Fourth meeting of the Expert Working Group on ESM San Francisco, California, USA 10-12 November 2015

Information Note

Meeting Venue

Embassy Suites San Francisco Airport – South San Francisco

250 Gateway Boulevard, South San Francisco, CA 94080

Telephone: +1 650-589-3400

Accommodation

Embassy Suites is offering a preferential room rate of \$249 per night to the meeting participants. The Secretariat will circulate a special link to the Embassy Suites website shortly through which it will be possible for you to reserve your accommodation. **Please reserve your room by October 19, 2015.**

This all-suite hotel is 9 miles from downtown; a six minute walk from the South San Francisco station and 6.6 miles from McLaren Park.

Each suite offers a living room with pull-out sofas, two TVs, refrigerators and wifi (at a reduced rate of \$5 per day for meeting participants).

The rate of \$249 includes daily hot breakfast and an evening cocktail reception, as well as an airport and downtown shuttle. There is also a steak and seafood restaurant, an indoor pool and a gym.

Plugs

The United States and Canada use 110-volt electricity, while most countries outside North America use 220-volt electricity. Unless your appliance is dual voltage, you need to use a converter or a transformer to change the 220-volt electricity into 110-volt electricity in order to use a 110-volt appliance.

Currency

The official currency of the United States and its overseas territories is the U.S. dollar.

Climate

San Francisco's weather is as changeable as the seas, literally. Surrounded on all sides (save one) by ocean and bay, San Francisco's weather is also one of the hardest to forecast and changes drastically from neighborhood to neighborhood. Over four seasons, not one of which corresponds to its climatic expectations, San Francisco's weather can be difficult for visitors to predict, save that Fog City delivers majestic skies, trademark plumes of white fog and brilliant sunsets.

September, October and until mid to late November, are the best months to visit San Francisco for weather. Days are warm and sunny and nights are mild and clear. The average high/low temperatures for San Francisco in November are 64/51 (F) or 18/11 (C).

A light jacket and layered clothing are a good idea year round.

The San Francisco Bay Area

It may measure less than 50 square miles/130 square kilometers, but San Francisco justly ranks as one of the greatest cities in the world.

"A Crimson bridge, cable cars, a sparkling bay, and streets lined with elegant Victorian homes—San Francisco is undeniably one of the world's great cities. Located in Northern California at the state's distinctive bend in the coast, the region has an alluring magic that stretches beyond the bay to diverse cities with nightlife and trend-setting cuisine.

The Bay Area is also home to some of the world's finest wine country, including Napa Valley and Sonoma, plus waterfront towns, dramatic beaches, and the tech-savvy southern end of the bay known as Silicon Valley, where lunchtime ideas at Google, Facebook, and Apple, turn into the next brilliant innovation."

For tourist information from the California Tourism Office, please access the following link: http://www.visitcalifornia.com/region/discover-san-francisco-bay-area

To download the San Francisco Visitor's Guide, please access the following link: http://www.sanfrancisco.travel/article/visitors-guide