



THIRD INDIGENOUS LEADERS' SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS (3RD ILSA)

Panama City, Republic of Panama

April 14-15, 2009

LOGISTICAL BULLETIN

1. Introduction

The *Third Indigenous Leaders' Summit of the Americas (3rd ILSA)* under the theme "Implementing the Rights of the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas for Present and Future Generations", will be held in Panama City, Republic of Panama, on April 14-15, 2009.

Results of the 3rd ILSA will be shared with leaders of the 34 OAS Member States currently negotiating the Draft Declaration of Commitment of Port of Spain, to be adopted at the Fifth Summit of the Americas.

2. Venue

The *Third Indigenous Leaders' Summit of the Americas (3rd ILSA)* will be held on April 14-15, 2009 in the Hotel Riande Continental in Panama City, Republic of Panama.

The preliminary agenda and other reference documents are available at the Native Women's Association of Canada's website: www.nwac-hq.org

3. Coordination

The event is organized by the 3rd ILSA Planning Committee, with representatives from South, Central and North America and the Caribbean, lead by the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) and the Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC), with the support of the Summits of the Americas Secretariat of the Organization of American States (OAS) and the financial support of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the US State Department and the Government of Spain.

From the ILSA Planning Committee, please contact:

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Administrative and logistical support will be provided by the Summits of the Americas Secretariat of the Organization of American States. For more information please contact:

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Summits of the Americas Secretariat of the OAS
19th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20006
Tel.: 202-458-3347 / 3456 / 3554 / 3127
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E-mail: summitcso@oas.org

4. Republic of Panama Entry and Departure Requirements

Participants are responsible for obtaining the necessary entry requirements established by the government of Panama. The Republic of Panama has visa waiver agreements with most of the member countries of the OAS.

Each participant should contact the Panamanian Consulate in their respective country or the nearest consular office. General visa information is accessible online at:

http://www.panamatramita.gob.pa/guiaGob_sec.php?idSec=3&tipoCont=3&extra=1

The following countries DO NOT require entry visas:

Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Paraguay and Uruguay.

Some countries can use a 'Tourism card' while others require a "Stamped" or an "Authorized" visa obtained in advance of arrival to Panama. Please review in the following lists for the specifications for your country:

Tourism Card: This card can be purchased upon arrival to Panama or through the airline for a cost of US\$5.00. Nationals from the following countries will need to purchase the tourism card:

Barbados
Belize
Canada
Guyana
Mexico
Saint Lucia
Saint Kitts and Nevis
Trinidad and Tobago
United States

Authorized Visa: Approval by the National Department of Immigration in Panama must be obtained prior to arrival in Panama). The Summits Secretariat will contact you directly in order to facilitate the process to apply for this visa. Nationals from the following countries require an authorized visa:

Dominica
Ecuador

Peru
Suriname

Participants are responsible for complying with all requirements established by the Government of Panama in order to obtain the necessary visa.

5. Accommodations

The OAS will cover the cost of accommodations for the specified participants on the nights of April 13, 14 and 15. The Indigenous Leaders contacted by the ILSA Planning Committee will stay at:

Hotel Riande Continental
Via España and Ricardo Arias Street
Panama, Republic of Panama
Tel.: (507) 366 7700
www.hotelesriande.com/continental/index.asp

The **reservation for each participant has been made** by the OAS and will be covered. However, the OAS will not cover other costs or additional expenses incurred by the participants, including costs related with who either arrive early or wish to stay for additional days. The hotel may require a credit card or security deposit to cover any additional costs incurred by participants.

This accommodation includes breakfast. Lunch will also be provided for all participants during the ILSA on the 14th and 15th of April. All other meals and costs are the sole responsibility of the participants.

With regard to accommodations, participants attending the ILSA with own funds are responsible to make their own reservations and arrangements with the Hotel. Please note that the OAS can not guarantee special prices or accommodations for guests who are settling for themselves. Guests should contact the Hotel in advance and make own arrangements based on availability.

Additional room information:

Check-in Time: 3:00 p.m.
Check-out Time: 12:00 p.m.
Early check-in or late check-out is subject to availability.

5. Per diems and expenses

Participants will be provided with a sum of US\$80 per night spent in Panama City to attend the Forum (a total sum of US\$240 if attending each day of the ILSA). This provision is intended to cover the costs of food, local transportation and other incidentals. This sum will be given to these representatives upon arrival to Panama. More information regarding the processing of the per diems will be detailed shortly.

Please bear in mind that the OAS will only pay for the costs of the room and the costs of stay specified above. The OAS will not be responsible for local, national, or international phone calls;

all additional costs are the responsibility of the participants, as are incidental costs such as room service or possible damage to the rooms. Participants who, for any reason, leave early or arrive late will have the daily rate deducted from the total sum. Participants who stay longer or arrive earlier for personal reasons will not receive additional per diem.

The OAS will not be responsible for the costs of domestic transportation of the participants in their respective countries or for costs associated with processing official travel documentation (passport, visas, etc.).

6. Air Transportation

The OAS will pay the cost of airfare for those participants chosen by ILSA Planning Committee. Flight information will be provided individually to each participant. The OAS will not cover any penalties or charges resulting from any changes in flight itineraries. Participants will be responsible for these costs.

7. Ground Transportation

Transportation from and to Tocumen International Airport to the Hotel is the responsibility of the participants.

For detailed ground transportation options from Tocumen International Airport (PTY), please visit the following website:

http://www.tocumenpanama.aero/index.php?id=cccpageqp0qptransporte_publico.

A one-way fare by taxi to Panama City costs approximately US\$20.00 to US\$25.00. It is also possible to take a Public Bus for US\$ 0.25.

Costs of taxis within the city vary from US\$2 to US\$6.00, according to the distance.

8. Registration of Participants

Registration for the Meeting will take place on April 14, 2009 from 8:00 – 9:30 a.m. outside the main plenary room (Gran Salon).

Rooms for the Summit will be the Gran Salón, the Nalunega and the Isla Bonna.

9. Working Languages and Documents

The proceedings of the ILSA will be conducted in three of the official languages of the OAS (Spanish, Portuguese and English) for the plenary. Please be aware that simultaneous interpretation for the breakout rooms will only be provided in English and Spanish.

10. General Information

Location: The Republic of Panama is at the center of the Western Hemisphere. Its name means “abundance of fishes” in an indigenous language. It has a territory of 75,517 km² and a population estimated at 3,000,000. It is bordered to the North by the Caribbean Sea, to the South

by the Pacific Ocean, to the East by the Republic of Colombia, and to the West by the Republic of Costa Rica.

Weather: The weather in Panama is pleasantly tropical. Temperature is usually steady year-round. Evenings are generally cool. The average temperature is between 22° and 35° C (75° to 90° F). The country has two seasons: rainy and dry. The rainy season runs from May to December, but during most of the day the warm rays of the sun come through. Pleasant trade winds blow throughout the dry season, referred to as “summer,” from mid-December through April. Because of air conditioning, it is advisable to bring jackets to the meeting rooms.

Currency: The official currency of the Republic of Panama is the Balboa. However, the banknote in common use in the United States dollar.

Taxes: All purchases in Panama are subject to a 5% ‘transfer of movable goods tax’ (ITBM-VAT), except medications, food, and school supplies.

Tipping: Tips are not included in the bill at all restaurants. It is customary to leave 10% to 15% of the total bill.

Local Time: GMT – 5.

Power: The electrical setting used in Panama is 110 volts / 60 Hz and 220V. If participants would like to use electrical devices of 220 volts, they must use corresponding adaptors.

Telephone Country Code: The international direct dial country code for Panama is +507