

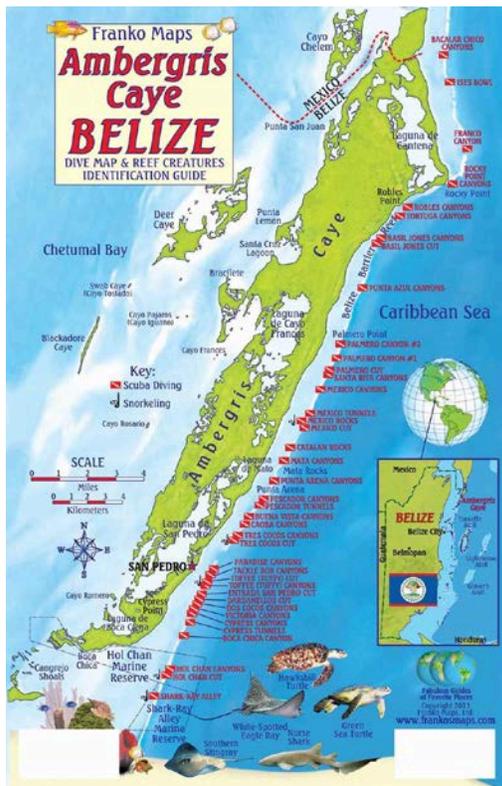


**Caribbean Regional Partnership Dialogue
and
Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Mid Term Review of the SAMOA
Pathway
San Pedro, Belize
6-9 August, 2018**

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. LOCATION

The Caribbean Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Mid-Term Review of the SAMOA Pathway will be held in San Pedro Town, Ambergris Caye. This Meeting will be preceded by the Regional Partnership Dialogue for the Caribbean on 6 August 2018 at the same venue.



Largest of the 200 plus islands of Belize, Ambergris Caye (Am-BURR-gris Key) affectionately called “La Isla Bonita” is a twenty- five mile long island made up of three main areas: Mangroves, lagoons, and sandy beaches. The western (leeward) side of the island is framed by lagoons while the Barrier Reef faces the island about a half mile to its east and runs its entire length. At the northeast end of Ambergris Caye, the reef and the land meet and the island ends at Rocky Point.

2. VENUE

The Meetings will be held at the ***Mahogany Bay Resort and Beach Club*** (the “resort”) located on Sea Grape Drive, South San Pedro. Additional Information about the venue can be found at the link below:



https://www.dropbox.com/s/6lti822f8jzvdts/MBV_FactSheet_MAR18.pdf?

3. OPENING CEREMONY

The opening ceremony/ reception will be held on Monday, August 6, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at The Great House Grand Ball Room, Second Floor, of the Mahogany Bay Resort and Beach Club.



4. REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS

Registration of participants and distribution of name tags will commence at 8:30a.m. on Tuesday, 7 August 2018, in the Grand Ballroom of the Mahogany Bay Resort and Beach Club.

5. LANGUAGE

English will be the working language of the Meeting. Simultaneous interpretation in Spanish and French will also be provided throughout the course of the Meeting.

6. DOCUMENTATION

All efforts will be made to conduct a paperless Meeting. All documents will be provided electronically. Participants are strongly encouraged to download these documents prior to the Meeting.

7. HOTEL RESERVATIONS

Participants should secure and finalize their reservations at the Mahogany Bay Resort and Beach Club for the period Monday, 6 August 2018 (date of arrival) to Friday, 10 August 2018 (date of departure). Those participants who will be attending the Partnership Dialogue should secure and finalize reservations for the period inclusive of Sunday, 5 August through Friday, 10 August 2018 unless an earlier date of departure is scheduled.

Participants will be responsible for the payment of hotel accommodation and any incidental expenses (telephone calls, laundry, room service etc.) which they may incur during their stay at the resort. Payment to secure accommodations is to be made directly to the Mahogany Bay Resort and Beach Club, prior to the scheduled date of arrival.

A preferential rate of **\$179USD per night plus 5.5% service charge, inclusive of breakfast**, will be offered to all participants who make their reservations using the booking code **SIDS-AUG2018**.

To ensure timely securing of accommodations kindly fill out the **attached** hotel registration form and email to:

Ms. Lorena Vasquez
Sales and Catering Manager
Mahogany Bay Resort and Beach Club
Phone: +501-615-9439
e-mail: Lorena@mahoganybayresort.com

8. DAILY SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE

The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) will provide a daily subsistence allowance (DSA) to sponsored government participants. Each sponsored participant will be given a per diem allowance and a terminal allowance for their stay in Belize. An additional allowance will be provided to participants who must overnight during travel to and from the Meetings at the DSA rate of the country in which the overnight occurs.

The DSA is to cover the costs of accommodation, meals and any incidental expenses incurred and will be paid in two installments as follows:

- 75% in advance of travel
- 25% upon submission of the return boarding passes

In order to guarantee full payment of the DSA, sponsored participants are reminded that they MUST submit the following documents to the UNDESA representative:

- ALL Boarding passes – Please ensure that you retain your boarding pass stub for each sector flown. Your return boarding pass stub(s) should be emailed to the UNDESA representative immediately upon your return to your country.
- A copy of the hotel bill for your stay in Belize

9. TRANSPORTATION

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Belize, in collaboration with Mahogany Bay Resort and Beach Club will provide free shuttle service between the San Pedro Municipal Airport and the Mahogany Bay Resort and Beach Club on arrival and departure days.

The preferred mode of transportation on the Island of San Pedro is golf carts. Mahogany Bay Resort and Beach Club has a golf cart rental company on site. Taxi Vans are also available on the island for a rate of approximately \$7.50 USD per ride.

10. LUNCH AND COFFEE SERVICE

Two scheduled coffee services and a buffet lunch will be offered on each day of the Meeting. In case of any special dietary requirements, please inform focal points listed below at paragraph 21, by close of business Friday 3 August, 2018 .

11. CURRENCY, CREDIT CARDS AND BANKING SERVICES

The national currency is the Belize Dollar (BZD). The current rate of exchange for USD is approximately USD 1= 2 BZD. Foreign currency can be exchanged at banks, or hotels; however, the US Dollar is widely accepted. All major international credit cards are generally accepted in hotels, shops and restaurants.

Banks in San Pedro Town are open Monday to Thursday, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., and on Fridays, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

12. WEATHER AND LOCAL TIME INFORMATION

August daytime temperatures in San Pedro range from 23 °C to 28 °C, with humidity that ranges from 44% (comfortable) to 94% (very humid). Belize local time is UTC/GMT -6h.

13. MEETING ATTIRE

Meeting attire is business casual.

14. INTERNET

Wi-Fi access will be available in the meeting location and throughout the hotel, free of cost.

15. BUSINESS HOURS

Business hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

16. AIRPORT TAX

Taxes are included in the airfare as such no additional tax will be collected at the airport.

17. VOLTAGE:

The standard voltage is 110 / 220 V and the frequency is 60 Hz.

18. TAXES AND TIPS

General Sales Tax (GST) of 12.5% is usually included in consumer prices unless otherwise indicated. Tipping is not included in the bill and is customarily 10% of the value.

19. VISA REQUIREMENTS

Belize's visa requirements vary. It is recommended that participants verify as early as possible their Visa needs. For information on entry and exit requirements, please consult the Belize Immigration Department website at the link: <https://www.belize.com/downloads/belize-visa-information.pdf>

The Visa Section of the Belize Immigration Department (the Unit) accepts applications for entry visas, which if approved, may be issued at the port of entry. Please note that the Unit requires ten (10) working days for processing. In submitting an application for a Belize visa, individuals are required to present the following documentation:

- Completed Belize Visa Application Form
- Letter of Invitation identifying the persons being invited, the purpose and length of their visit
- Copies of each person's passport bio-data page (passports must be valid for at least 6 months from date of travel)
- Address or name of hotel where they will be accommodated
- Flight itineraries for their return to their homeland or place of residence
- Evidence of immigration status in the place they are returning, if not their homeland

The following persons do NOT require a visa for entry into Belize:

- Any individual holding a multiple entry visa for the United States of America or Schengen Area;
- Most Member States of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM);
- Any national of Haiti and Cuba who holds an Official or a Diplomatic Passport;
- Nationals of the Dominican Republic;
- Nationals of Overseas Territories which are Associate Members of CARICOM

20. HEALTH

Participants must be in good health and have medical insurance or a health care plan which would cover any medical emergency. Neither the Department of Economic and

Social Affairs (DESA) nor the Government of Belize shall be held responsible or liable for medical expenses, accident and travel insurance, compensation for death or disability compensation for loss of or damage to personal property and for any other loss that may be incurred during travel time or the period of participation in the meeting.

In case of Emergency please see below information on the hospitals nearest to the Mahogany Bay Resort and Beach Club:

SAN PEDRO POLYCLINIC

Manta Ray Street, San Pedro Town
Telephone Number: +501-660-2871
Open 24hrs

21. YELLOW FEVER VACCINATION CERTIFICATES

The Ministry of Health, Belize, requires participants from the countries listed at **Annex I** to produce vaccination cards against yellow fever upon their entry into Belize.

22. FOCAL POINTS

The following persons have been designated as focal points for this Meeting, and will assist participants with any information or advice that may be required.

Government of Belize

Ms. Tasha Cain
Head of Protocol and Consular Affairs
Tasha.Cain@mfa.gov.bz
Phone: +501-828-4246

Ms. Yancy Habet Harrison
Protocol Officer
protocolbelize@mfa.gov.bz
Phone +501-828-4271

UNDESA

Mr. Sai Navoti

Chief

Small Island Developing States Unit

Division for Sustainable Development/UNDESA

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Economic Affairs Officer

Small Island Developing States Unit

Division for Sustainable Development/UNDESA

+1 212 963 5897

thomasa@un.org

ANNEX 1:

LIST OF COUNTRIES REQUIRING YELLOW FEVER VACCINE

AFRICA:

Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burindi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Cote d Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equitorial Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sudan (North and South) Togo and Uganda

AMERICAS:

Argentina, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Brazil, Columbia, Ecuador, French Guiana, Guyana, Panama, Paraguay, Peru. Plurinational State of Bolivia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago.