has recently changed its checked baggage policy.

All airports follow the guidelines established by the USA TSA. <http://www.tsa.gov/traveler-information>

Departure taxes

Departure tax is included in tickets for passengers travelling with COPA Airlines, American Airlines, Suriname Airways.

Passengers travelling to Sint Maarten pay USD20.00.

For all other passengers, the fee is USD39.00 payable at the departure tax booth on the second floor. See <http://www.curacao-airport.com/airport-services/airport-departure-fee> for details.

Taxis to/from hotel and around Curaçao

Taxis are available at the airport.

Taxi to the hotel and back to airport is approximately USD40.00 each way for up to 3 or 4 persons.

A number of attendees will arrive and depart on the same flights, so we encourage you to use minivans.

Check the schedule of taxi rates and agree on the rate beforehand. The hotel's front desk will be happy to help. There is usually a surcharge for travel after 11:00 pm.

Time

At the time of workshop time in Curaçao will be:

- one (1) hour behind time in Bermuda and São Paulo
- the same time as countries of the Eastern Caribbean, Haïti, Miami, Bahamas and Guyana
- one (1) hour ahead of time in Jamaica
- two (2) hours ahead of time in Belize

Money and tipping

The national currency is the Netherlands Antillean guilder (also called the florin), abbreviated NAfl. or ANG.

Official rate is USD1.00 = NAfl. 1.77

US dollars are widely accepted. Exchange rates may vary slightly at stores and hotels..

If you plan to use your debit or credit card while in Curaçao, please advise your bank of your travel plans, before leaving your country.

It is suggested to tip the porters at the airport Nafl.1 per bag. Taxi drivers are usually tipped with 10% of the fare. Restaurants usually add 10% and most hotels a 12% service charge to the bill. Hotels charge an additional 7% government tax. Please note that these are not tips. Tipping is left to your own discretion at all times.

Electricity

110 Volts, 2 flat pins.

Trupial Inn provides irons and ironing boards in rooms.

Cellular/Mobile services

Digicel and UTS are well-known providers.

SIM cards are easily available.

Security

We recommend that you exercise the usual precautions that you adopt when travelling in other countries and to travel in groups.

Please also consult with the front desk for advice and guidance.

Punda's Breedestraat and Otrobanda's Breedestraat are the main shopping thoroughfares.

Zuikertuin Mall – just across the street from Trupial Inn – has a wide variety of stores and restaurants under one roof. There are brand-name stores, five restaurants, a fresh market, and an authentic Italian gelateria.

Renaissance Mall and Rif Fort offer excellent shopping, dining and entertainment experiences.

Meeting days and times

Friday March 27

SUBWOC – 9:15 am to 5:30 pm

Saturday March 28

SUBRAC – 9:00 am to 12:30 pm

Afternoon – free time

Sunday March 29

SUBRAC – 9:15 am – 5:30 pm

PSI will provide transportation to and from the meeting venue.

Some other important information

A Multi-lingual environment

Curaçao's official languages are Dutch, Papiamentu and English. A number of Curaçaoans also speak Spanish. A variety of nationalities also live and work in Curaçao. Communicating across linguistic boundaries is an enriching experience but it can also be a challenging one.

Misunderstandings can easily arise as certain nuances may be lost in translation.

Communication problems can usually be overcome with courtesy and patience.

A multi-cultural environment

There is rich diversity in Curaçao. This diversity enriches your experiences. Integral to this multi-cultural environment is respect and tolerance in relation to differences in:

- race,
- colour,
- gender,
- religion,
- political opinion,
- national extraction or social origin,
- physical abilities,
- sexual orientation,
- age.

Visit the website of the Tourist Bureau for more information <http://www.curacao.com>