

# **AFRICA CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE (ACE) PROJECT**

## **10<sup>TH</sup> PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING**

*May 15, 2017*

**AND**

## **7<sup>th</sup> ACE WORKSHOP**

*May 16 - 18, 2017*

**InterContinental Hotel, Victoria Island, Lagos, Nigeria**

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

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#### **EVENTS VENUE**

The ACE Project Steering Committee (PSC) Meeting and Workshop will be held at the **Intercontinental Hotel, 52 Kofo Abayomi Street, Victoria Island, Lagos, Nigeria.**

#### **REGISTRATION**

On-site registration will be done at the **Intercontinental Hotel, Victoria Island** on Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> May 2017 by 6.00pm and on Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> May 2017 at 7.30a.m.

#### **WORKING LANGUAGES**

The working languages of the Meeting and Workshop will be English and French. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided during all plenary sessions of the workshop.

#### **ENTRY VISA**

The Local Organizing Committee (LOC) is making arrangements with Nigerian immigration authorities to issue visas on arrival for those not from ECOWAS countries. It is very important that those who have Nigerian diplomatic missions in their countries should endeavour to get their visas before departure. Those who do not have a Nigerian High Commission in their countries should please send the 1<sup>st</sup> three pages of their passports (including biodata page) to Michael Ejegwa (email: [meejegwa@nuc.edu.ng](mailto:meejegwa@nuc.edu.ng)) and Peter Tobrise (email: [potobrise@nuc.edu.ng](mailto:potobrise@nuc.edu.ng)) with a copy to [ghansen@aau.org](mailto:ghansen@aau.org) as soon as possible.

#### **TRANSPORT**

Daily transfer of participants will be provided from designated hotels to the conference venue (Intercontinental Hotel, Victoria Island) and back.

## **AIRPORT TRANSFERS**

Arrangements will be made to pick up participants being sponsored by the **AAU; (Project Steering Committee Members, Focal Points and Experts)** from the airport on arrival and on their departure. All other participants should please provide travel information on the online form.

## **WEATHER AND CLIMATE**

The average maximum daytime temperature in Lagos in May is about 31°C (88°F) with high humidity. There are usually 6 hours of bright sunshine each day, which represents 46% of the 12 hours of daylight. The average sea temperature in and around Lagos in May is 29°C (84°F).

As May is in the rainy season in Nigeria, rainfall is expected to be about 222mm (8.7 inches) across the whole of May. Maximum UV levels will be extreme (11+ UV index) at midday when the skies are clear. The average night-time temperature is usually a warm 24°C (75°F).

## **TIME**

Standard time in the Nigeria is GMT + 1.

## **CURRENCY**

**The monetary unit in Nigeria is the Naira (₦).**

The exchange rate for interbank conversions, including credit/debit card transactions is about \$1 USD = ₦306.99 NGN (approximate rate as at 24 March 2016). Assistance with currency conversions can be found on the following websites: <http://www.xe.com>. However, for currency exchanges, the Bureau de Change rate is about \$1 USD = ₦400.00 (approximate rate as at 24 March 2017), visit <https://abokifx.com/> for more information. Some hotels and shops accept credit/debit cards, but the use of credit cards is relatively limited with small shops.

## **BANKING & BUSINESS HOURS**

Banks: Monday to Friday: 08:00 am - to 4:00 pm.

Shops: Monday to Saturday: 08:00 – 9:00 pm.

Markets: Monday to Saturday 08:00am to 06:00pm

\*On Thursdays, markets open at 10:00am

## **BUSINESS SERVICES CENTRE**

The business service centres of the hotels have facilities for photocopying, sending faxes as well as Internet facilities. These services will be at the participants' own cost. Please consult the front desk of the hotel to make the necessary arrangements.

## **ELECTRICITY**

The voltage in Nigeria is 240 V which is the same voltage used in Australia, Kuwait, and Malaysia. Note that the 240 V is the highest voltage used in the world and therefore the most dangerous. 240 V has an advantage over lower voltage such as the 110 V that it is cheaper to transmit. On the other hand, 240 V is more dangerous than lower voltages. The electrical frequency in Nigeria is 50 Hz. Note that most household and electrical/electronic equipment nowadays support multiple frequencies, so generally, electrical frequency is not an issue compatibility wise. The plugs used in Nigeria are “D”

or “G”. Plugs/sockets are usually an issue when it comes to traveling, so always make sure you travel with a universal plug adapter.

## **ROADS**

Major part of the road network is good but it is advised to check on the state of the road you intend to take before going out. Traffic keeps to the right!

## **SAFETY AND SECURITY**

As is the case with most bustling cities, visitors to Lagos are at risk of crimes such as pickpocketing and purse snatching, especially in busy tourist areas such as the beaches, markets, parks and attractions. Safety precautions include traveling in groups, avoiding street demonstrations and nighttime travel, and limiting your display of jewelry and money. Visitors should also keep a watchful eye on their luggage and personal items, and put travel documents in a secure place to prevent theft. Limiting your credit card use reduces risk of credit card fraud.

## **TOURISM**

### National Museum

The National Museum in Lagos is famous for its collection of Nigeria's historical art works from different parts of the country.

### Black Heritage Museum

Founded in part by a Nigerian cultural commission, the Black Heritage Museum preserves artifacts and records from the slave route that once ran through Badagry.

### Conservation Centre

A wildlife conservation, Lekki Conservation Centre is situated on Lekki peninsula and consists of swamp and savanna habitats. The centre is home to crocodiles, lizards, variety of birdlife and different species of monkeys.

### Slave Trade House

Located in a part of Badagry called the Slave Town. Visiting Slave Trade House is an educative and enlightening experience that would take you through the historical moments of Nigerians during the slave trade era. It houses artefacts used during the slave trade era.

### Whispering Palms Resort

Palms resort is located on an expansive land overlooking the Badagry lagoon. It includes a mini zoo, Oduduwa fountain, thatched huts and a unique view of the Lagos lagoon.

### National Theatre

National Theatre is an architectural masterpiece in Iganmu, in the heart of Lagos megacity. It is the primary centre for performing arts in Nigeria. The monument was built during the military regime of Olusegun Obasanjo in the late 1970s; hence its shape looks like a military beret. The multi-purpose complex also has galleries of modern Nigerian arts and crafts as well as those from other African countries.

### Beach Resorts

Lagos has a vast number of excellent beaches including the Bar Beach, Eleko Beach, Elegushi Beach, Tarkwa Bay, Atican Beach, La Campagne Tropicana, Coconut Beach, etc.

### Nike Art Gallery

A private run gallery full of contemporary and traditional Nigerian arts.

### Kalakuta Republic

Visit Kalakuta Republic Museum to experience firsthand the life and times of Afrobeat legend, Fela Anikulapo-Kuti. Kalakuta is the former house of Fela converted into a museum. There you will see rare pictures of the world icon.

### **HEALTH REQUIREMENTS**

A YELLOW FEVER VACCINATION CERTIFICATE is mandatory for participants coming from affected countries (**consult Nigerian consulate in your country for more information**). It should be pointed out that the Vaccination Certificate for Yellow Fever is valid ten (10) days after the date of vaccination or in case of re-vaccination as from the date of re-vaccination.

You may wish to consult your doctor before travelling and also take a travel or medical insurance.

Please take along with you your normal prescribed medication

### **ACCOMMODATION**

Apart from **PSC Members, Experts and Focal Points**, participants will be responsible for paying their own accommodation and for making reservations at the following Hotels at specially negotiated rates.

**LIST OF AVAILABLE HOTELS AND THEIR RATES CAN BE DOWNLOADED WHEN COMPLETING THE ONLINE REGISTRATION FORM.**

### **INDEMNITY**

The Local Organising Committee, the Association of African Universities, and the World Bank and other service providers related to this conference will not be held responsible for any physical loss or damage in respect of any liability, loss, claim or proceedings whatsoever, whether these claims arise in common law or by statute, consequent on personal injuries to or the death of any person whatsoever arising out of, or in the course of, any action or caused by any acts of the above mentioned parties or their staff members. Delegates are advised to make their own insurance arrangements.