



United Nations
Economic Commission for Africa



Information for Participants

We are pleased that you can join us for the 24th Session of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts (ICE) Meeting for Southern Africa on the theme ***“Blue Economy, Inclusive Industrialization and Economic Development in Southern Africa”***
18 – 21 September 2018

Le Méridien Hotel, Village Hall Lane, Pointe aux Piments, Mauritius



Host Country

Mauritius is situated 2,000 km off the east coast of Africa and some 890 km to the east of Madagascar. The country has an area of 1,860 km² and is made up of a central plateau gradually rising towards the south west where it reaches its highest point of 828 metres at Piton de la Petite Rivière Noire.

A democratic country, Mauritius gained independence on 12 March 1968. The country has a diversified economic base and boasts one of Africa's highest per capita income. Port Louis is the capital of Mauritius.

English is the official language. French is extensively used and Creole is widely spoken. Asian languages also form part of the linguistic mosaic.

Mauritius has a cosmopolitan culture. The population of the Island is approximately 1.3 million.

The various people movements of the 18th, 19th and early 20th centuries have made of Mauritius a unique blend of different races, cultures and religions. People of European, African, Indian and Chinese origins have created a multiracial society where the various cultures and traditions flourish in peace and harmony.

Information on Mauritius and Le Méridien Hotel can be found on the following websites:

www.tourism-mauritius.mu

www.tourisme-ilemaurice.mu

www.lemeridien-mauritius.com

Date and Venue

The ICE meeting, on the theme ***“Blue Economy, Inclusive Industrialization and Economic Development in Southern Africa”*** will take place from 18 to 21 September 2018 at the Le Méridien Hotel, Pointe aux Piments, Mauritius.

Immigration requirements

A valid passport is required for entry into Mauritius. Entry visas can be arranged in advance through Mauritian diplomatic missions abroad. However, participants from countries with no Mauritian diplomatic representation should provide the Economic Commission for Africa's Southern Africa Office (ECA-SA) with their passports details and travel itinerary so that arrangements can be made to obtain a visa on arrival at Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam (SSR) International Airport.

Information on visas into Mauritius is available on the following links:

<http://passport.govmu.org/English/Passport%20and%20Visa%20Requirement%20in%20Mauritius/Pages/Visa-Requirements-in-Mauritius.aspx>

Information on Customs Declaration / Restrictions at Airport are provided in the link below:

<http://www.mra.mu/index.php/12-home/import-export-others/87-on-arrival>

Information regarding airport safety and security and airport charges is available at the following link: <http://aml.mru.aero/index.php/ssr-international>

Airport Tax

Airport tax is normally included in the air fare.

Currency and Banking

The unit of currency in Mauritius is the Mauritian Rupee (MUR) which is divided into 100 cents (cs). International credit cards are also widely accepted. Participants may carry with them Euros, US dollars, British Pounds and South African Rand. Currency can be exchanged at hotels or banks at prevailing exchange rates.

Indicative exchange rates are: 1 US \$ \approx Rs 34; 1 € \approx Rs 40. Daily currency exchange rates are available on the website of the Bank of Mauritius at: <http://www.bom.mu>.

Banking hours: Monday – Thursday 09.00 – 15.15; Friday 09.00 – 17.00; Week End Closed

Transportation

On arrival and departure, ECA-SA, through the Government of Mauritius, will ensure the transportation of all participants to and from the airport and their hotels.

Hotel Accommodation



Accommodation has been reserved at the Le Méridien Hotel for all sponsored participants. For convenience, participants are advised to stay at Le Méridien Hotel but those wishing to be booked in other hotels can do so by directly contacting the hotel of their choice. ECA-SA is only in a position to guarantee booking for hotel accommodation for participants at Le Méridien Hotel, the meeting venue.

Hotel	Contact Address	Single Room Rate
Le Méridien Hotel	Village Hall Lane, Point Aux Piments, Mauritius Tel: +230 204 3333 Fax: +230 204 3304 Email: groups@lemeridien.com Website: www.lemeridien-mauritius.com	\$170

Other hotels which participants may wish to consider for accommodation are given in the table below:

Hotel	Contact Address
La Pirogue Hotel	Wolmar, Flic en Flac, Mauritius Tel : +230 403 3900; Fax : +230 403 3800 Email: info@lapirogue.mu Website: www.lapirogue.com
Maritim Resort and Spa	Turtle Bay, Balaclava Tel : +230 204 1000 Fax : +230 204 1020 Email: info.mau@maritim.com ; Website: www.maritim.com
Intercontinental Hotel	Coastal Road, Ville Valio, Balaclava, Mauritius Tel: +230 261 1200; Fax: +230 261 1020 Website: www.intercontinental.com/mauritius
Le Labourdonnais Hotel	Caudan Waterfront P.O Box 91, Port-Louis, Mauritius Tel: +230 202 4000 ; Fax: +230 202 4040 Email: info@labourdonnais.com Website: www.labourdonnais.com

Health Precautions

Participants are advised to update their routine vaccinations for travel, some of which may be required on this travel. Participants arriving from countries with risk of yellow fever, as per table here-under, will need to obtain a valid Vaccination Certificate for Yellow Fever. Failure to produce proof of the certificate might result in participants not being allowed to enter the country.

Africa	America
Angola	Bolivia
Benin	Brazil
Burkina Faso	Colombia
Burundi	Ecuador
Cameroon	French Guiana
Central African Republic	Guyana
Chad	Panama
Congo	Peru
Cote d'Ivoire	Surinam
Democratic Republic of Congo	Venezuela
Equatorial Guinea	
Ethiopia	
Gabon	
Gambia	
Ghana	
Guinea	
Guinea-Bissau	
Kenya	
Liberia	
Mali	
Niger	
Nigeria	
Rwanda	
Sad Tome and Principe	
Senegal	
Sierra Leone	
Somalia	
Sudan	
Togo	
Uganda	
United Republic of Tanzania	
Zambia	

The following link provides information on health precautions for travellers to Mauritius:
<http://health.govmu.org/English/Pages/travellers-advice.aspx>

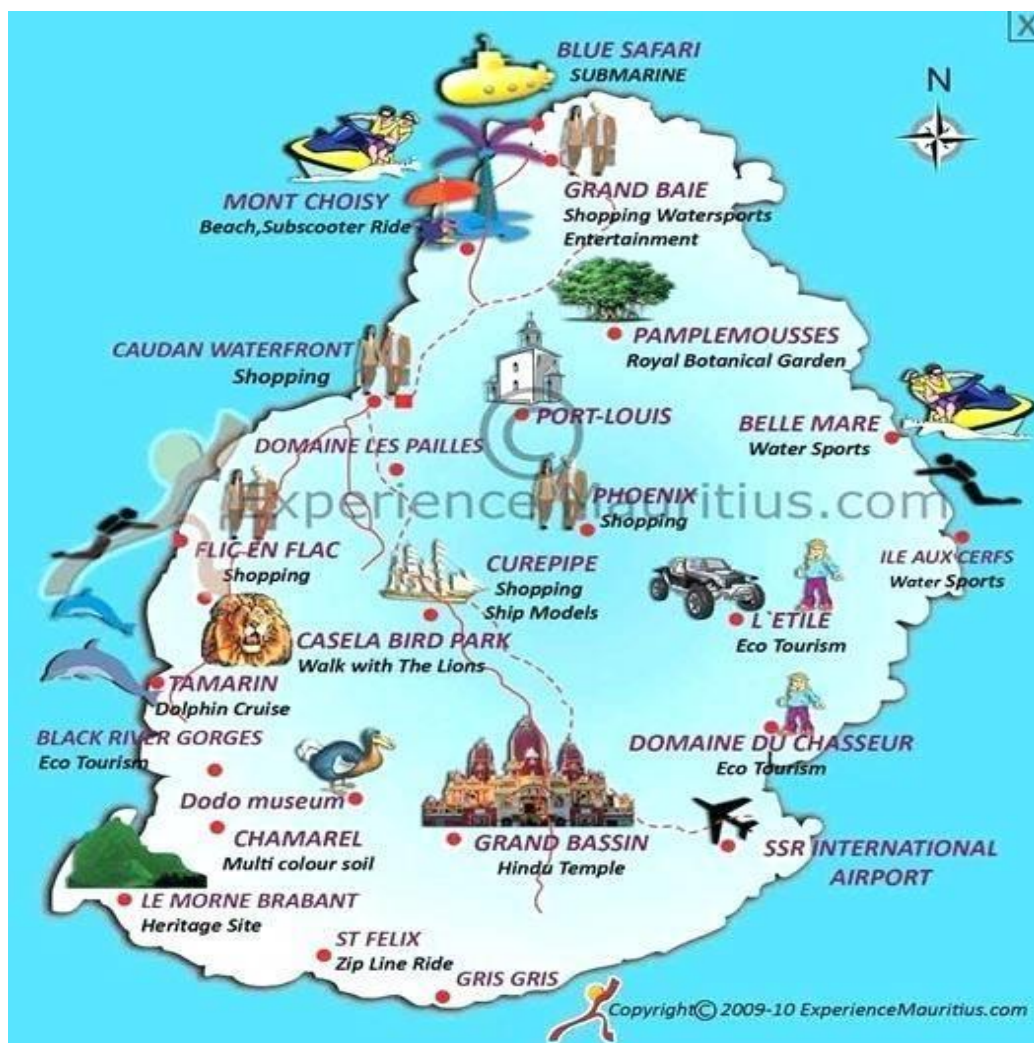
Weather

Mauritius enjoys a mild tropical maritime climate throughout the year, characterised by a warm humid summer extending between November and April and a relatively cool dry winter between June and September. October and May are the transition months. Mean mid-day temperature ranges from 26°C to around 30°C in summer and from 22°C to 27°C in winter when moving from the Centre to the coastal areas.

Tourist Attractions and Activities

There are many tourist attractions in Mauritius including the Champ de Mars, the Museum of Photography, China Town, the National History Museum, Ile aux Aigrettes Nature Reserve, Blue Bay Marine Park, Rochester Falls, Seven Waterfalls, Trou aux Cerfs, Ganga Talao, Les Vergers of Labourdonnais, Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam Botanical Garden, Cap Malheureux's Red Roof Chapel,

Paul and Virginie monument, Blue Safari submarine, Mauritius Aquarium, Plaine Champagne, Tea Route, Le Morne Cultural Landscape, Aapravasi Ghat UNESCO World Heritage Site, birdwatching, scuba diving, dolphin watching, kayaking, water skiing, and boat excursions.



Medical Emergency and Health Services

Medical emergency call number is 114 and Police emergency number is 999 / 112. The closest hospitals in the region are Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam National Hospital (SSRNH) located in Pamplemousses and the Triolet Medi-Clinic located at New Market Road, Triolet.

Time Difference

Mauritius is four hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT+4).

Business Hours

Public Offices and major businesses are generally open from 08.45 hrs to 16.00 hrs from Monday to Friday.

Smoking

Smoking in public areas in Mauritius is strictly prohibited except in designated areas.

Contact Persons

All correspondence regarding these meetings should be directed to:

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ECA Southern Africa Office
P.O. Box 30647
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and copied to:

Mr. Sizo Mhlanga
Chief, Sub-Regional Data Centre
ECA Southern Africa Office
P.O. Box 30647
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