



**stats sa**

Department:  
Statistics South Africa  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

# INFORMATION NOTE

## Regional Thematic Conference on managing a statistical organization in times of change

7 – 9 October 2019

Pretoria, South Africa



## **ORGANISATION AND COORDINATION**

The United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), in collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and Statistics South Africa will be hosting a *Regional Thematic Conference on managing a statistical organization in times of change*. The conference is scheduled to take place from 7 to 9 October 2019 at the premises of Statistics South Africa in Pretoria, South Africa.

The participants attending the seminar will include resource persons and senior officials from 24 statistical agencies across the African continent. The series of regional thematic conferences will be organised to further understand and prioritise the emerging needs of statistical organisations to adapt and develop, as stressed in the Cape Town Global Action Plan (CTGAP) for Sustainable Development and in the final report of the series of conferences on a Transformative Agenda for Official Statistics. The link to the documentation for this conference is:

<https://unstats.un.org/capacity-building/thematic-conferences/africa-2019/>

### **The main contact persons are:**

#### **For issues related to the administrative arrangements of the conference:**

Ms. Rebecca Work Emmanuel

African Centre for Statistics

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#### **For local arrangements:**

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Statistics South Africa,

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E-mail: [mahlomolal@statssa.gov.za](mailto:mahlomolal@statssa.gov.za)

## **LIST OF HOTELS AROUND STATS SA BUILDING**

### **1. Sierra Burgers Park Hotel**

Reservations – Sierra Burgers Park Hotel

424 Lilian Ngoyi Street, Pretoria 0002

Tel: +27 12 322 7500

E-Mail: [kayla@sierrahotels.co.za](mailto:kayla@sierrahotels.co.za)

Website: [www.sierrahotels.co.za](http://www.sierrahotels.co.za)

### **2. Fortis Hotel Capital**

390 Lilian Ngoyi Street, PO Box 2154, Pretoria 0001

Tel: +27 12 322 7795

Fax: 086 549 7795

E-mail: [cpres@capitalprotea.co.za](mailto:cpres@capitalprotea.co.za)

Website: [www.fortishotels.com](http://www.fortishotels.com)

## **HOTEL RESERVATIONS**

Please note that UNSD-funded participants should make their own hotel reservations.

For ECA-funded participants, accommodation will be arranged by UNECA and further information on hotels should be sought from them.

## **TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS**

Participants will be arriving at the **OR Tambo International Airport** which is based in Kempton Park, East of Johannesburg and is approximately 50 km's from Pretoria in the North. Stats SA will provide participants with transport from OR Tambo International Airport to their respective hotels. Participant must therefore provide Stats SA with information on their time of arrival in order for Stats SA to make the necessary transport arrangements. Stats SA will also provide transport from the hotel to the airport on the day of departure. In cases where participants don't stay in one hotel, Stats SA will provide transport to the venue of the seminar.

## **REGISTRATION AND ACCREDITATION**

Registration will take place on 7 October 2019 from 08:00 at the venue. A full list of confirmed participants will be made available at the registration desk. Upon registration, delegates will receive name tags and conference packages as well as any appropriate information about the meeting.

## **AGENDA OF THE SEMINAR**

An electronic copy of the agenda will be available at the meeting website (see above) in advance of the meeting, A printed copy of the agenda will be made available just in limited numbers.

## **LANGUAGE**

The conference will take place in English. All documentation will be available in English only.

## **IMMIGRATION REQUIREMENTS**

Requirements for visitor's visas to South Africa differ from country to country, Applicants must also check the list of visa exempt countries to see if they need to apply for visas: <http://www.dha.gov.za/index.php/immigration-services/exempt-countries>. Each application is treated as an individual case and participants should enquire with their nearest South African mission or consulate. Similarly, participants can enquire with any office of the Department of Home Affairs to see whether or not you are required to apply for a visa.

Remember that a fee may be charged for issuing a visa, and you should check the cost with the office as well as this is updated annually. The fee is payable in different currencies in different countries. Participants are encouraged to ascertain well in advance whether or not they will need a visa to enter South Africa, as well as applicable exemptions.

## **CURRENCY**

South Africa uses the Rand (R/ZAR) as its official currency. South Africa offers various diverse methods of spending money, including cash, electronic and has a strong financial systems for local and international banks. One of the most convenient ways is using your debit card or credit card. Major credit cards such as MasterCard and Visa, are widely accepted here. Debit cards and cheque cards can be used over the counter and at ATMs wherever there's a MasterCard or Visa sign.

Participants can also opt to use the Unique Rand Card (URCard) or Travel Money cards. This is a prepaid debit that is preloaded with rand at a fixed exchange rate from either a local or foreign bank account (or from certain foreign exchange offices) and then used to withdraw money at any ATM in any city or make purchases at all MasterCard electronic pay points.

## **SECURITY**

Among major cities, Pretoria boasts one of the lowest levels of crime in South Africa. Despite its high population and traffic, one can walk through every part of the city without any problem.

## **FOOD**

Most, if not all of the hotels in Pretoria offer breakfast, lunch and supper to their guests and this can be arranged for during booking. Participants are encouraged to verify if the hotel of their choice offers meals during booking.

For those participants who would prefer to dine out, South Africa has a wide variety of eateries offering a more or less global menu to suit everyone's palate and budget. Pretoria is home to numerous restaurants offering anything from the simple Kentucky Fried Chicken and McDonald's Burger to the more specialized Chinese, Portuguese or Italian dish.

Also, water in Pretoria has been treated to be free from harmful micro-organisms and chemical contaminants making it safe to drink straight from the tap.

Participants can visit <https://www.zomato.com/pretoria/restaurants> for guidance on where to dine while visiting the city.

## POWER GRID IN SOUTH AFRICA

### Electricity in South Africa

In South Africa the power sockets are of type D, M and N. The standard voltage is 230 V and the standard frequency is 50 Hz.

### Which power plugs and sockets in South Africa?

In South Africa the power sockets are of type D, M and N. Check out the following pictures. When living in South Africa you will need a power plug adapter for sockets type D, M and N.

		
Type D: This socket has no alternative plugs	Type M: This socket has no alternative plugs	Type N: This socket also works with plug C

### What voltage and frequency in South Africa?

In South Africa the standard voltage is 230 V and the frequency is 50 Hz. You can use your electric appliances in South Africa, because the standard voltage (230 V) is the same as in South Africa. To be sure, check the label on the appliance. Some appliances never need a converter. If the label states 'INPUT: 100-240V, 50/60 Hz' the appliance can be used in all countries in the world. This is common for chargers of tablets/laptops, photo cameras, cell phones, toothbrushes, etc.

## SHOPPING

Most shops in Pretoria are generally open from 09:00 to 21:00, Monday to Saturday. Most of the supermarkets, shopping malls, newspaper kiosks, restaurants and food shops are also open on Sunday and public holidays from and 09:00 to 15:00.

## TIME

South Africa uses the South Africa Standard Time zone which is UTC/GMT +2 hours. For the time difference between South Africa and your country please visit <http://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/>.

## WEATHER IN PRETORIA

Participants will be visiting Pretoria, South Africa at the start of Summer. The weather in Pretoria will be warm at this time of the year and average temperatures are at 20 °C (68 °F). Afternoons can be hot with average high temperatures reaching 27 °C (80.6 °F). Participants are accordingly encouraged to pack winter clothing. Overnight temperatures are generally mild with an average low of 13 °C (55 °F). The variation/ range of diurnal average temperatures in October is 14 °C (25 °F). The weather in October is somewhat dry with sporadic rain. Just 71mm (2.8in) of liquid is unloaded on average during 7 days.

## CONTACT AND USEFUL NUMBERS

In case of emergency, participants can make use of any of the numbers below to report an incident depending on the nature of the emergency. Participants are also encouraged to know the contact details of their country's mission in South Africa. Please also notify the coordinator of any incidents requiring assistance.

Emergency	Number	Notes
Emergency Response (National)	10111	Use this number if you require assistance from the flying squad or the South African police service.
Cell phone emergency (National)	112	Use this number if you are calling from a Cellphone.
Ambulance (National)	10177	Use this number for any medical emergency.
Pretoria emergency call centre	(+27) 23682111	This number can be used as an alternative to 10111 only if you are in Pretoria.
Pretoria Fire / Ambulance	(+27) 123106300	This number can be used as an alternative to 10177 only if you are in Pretoria.
Metro police	(+27) 123587095	Use this number for assistance from the Metro police
Host	(+27) 72 373 9533 / (+27) 84 631 0168	Use these numbers for assistance related to Stats SA activities.

## **MORE ABOUT PRETORIA**

Pretoria, also popularly known as The Jacaranda City due to the thousands of Jacaranda trees planted in its streets, parks and gardens, is one of South Africa's three capital cities and a popular tourist destination among tourists from South Africa and abroad.

Around the 1600s, the area which was to become the location of the city of Pretoria, was inhabited by an African ethnic group, the Southern Transvaal Ndebele's. Pretoria was officially founded in 1855 by Marthinus Pretorius who was a leader of the Voortrekkers. The Voortrekkers were emigrants during the 1830s and 1840s who left the Cape Colony to move into the interior of what is now South Africa. Marthinus Pretorius named it after his father Andries Pretorius. The elder Pretorius had become a national hero of the Voortrekkers after his victory over the Zulus in the Battle of Blood River in 1838. Pretoria is located in the northern part of the Gauteng Province, within a comfortable travelling distance to and from Johannesburg, Lanseria International Airport and the OR Tambo International Airport.

After the creation of new municipal structures across South Africa in 2000, the name Tshwane was adopted for the Metropolitan Municipality that includes Pretoria and surrounding towns. Although the South African Geographical Names Council (SAGNC) approved changing the official name of Pretoria to Tshwane in 2005, there is still considerable uncertainty about the issue.

Pretoria offers its visitors a wide range of accommodation options, ranging from 5 star hotels, B&Bs, lodges and apartments to campsites, self-catering houses and backpackers to suit every budget and every taste.

## **MORE INFORMATION ABOUT SOUTH AFRICA**

Should you require further information about South Africa, please visit <http://www.southafrica.net>.

We hope the information above will assist you in preparing for the meeting.



Looking forward to seeing you in Pretoria, South Africa.

**SNAPSHOT: PRETORIA**

