

Project Meeting on Measuring Human Mobility

Tbilisi, Georgia

27-29 March 2019

**INFORMATION NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS** 

### 1. INTRODUCTION

This information note provides details on the organization of the workshop and logistical arrangements, along with other relevant information intended to assist your travel to Tbilisi, Georgia and your participation in the workshop.

## 2. CONTACT INFORMATION

For information on substantive aspects of the workshop please contact the following United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) staff:

Mr. Karoly Kovacs United Nations Statistics Division Department of Economic and Social Affairs unstats.un.org

Mr. Ronald Jansen | Assistant Director Chief of Data innovation and Capacity Branch, Statistics Division Department of Economic and Social Affairs United Nations

In case of emergency while in Tbilisi, please contact the following staff from GeoStat:

Ms. Nino Jakobia Chief specialist of International and Public Relations Division Mobile phone: +995 591 97 11 33 E-mail: <u>njakobia@geostat.ge</u>

### 3. WORKSHOP ORGANISATION AND COORDINATION

The workshop is organized by the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) in collaboration with the National Statistics Office of Georgia (GeoStat).

### 4. OBJECTIVE OF THE WORKSHOP

Developing estimation methods for the measurement of human mobility on the basis of mobile phone data

### 5. VENUE & DATE OF THE WORKSHOP

The venue of the workshop will be the Hotel City Avenue, which is located at Agmashenebeli avenue 140 B, Tbilisi, Georgia; Tel.: +995 32 2244 144; Web: http://cityavenue.ge/ . The workshop will be conducted from 27 to 29 March, 2019

## 6. LANGUAGE

The workshop will be conducted in English.

# 7. REGISTRATION AND IDENTIFICATION BADGES

Participants are requested to collect their identification badges at the registration desk 8:30 am. on Wednesday 27 March 2019.

For identification and security reasons, all participants are requested to wear their meeting badges for the duration of the workshop.

## 8. ENTRY VISA TO GEORGIA

Please read the information about obtaining an entry visa (if neeed) to Georgia at the following links: <u>https://www.geoconsul.gov.ge/HtmlPage/Html/View?id=956&lang=Eng</u> <u>https://www.geoconsul.gov.ge/HtmlPage/Html/View?id=25&lang=Eng</u>

### 9. TRANSPORT FROM AND TO AIRPORT

Participants are responsible for making arrangements for transport from the airport to their respective hotels. The Tbilisi International Airport is located about 17 km southeast of the city center.

Taxi service is available outside the terminal, at the curbside of the Arrival Hall. Transport by Taxi from the airport to the city center takes 20-30 minutes depending on traffic. For transport from the airport to the city center, the Taxi fare should be in the range of 30 to 40 Georgian Lari (GEL).

Alternatively, transport by public bus is available from the airport. The public bus stop is located in front of the Arrival Hall and provides passenger transportation on route #37. One-way fare by public bus is 0.50 Georgian Lari (GEL). Service is available 24/7.

Useful information about transport from/to the airport can be found at the official website of the airport: <u>http://www.tbilisiairport.com/en-EN/Transportation/Pages/Bus.aspx</u>

### **10. HOTEL ACCOMMODATION**

Arrangements for hotel accommodations need to be made by individual participants at a hotel of their own choice.

A list of hotels in the vicinity of the workshop venue is provided below. Participants can contact hotels directly and make reservations. Some of the popular web sites for booking hotel rooms include: www.expedia.com, www.hotels.com, www.orbitz.com, www.travelocity.com

Please note that a credit card may be required for making reservations and participants should plan accordingly. Participants are highly recommended to reserve accommodation at their earliest possible.

HOTEL	Single Occupancy Rate	Inclusions	Contact Person Email, Phone, Web Address
King David Hotel	US\$53	Breakfast, VAT taxes	E-mail: <u>info@hotelkingdavid.ge</u> Phone: +995 558 870 770, +995 322 95 20 02 Web: <u>http://hotelkingdavid.ge/english/home</u>
City Center Hotel	US\$57	Breakfast, VAT taxes	24, King Tamar ave., Tbilisi, Georgia Phone: +995 32 2244 342 E-mail: <u>reservation@citycenter.ge</u>
City Avenue Hotel	US\$57	Breakfast, VAT taxes	140b, Aghmashenebeli ave.,Tbilisi,Georgia Phone: +995 32 2244 144 Web: <u>http://cityavenue.ge/</u>
Hotel ZP Palace	US\$70	Breakfast, VAT taxes	Mardjanishvili str.44 Phone: +995 (322) 25 90 25 Web: <u>http://www.zppalace.ge/gallery?lang=en</u>

# **11. TRANSPORT TO ATTEND WORKSHOP**

Participants choosing to stay in hotels other than the one where the workshop will be held should have to make their own transport arrangements for attending the workshop.

### **12. HEALTH REQUIREMENTS**

No vaccination is required before your travel to Georgia. However, it is mandatory to have healthcare insurance which will be valid throughout your stay in the country.

### **13. WEATHER**

The average temperature in Tbilisi in March is very mild and ranges from 12 C (54 F) to 23 C (73 F).at 17-20°C. For the latest weather forecast, visit: http://meteo.gov.ge/weather-in-tbilisi

#### **14. FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

Georgia's national currency is the Georgian Lari (GEL). Please note that US Dollars are not accepted in

Georgia.

**Currency exchange rate:** The exchange rate fluctuates. The official exchange rates on 13 Feb 2019 at the National Bank of Georgia were: 1 USD = 2.64 GEL and 1 EUR = 2.97 GEL. Currency exchange is available at banks, airports and major hotels in Georgia. ATM services are also available at most hotels.

**Credit and Debit Cards:** American Express, Diners Club, MasterCard and Visa are accepted in Georgia. Speak with your credit or debit Card Company for details of merchant acceptability in Georgia. Most shopping malls and big stores, hotels and restaurants in Georgia accept major international credit cards. However, it is recommended to carry some cash since some small establishments and stores may not accept credit cards.

Traveller Cheques: International traveller's cheques in Stirling Pounds, Euro, US Dollars are widely accepted.

**Dining, shopping and tipping:** When dining, you will more than likely see a 10% service charge added to your bill. If it has not been added, you can leave a gratuity of around 10 to 15%. Bargaining while shopping is a custom in Georgia.

## **15. GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Electricity**: The power supply in Georgia is 220-240V/50 Hz (two round pins). Adaptors and converters may be needed if you are traveling from countries that use 110V or other types of plugs.

Local and international calls: For international inbound calls, the country code is +995, and the area code for Tbilisi is 32.

**Mobile phones**: There are three main mobile service operators in Georgia: Magticom, Geocell and Beeline. Consult the websites of these service providers for tariffs and other information.

**Emergency numbers**: Dial 112 for any situation that requires emergency support, e.g. police, medical, ambulance, fire response. The line is operated 24 hours a day.

Time: Georgia Standard Time is four hours ahead of Coordinated Universal Time (UTC+4).

Tourist information: For tourist information, visit: <u>https://georgia.travel/</u>