TECHNICAL WORKSHOP FOR SAIGA ANTELOPE EXPERTS

and

THIRD MEETING OF THE SIGNATORIES TO THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING CONCERNING CONSERVATION, RESTORATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF THE SAIGA ANTELOPE (Saiga spp.)

Tashkent, Uzbekistan, 26-29 October 2015

FACT SHEET FOR DELEGATES

I. Meeting Venue

The MOU Meeting will take place from 28 to 29 October 2015 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. A two-day Technical Workshop from 26 to 27 October 2015 will precede the MOU Meeting.

Both meetings will be held at the MIRAN INTERNATIONAL HOTEL (http://miranhotel.com/) in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

Address: Shahrizabskiy Passage, 4, 100600, Tashkent, Uzbekistan

II. Opening / Registration

Technical Workshop: Registration will begin at 08:30 hours on 26 October 2015. The Workshop will be opened at 09:00 hours. Delegates are requested to arrive at 08:30 to register and pick up any meeting material.

MOU Meeting: The MOU Meeting will start at 09:30 hours on 28 October 2015. Delegates are encouraged to arrive at 08:30 to pick up any documents or meeting material.

III. Official working language of the meeting

Both meetings will be held in English and Russian. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided.

IV. Documents

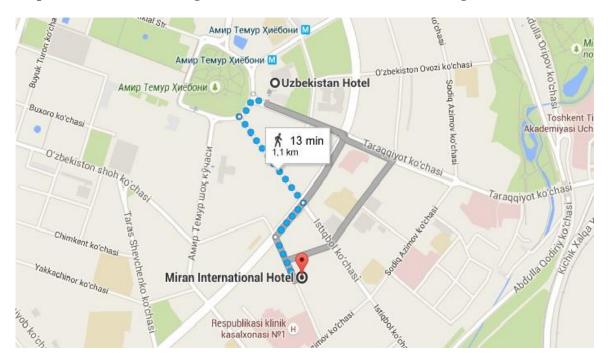
Documents will be distributed via the CMS website prior to the meeting. There will be no paper copies. Please check http://www.cms.int/saiga/en/meeting/third-meeting-signatories-mos3-saiga-mou to access Meeting and Information Documents of the MOS3 and the Technical Workshop.

In order to minimize the environmental impact of the meeting and for reasons of economy, delegates are kindly reminded that they should bring their own copies of the pre-session documents for the meeting, including the Information Documents. The organizers will only provide documents such as the agenda and a limited number of other documents upon request.

V. Hotel Accommodation

The organizers have reserved a block of 80 rooms which can be booked by MOS participants in the hotel UZBEKISTAN (http://www.hoteluzbekistan.uz/en) for the period from 25 to 30 October 2015. A limited number of single rooms are available for the following prices: USD 50 per night for a single SB room, USD 55 per night for a single standard SA room, and USD 60 per night for a Superior Single (SPS) room. In order to book at this price, participants should fill the reservation request form (available here under the heading Other Documents) and send it to Mr. Akmal Vasilov a.vasilov@uznature.uz, international@uznature.uz not later than 15 October 2015. Please, copy Irina Novak (irina.novak@cms.int) when sending your reservation request. In case you would like to share accommodation and have a double room, please address Mr. Akmal Vasilov for further details.

Map below indicates how to get from the accommodation to the Meeting Venue:



The price of the room includes breakfast. Payment for accommodation is by cash (USD) or credit cards (VISA, Master Card). Please note that it <u>is highly advisable</u> to keep a sufficient amount of cash (USD), as payment by credit cards is not always possible (due to technical reasons).

Hotel UZBEKISTAN:

Address: 45, Musakhanov Str., Tashkent, Uzbekistan, 100047

Tel.: (+998 71) 113-11-11, 113-10-12, 236-76-66 *Fax*: (+998 71) 113-11-00, 113-11-22, 113-10-90

E-mail: reservation@uzbekistanhotel.uz *Website:* http://www.hoteluzbekistan.uz/

It is advisable to book one of the reserved rooms as soon as possible. Delegates are reminded that they are responsible for booking their hotel accommodation.

VI. Transport

A taxi from the airport to hotel UZBEKISTAN will cost approximately USD 25.00. The transfer can be arranged by a hotel upon request.

Participants are requested to provide their date and time of arrival, airline and flight number, as soon as possible to:

Ms. Irina Novak CMS Secretariat Intern Tel: +49 228 815 24 58

E-mail: <u>irina.novak@cms.int</u>

or

Ms. Natalya Yakusheva CAMI Coordinator UNEP/CMS Secretariat Tel: +49 228 815 2425

Mob: +49 15126113400

Email: natalya.yakusheva@cms.int

VII. Visas

Participants from the Russian Federation and Kazakhstan do not need a visa for entry into Uzbekistan. Participants from all other countries require an entry visa and should start making arrangements for obtaining one. Delegates are responsible to independently apply for a visa in good time and inform the embassy or consulate, as appropriate, that they will be participating in a UN meeting. Below you will find guidance to facilitate the process of visa application.

1) Apply for visa online at the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Uzbekistan http://evisa.mfa.uz/evisa en/

Please use the following suggestions on how to fill in some of the forms:

Period of visit: (please choose according to your flights)

Number of Entries: one

Duration of Stay (days): (please choose according to your flights)

Duration of Visa Procedure: usual Place of Visa Issuance: (please select)

Purpose of Visit: Participation at the CMS Technical Workshop for Saiga Antelope Experts and the Third Meeting of the Signatories to the CMS Memorandum of Understanding concerning Conservation, Restoration and Sustainable Use of the Saiga Antelope in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, 26-29 October 2015 Inviting Party: State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Nature Protection Address in Uzbekistan: (state your hotel address)

- 2) Please send the created E-form as well as the scan copy of your passport to <u>irina.novak@cms.int</u> as soon as possible. Based on these documents, the State Committee for Nature Protection of Uzbekistan will prepare the official invitation letter that will be sent directly to the embassy/consulate of your choice. This invitation letter is required for the embassy/consulate to issue your visa.
- 3) Apply for the visa at the embassy/consulate that you specified on your E-form. Please communicate directly with the embassy/consulate about the additional documents you may need. General information is available at the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Uzbekistan: http://www.mfa.uz/en/consular/visa/

Should you have any further questions or require additional support please do not hesitate to contact the CMS Secretariat.

VIII. Other Practical Information for Participants

About Uzbekistan

Location: Central Asia, north of Turkmenistan and south of Kazakhstan

Total area: 447,400 sq. km

Average elevation of Tashkent: 477 m

Climate: continental (large daily and seasonal temperature ranges)

Time Zone: GMT +5 hours

Official language of Uzbekistan

The official language of Uzbekistan is Uzbek. Russian and Tajik languages are commonly spoken. English language is less commonly spoken in Uzbekistan, especially outside Tashkent.

Weather

The average temperature in Tashkent in October is around 12 degrees Celsius, with an average high of 18°C and low of 5°C. Average rainfall for the month of October is 31mm, with on average five days of rainfall.

Currency

The national currency of Uzbekistan is Uzbekistani som (UZS). The exchange rate is approximately 1 USD = 2605 UZS as of 11 September 2015. Credit cards are accepted in large shopping malls and hotels in Tashkent. However, it is advisable to have a sufficient amount of cash with you in US dollars or local currency. Outside of Tashkent and other major cities, it is advisable to have only cash and only UZS.

Electricity

The electric current for Uzbekistan is 220-240V. Western European (continental, Type C) plugs can be used in Uzbekistan.

Communication

The hotels MIRAN and UZBEKISTAN both have business centres, equipped with modern communication systems such as computers, national and international telephone connections and Internet. Participants will have to pay individually for the use of the business centre, telephone and internet connection.

Food

For all registered participants of the Technical Workshop and the meeting of MOU Signatories, lunches and coffee-breaks will be provided.

Information and Questions

All additional information and further questions should be addressed to the CMS Secretariat.