



7th Meeting of the Working Party on Neritic Tunas

Maldives

STELCO Training Room

10-13 July 2017
Male', Maldives

Please note new section added below on business visa requirements!

1. Meeting Dates and Venue

The 07th meeting of the Working Party on Neritic Tunas is scheduled for 10- 13 July 2017. The meeting will take place from 09:00 am to 17:00.

The venue of the meeting is:

STELCO Training room
K. Male'
Republic of Maldives
Tel: (+960) 6640088, fax: (+960) 6643877
Web: <http://www.stelco.com.mv/>

2. Contacts

The contacts of the meeting are as follows:

LOCAL:

Mariyam Nazeefa, mnazeefa@mrc.gov.mv; phone; +9607994985
Mohamed Ahusan, mahusan@mrc.gov.mv; phone; +9609990836

IOTC:

Mirose Govinden, mirose.govinden@fao.org; phone +2484225494
Howard Whalley, howard.whalley@fao.org; phone +2484225494

3. Registration

Please pre-register online at your earliest convenience for the following events:

- Working Party on Neritic Tuna: <http://www.iotc.org/meetings/7th-working-party-neritic-tunas-wpnt07>

4. Travel Arrangements and Accommodation

Participants are requested to make their own travel arrangements and fund the expenses incurred. The IOTC Meeting Participation Fund (MPF) participants will be responsible for booking their own accommodation and the IOTC Secretariat will book and pay for the MPF flights.

The Velaana International airport is located on Hulhule' Island, separate from the capital Male'. There will be airport ferry services from Hulhule' to Male'. It takes about 10 mins from Hulhule' to Male by ferry and will cost MVR 10. You may request the hotel to pick up you from the airport.

For Accommodation

Hotel Suggestions

Unima Grand: <http://www.unimagrand.com/>

Champa Central Hotel: <http://www.champacentralhotel.com/>

The Sommerset: <http://www.thesomerset.com.mv/>

Mookai Hotel: <http://www.mookai.com.mv/>

Surf View Raalhugandu: <http://www.surfviewhotel.com/>

Hotel Jen: <https://www.hoteljen.com/>

There are a number guest houses on Hulhumale which is only 20 mins by ferry ride. Ferries operate from 05:00 - 24:00 with frequency of 10 mins apart. Hulhumale is more spacious and also would have easy access to the Hulhule Island Hotel.

Please make contact with the hotels as soon as possible to avoid difficulties. You may also contact the local focal points if you require assistance with hotel booking.

5. Health Precautions

Participants are advised to carry a valid Cholera and Yellow Fever vaccination certificate if you have recently visited or come from a country where the diseases are endemic. Other recommended vaccination includes hepatitis A and B, typhoid in addition to the routine vaccinations against polio and tuberculosis.

6. Arrival and Entry Formalities

According to Maldives Customs Service, passengers must not carry any type of alcohol when travelling to Maldives. Alcohol is not available on Malé. Please check the immigration website for further information (<http://www.immigration.gov.mv>).

Prescribed medicines are allowed for daily use. It is advisable to bring prescription for any medicines that you carry to enter the Maldives.

7. Visa Requirements (**IMPORTANT INFORMATION – PLEASE READ**)

Recent changes in the regulation requires that anyone entering into the Maldives other than for purely holidays should have a valid, pre-approved visa. For the case of visitors entering into the Maldives for meetings/workshop the appropriate visa is a **Business Visa**.

Visas must be processed **before arrival to the Maldives**. The visa fee is MVR 750 (US\$ 48.6). As part of the Business Visa requirement an 'Expatriate Insurance' is required which costs MVR 550 (US\$ 35.70). In total US\$ 84.3 is required to process the visa. The Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture as the host, will be organizing the payment of this fee, to be reimbursed by participants during the meeting.

Information required:

- Completed application form www.iotc.org/documents/visa-application-form
- Scanned copy of current passport
- Scanned copy of a recent passport photo
- Next of kin details:
 - o Relationship
 - o Name of next of kin (as in passport)
 - o Date of birth (next of kin)
 - o Passport number (next of kin)
 - o Address (next of kin)

Please send this information via e-mail to secretariat@iotc.org before Thursday 29th June 2017.
Applications received after this date WILL NOT be accepted by immigration.



8. Land Transportation

Taxis on Malé operate 24/7 and popular taxi companies are:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| 1. Regal taxi | tel: 3321313 |
| 2. Loyal taxi | tel: 3325656 |
| 3. New taxi services | tel: 3325757 |
| 4. Dial Cab | tel: 3323132 |
| 5. Fine taxi | tel: 3321414 |
| 6. Rasal taxi | tel: 3329292 |
| 7. J.R. Taxi Services | tel: 3321919 |

Each taxi trip will cost MVR 25, irrespective of the distance. Extra fees will be incurred for luggage.

9. Dress Code

The dress code for the meeting is Smart Casual

10. General Information about the Maldives

Maldives is an archipelago of 1190 coral islands scattered over an area of 90,000 square miles in the Indian Ocean. There are 26 natural atolls and only about 200 islands are inhabited and 103 islands are tourist resorts and the rest are uninhabited or leased for agriculture and other commercial activities. Malé is the capital. There is only two International Airports. The religion in the Maldives is Muslim, and the attire should be decent when in Malé and other inhabited islands.

The weather in the Maldives is warm and humid, with an average temperature of 30° Celsius throughout the year. Maldives experiences two seasons; a dry season (northeast monsoon) which lasts from January to April and a wet season (southwest monsoon) from May to December. Occasional showers are expected during the meeting duration.

The currency is Maldivian Rufiyaa. The current exchange rate of Bank of Maldives is 1USD=MVR15.42. All major currencies are exchangeable at banks and US dollars are accepted at all hotels. Major credit cards are accepted in hotels and in shops.

Shops are open from 9am-10pm, but would close for a short while for a prayer times.

11. Electricity

Electricity in Maldives is 22.-240 volts; additionally the utility frequency of the power supplied is 50Hz. Sockets and plugs are as follows:



12. Telephone and Internet Services

The International Dialing Code for the Maldives is +960

There are two operators, Dhiraagu (www.dhiraagu.com.mv) and Ooredoo (<https://ooredoo.mv/>) and both provide SIM cards and pre-paid service.

SIM cards would be available from the teleshops of the operators and a number of teleshops are located at the arrival area or on Malé.

13. ATMs

ATMs are located outside the arrival and departure terminals at the Velaanaa International Airport and the nearest ATM to the meeting venue will be located at the STELCO Building. You can also withdraw US Dollars from designated ATMs.

14. Restaurants and coffee shops

There is a wide range of food outlets with reasonable prices around Malé, and food outlets usually frequented by travelers can be found on Bodu Thakurufaanu Magu (the waterfront road), in front of jetty numbers 3-7 and near Airport Ferry Terminal. Cafés and restaurants serving buffet lunch at reasonable prices are available within walking distance of the meeting venue.



iotc ctoi

