



**FIRST MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO
THE REGIONAL AGREEMENT ON ACCESS TO INFORMATION,
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND JUSTICE IN ENVIRONMENTAL
MATTERS IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

Hybrid meeting, 20-22 April 2022

Briefing note for participants attending in-person

I. INTRODUCTION

The first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (Escazú Agreement) and related events will be held in hybrid format at the headquarters of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in Santiago, from 20 to 22 April 2022.

In light of the health restrictions in force and the maximum capacities imposed owing to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, a limited number of participants will be allowed in the room. Remote participation will be facilitated and the meeting will be streamed live on <http://live.cepal.org/escazu>.

This document is intended to provide in-person participants with useful information to facilitate their work at the meeting. Visit the website <https://acuerdodeescazu.cepal.org/cop1/en> for more information.

The meeting coordinators will be available to answer any questions concerning logistical or organizational matters that you may have, before or during the event.

II. GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS IN THE CONTEXT OF COVID-19

The practical arrangements for the meeting of the Conference of the Parties will be affected by the coronavirus disease pandemic (COVID-19), which will condition whether or not certain events take place, how they are held, and the number of attendees permitted. Any changes made will be in response to the risk assessments and advice provided by the Occupational Safety and Health Committee at ECLAC headquarters. These assessments are based, in turn, on host city and host country guidance, the stage of the plan for the return to on-site work in the ECLAC headquarters complex, the risks posed by the pandemic to delegates and United Nations staff at any given time.

Requirements for foreign nationals entering Chile as of 8 March 2022

- The negative result of a PCR test taken within 72 hours of boarding. For flights with layovers, this applies to the final flight to Chile. If entry into Chile is by land, the test must have been taken no more than 72 hours prior to border crossing. This is required for all travellers aged 2 years or over.
- Sworn electronic statement, completed up to 48 hours before boarding, with traveller's contact details, health information and travel itinerary. The form will generate a QR code which will be used for verification purposes. The form is available at www.c19.cl.
- Proof of medical insurance with a minimum coverage of US\$ 30,000, including coverage of any expenses incurred in relation to COVID-19.
- Proof of full vaccination (two doses), which must be validated prior to entry to Chile by visiting <https://mevacuno.gob.cl/>, for all travellers aged 6 years and over. Travellers will be informed of the timeline for the validation process, which may take up to 30 days, when they apply.
- Foreign nationals who fall into the categories included in Decree No. 295 of 2021 of the Ministry of the Interior and Public Security (<https://www.bcn.cl/leychile/navegar?idNorma=%1168843>) may enter Chile without being in possession of a Mobility Pass, regardless of their vaccination status. They will be administered a PCR test and must quarantine for seven days, even if the PCR test result is negative.

- Travellers are advised to read the Protected Border Plan (Plan de Fronteras Protegidas) (<https://saludresponde.minsal.cl/plan-fronteras-protegidas/>) before travelling, as provisions are subject to change.

Access to and movement within ECLAC headquarters

For admittance to ECLAC headquarters, all persons must confirm that they have not had symptoms of or been diagnosed with COVID-19 in the previous 14 days or have been in close contact with someone who has had symptoms of COVID-19 or has been diagnosed with COVID-19. Attendees who have travelled from other countries must comply with the local requirements for incoming travellers regarding COVID-19.

Personal protective equipment

All attendees are expected to wear a medical mask (surgical, FFP2, KN95 or equivalent) that fully covers the nose and mouth at all times while indoors, except when speaking directly at a meeting. Physical contact should be avoided in greetings and interactions and individuals should keep a distance of at least 1 metre from others.

All attendees will be required to uncover their faces upon entry to ECLAC premises or when passing through other security checkpoints, if requested to do so by United Nations security officers, in order to confirm identity with the photograph on their credential.

In order to reduce the risk of infection, hand-sanitizing stations will be provided, and intensified cleaning will be performed between meetings and on high-touch surfaces.

Everyone is encouraged to wash their hands frequently with soap and water.

Attendees are asked to kindly respect the meeting room capacity at all times, as well as the distribution and assignment of seats, which have been established to ensure the safety of all.

Reporting in case of illness

Attendees are strongly advised not to enter ECLAC premises if, at any time before or during the meeting, they present symptoms associated with COVID-19, including fever or body temperature above 37.5°C, or if they have been in contact with another person presenting such symptoms or in preventive isolation for such symptoms in the 14 days prior to the meeting. If an attendee develops symptoms while at ECLAC, he/she should immediately leave the premises, isolate and seek medical care, and report the situation to the ECLAC medical service as outlined in the paragraph below.

Attendees who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or who develop symptoms of COVID-19 after attending an event at the ECLAC complex are urged to notify the medical service by telephone (+56 2 2210 2333) or by email (servicio.medico@cepal.org) to facilitate contact tracing.

1. General information on Chile

Geographical location

Chile is located in the extreme south-west of South America, between the Pacific Ocean and the Andes mountains. The country, whose long, thin territory is divided into 16 administrative regions, has a total population of approximately 17 million.

The capital

Santiago is the capital of the Republic of Chile and is home to six million inhabitants. It has a Mediterranean climate and well-defined seasons, with rainy winters (from May to September) with minimum temperatures as low as 0° C, and dry summers (from November to March) with highs of around 30° C. Relative humidity is low and evenings are cool.

Visitors are advised to drink bottled water, since tap water, although safe to drink, may not agree with those not accustomed to it.

As in all big cities, for safety reasons it is advisable to avoid wearing expensive jewellery and to be careful with handbags and briefcases.

Useful information

LOCAL CURRENCY	The national currency is the Chilean peso (\$). The exchange rate is approximately 804 pesos to the dollar (March 2022).
Local time	UTC/GMT -4 hours (at the date of the meeting).
ELECTRICITY	220 volts, 50 Hertz (AC).

2. Meeting venue

The first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean will take place, in hybrid format, in the Raúl Prebisch conference room at the headquarters of ECLAC, located at Av. Dag Hammarskjöld 3477, Vitacura, Santiago. All side events will be held in virtual format.

3. Meeting coordination

The meetings will be organized by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Questions on substantive matters relating to the meeting may be addressed to Carlos de Miguel, David Barrio and Gabriela Burdiles of the secretariat of the Escazú Agreement (secretaria.escazu@cepal.org, (+56) 2 2210 2310).

Enquiries concerning operational aspects of the meeting should be addressed to María Paz Rivera (mariapaz.rivera@un.org, (+56) 2 2210 2618).

4. Hotel reservations

The ECLAC Conference Services Unit has reserved a limited number of rooms with special rates for ECLAC at the following hotels located close to the headquarters:

- **Hotel Pullman Santiago Vitacura** (****), Av. Vitacura 3201, Vitacura (+56) 2 2944 7800

Superior single room: US\$ 112 (includes breakfast and Internet)
Superior double room: US\$ 122 (includes breakfast and Internet)
Attn: Francisco Pereira, Reservations Department
Email: Francisco.PEREIRAVASQUEZ@accor.com

- **Hotel NH Collection Casacostanera** (****), Av. Nueva Costanera 3900, Vitacura (+56) 2 2433 9000

Single room: US\$ 115 (includes breakfast and Internet)

Attn: Fabiola Rivera Lagos, Reservations Department

Email: fa.rivera@nh-hotels.com and nhcollectioncasacostanera@nh-hotels.com

These rates do not include value added tax (VAT) of 19%. Visitors paying in dollars or with international credit cards are exempt from VAT.

To maintain the special ECLAC rate, hotel reservations must be requested personally, not through agencies or other means. Delegates are responsible for their own reservations. You are advised to check that the hotel has processed your reservation and to request a reservation number or confirmation code.

The hotel requires your flight number and date of arrival in and departure from Chile, as well as credit card details, in order to secure the reservation. Please complete the attached reservation form, with all the required details, in full.

5. Visa and entry requirements for Chile

Participants must be in possession of a passport valid for at least six months beyond the date of entry into Chile.

Delegates from countries whose citizens require a visa to enter Chile should apply for one in advance at their nearest Chilean embassy or consulate.

To find out whether you require a visa, go to the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chile (<https://chileabroad.gov.cl/consulados>) and click on the country of your nationality.

6. Transport from the airport to Santiago

Taxis may be used for transfer from the airport to the city. Travellers are advised to use the firms Taxi Oficial or Transvip, which are located at the airport; fares to the city vary between US\$ 40 and US\$ 45 depending on the destination.

7. Registration

An online registration system will be available on the ECLAC website (<https://eventos.cepal.org/event/68/>) as from **23 March**.

Online registration does not exempt delegations from the requirement to provide official notification of the name of the head of delegation and all accompanying members. Representatives of States Parties must have letters of credentials in order to participate in decision-making (see item 8 of this briefing note).

For any further information on participant accreditation, please contact María Eugenia Barozzi (mariaeugenia.barozzi@un.org, (+56) 2 2210 2520) or María Paz Rivera (mariapaz.rivera@un.org, tel. (+56) 2 2210 2618).

8. Credentials of representatives

Parties must be accredited in order to participate in decision-making processes during the meeting. The credentials of heads of delegation, alternate representatives and advisers shall be issued by

the Head of State or Government or by the Minister of Foreign Affairs. Any change in the composition of a delegation shall also be communicated in the same manner.

Parties are invited to submit electronic versions of credentials, preferably no later than Wednesday, 6 April 2022, to facilitate their examination. Electronic copies of credentials can be sent to secretaria.escazu@cepal.org.

Templates are available in Spanish and English at <https://acuerdodeescazu.cepal.org/cop1/en/event-information>.

9. Opening session

The opening session of the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean will start at **9 a.m.** (Chilean time, UTC -4) on **Wednesday, 20 April 2022**.

10. Languages

The official language of the meeting will be Spanish. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided into English. Sign language interpretation will also be provided.

11. Documents

This will be a paper-smart meeting. All official documents and statements will be made available to read or download at the website <http://acuerdodeescazu.cepal.org/cop1/en>. Participants are advised to bring their laptop computer, tablet or other mobile device to the meeting, since only a limited number of printed documents will be available.

12. Facilities and services at ECLAC

Bank	There is a branch of Banco de Chile in the basement of the ECLAC building. It is open to the public from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Foreign currency may be exchanged from 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.
Meals	Owing to the pandemic, ECLAC has only one cafeteria that is open continuously from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Participants must pay directly for their own consumption at the cafeteria.
Medical services	The ECLAC Medical Service (office number Z-210, ext. 2333) will be available to participants for first aid only. It is open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 2.30 p.m. to 6 p.m.



HOTEL RESERVATION REQUEST

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Santiago, 20–22 April 2022

Nombre/Name:		Apellido/Last name:	
Dirección/Address:			
Ciudad/City:		País/Country:	
Teléfono/Phone:	Fax:	Correo electrónico/Email:	
HOTEL INFORMATION:			
Hotel Pullman Santiago Vitacura, ex Atton Hotel (****) Av. Vitacura 3201, Vitacura. (+56) 2 2944 7800 Single room: US\$ 112 (includes breakfast) Double room: US\$ 122 (includes breakfast) Attn: Francisco Pereira, Reservations Department reservas-grupochile@atton.com francisco.pereiravasquez@accor.com Block expiry date: 8 April <input type="checkbox"/>		Hotel NH Collection Casacostanera (****) Av. Nueva Costanera 3900, Vitacura. (+56) 2 2433 9000 Single room: US\$ 115 (includes breakfast) Attn: Fabiola Rivera Lagos, Reservations Department fa.rivera@nh-hotels.com nhcollectioncasacostanera@nh-hotels.com Group code: MB0002836855 Block expiry date: 15 April <input type="checkbox"/>	
Fecha de llegada al país: Date of arrival:		Núm. de vuelo: Flight No:	
Fecha de salida del país: Date of departure:		Núm. de vuelo: Flight No:	
Autorizo el uso de la siguiente tarjeta de crédito a fin de garantizar mi reserva de hotel/ I authorize the use of my credit card to guarantee my hotel reservation:			
American Express	Master Card	Visa	Otra/Other
Núm. de tarjeta de crédito/Credit card No:			
Fecha de vencimiento: Date of expiration:			

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