



GCF Structured Dialogue with the Caribbean

Placencia, Belize | 19-22 June 2017

Practical Information



VENUE

The GCF Structured Dialogue with the Caribbean will take place at the Belize Ocean Club Resort, Placencia Road, Stann Creek, Belize.

Tel.: 1 800 997 1289 | email: info@belizeoceanclub.com

Web: www.belizeoceanclub.com

VISA

Depending on your passport, below are the different visa requirements for entry into Belize:

- Valid multiple entry US visa and valid multiple entry Schengen visa holders do not require visas to enter Belize.
- For the list of countries whose citizen do not require visas please refer to the information provided at <http://mfa.gov.bz/index.php/what-we-do/consular-matters/belize-visa-information>.
- Participants who require a visa are requested to apply at the nearest Belize Embassy or diplomatic mission. To expedite the process, applicants can contact Ms. Arlette Gomez (arlette.gomez@mfa.gov.bz) and refer to the meeting.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR NON-SPONSORED PARTICIPANTS

Non-sponsored participants are encouraged to book their accommodation at the same hotel as the Dialogue will take place at this venue. Other options for accommodation close to the event venue are included at the end of this note.

It is likely that your ticket to Belize will be booked to the Belize International Airport (Phillip S.W. Goldson International Airport - BZE) and you will need to book a separate domestic flight to Placencia. There are two domestic carriers: Tropic Air (www.tropicair.com) and Maya Island Air (www.mayaislandair.com). To expedite your transfer and ensure you are met on arrival in Placencia, you can forward your flight itinerary to arlette.gomez@mfa.gov.bz.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR SPONSORED PARTICIPANTS

GCF will provide support for a limited number of participants representing the NDAs of the Caribbean region and selected civil society organizations. The details have been specified with individual letters of invitation.

- Travel arrangements will be communicated directly to each sponsored participant.
- Hotel rooms for all sponsored participants will be booked and paid for by GCF at the Belize Ocean Club Resort. The rooms will be shared two-bedroom suites with en suite bathrooms and shared living areas. The dates of accommodation will correspond with the travel itineraries.
- Sponsored participants will receive a daily subsistence allowance (DSA) for the duration of their stay. The DSA is intended to cover the incidentals, meals not provided during the event and terminal costs. DSA will be paid on site in US Dollars.

SOCIAL EVENTS

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Belize will host a welcome reception on the first day of the Regional Dialogue, 19 June at 7 pm at The Placencia Hotel. A shuttle service will be provided to and from the reception. As the reception will be held on the beach, flat and comfortable shoes are recommended.

The Government of Belize will host a field trip to Laughing Bird Caye National Park on the afternoon of 22 June. Should you decide to attend, you are encouraged to bring appropriate clothing for visiting the caye and swimming.

DRESS CODE

The dress code for the meeting is smart casual. It is customary for men to wear guyaberas or shirt jackets. The warm, humid and tropical climate of Belize does not bode well for suits.

TRANSPORTATION

All participants will be met upon arrival by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Belize. Participants will be escorted to check-in for their connecting domestic flight to Placencia. Participants will also be transported from the domestic airport in Placencia to the hotels, provided they have communicated their flight itineraries and hotel reservations to arlette.gomez@mfa.gov.bz.

For participants not staying at the meeting venue, shuttle transportation will be provided in the mornings and evenings to and from the nearby hotels. The daily departure times will be shared on arrival at the Dialogue

GENERAL INFORMATION

Time zone

Belize is located within GMT-6 time zone.

Weather

Average temperatures in the coastal regions range from 24 °C (75.2 °F) in January to 27 °C (80.6 °F) in July. For the latest weather forecast, visit: <http://www.hydromet.gov.bz> and <http://www.placencia.com/weather/>. Rainy conditions are expected at the time of the event.

Currency

The official currency is the Belize Dollar (BZD). The US Dollar is widely accepted. 1 USD = 2 BZD. Please note that when purchasing with US Dollars, change is given in Belizean dollars.

Electricity

Belize uses the standard North American non-grounded outlet.

Internet Access

Wireless Internet access is available at all hotels and at the conference venue.

Mobile phones

Local SIM cards can be used in most unlocked international cell phones with the notable exception of phones from some operators in the US. International cell phones can be used in Belize if they are GSM 1900 and unlocked. You can buy a SIM pack for USD 10 from DigiCell distributors around the country, including at the the International Airport.

International Code: 00

Country Code: + 501

Directory Assistance: 113

Emergency numbers

For emergencies call 90 or 911.

There will be on-site security and doctor present throughout the event.

To learn more about Belize, please visit <https://www.travelbelize.org/>

EVENT CONTACTS

Please note the following contacts for the event:

Mr Mahendra Saywack (overall queries)	gcf-events@gcfund.org
Ms Sharon Lindo (arrangements for the sponsored participants)	slindo@caribbeanclimate.bz
Ms Arlette Gomez (protocol arrangements and transfer support in Belize City airport)	arlette.gomez@mfa.gov.bz

Accommodation options for non-sponsored participants

<p>The Placencia Hotel North Maya Beach, Placencia Tel: (501) 533-4110 Email: info@theplacencia.com Website: www.theplacencia.com</p>	<p>The Belize Ocean Club North Maya Beach, Placencia Tel: (501) 671-4500 Email: info@belizeoceanclub.com Website: www.belizeoceanclub.com</p>
<p>LaruBeya Resort North Maya Beach, Placencia Tel: (501) 523 3476 Email: info@larubeya.com Website: www.larubeya.com</p>	<p>Roberts Grove Beach Resort North Placencia Tel: (501) 523 3565 Email: info@robertsgrove.com Website: www.robertsgrove.com</p>