INFORMATION NOTE

14th Meeting of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (IAEG-SDGs)

DGI-Byen, Tietgensgade 65, Copenhagen, 23-25 October 2023
Dates and venue of the meeting

The fourteenth meeting of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (IAEG-SDGs) will take place 23-25 October 2023 in Copenhagen, Denmark. The meeting will be hosted by Statistics Denmark. The meeting comprises a Members’ meeting to be attended only by members of the IAEG-SDGs and a plenary session to which international agencies, non-IAEG member countries and other stakeholders are also invited. The members meeting will take place on 23 October and the plenary session will be held 24th and 25th October. All sessions will be held at:

DGI-Byen, Tietgensgade 65, 1704 Copenhagen

Catering at the meeting

During the meeting days a small breakfast, lunch buffet and afternoon cake and coffee are offered.

Meeting information

Website address and documentation

The documents for the meeting will be available at: https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/meetings/iaeg-SDGs-meeting-14/, Participants are kindly requested to bring copies of all meeting documents as no documents or printing facilities will be made available in the meeting room. Free Wi-Fi is available in all meeting rooms.

Inquiries

For substantive information about the meeting, please contact the UN Statistics Division (UNSD) (statistics@un.org).

Note: Neither UNSD nor Statistics Denmark offer supporting funds to facilitate the travel of participants. Attendance must therefore be completely self-financed, including travel, accommodation and any other related expenses.

Visa

Prior to leaving their home country, participants are requested to make their own arrangements for a Schengen visa or travel permits that may be required for the participant’s entire travel (including countries in transit) to Denmark. Participants from outside the European Union (EU) should check in advance whether or not a visa is required.

It is very important that you start your visa application immediately as many Visa Application Centres (VAC - VFS) and Danish embassies abroad unfortunately are experiencing much longer waiting and processing times than usual due to an extraordinary increase in the number of visa applications in a lot of locations. In some cases there are 2-3 months waiting time to get an appointment at a VFS centre, and some embassies need up to 60 days to process applications.

Regretfully, with the great number of urgent business and other applications, we are not able to guarantee a special, fast-track procedure for participants in this event. If you have any questions in relation to the application process to which you don’t find the answers in the links provided in this document, you can contact Anette Björnsson in Statistics Denmark (abb@dst.dk).

Under the Schengen rules, it is possible to apply for a visa up to six months before the expected travel date. We would therefore strongly encourage participants to submit their visa applications as soon as possible.
The procedure in brief:
First of all, your invitees should check this page on the MFA website to see who is handling visa issuance at their location: Where to apply for a visa or residence permit (um.dk).

As can be seen when you click on the different countries in the link above, there are three scenarios:
1) there is a Danish embassy in the country which handles visa applications;
2) another Schengen country handles visa applications on behalf of Denmark in the location;
3) there is neither a Danish nor another Schengen country embassy in the location, and applicants should contact another Danish embassy in the region (relevant Danish missions in the region are suggested at the link.)

If another Schengen country represents Denmark at the location, you should follow the procedures set out by that country. Please contact the embassy or Visa Application Centre of that Schengen country (we link to the relevant authorities of the representing Schengen country on our website).

If Denmark has a visa issuing embassy in the country, or another Danish embassy in the region handles visa applications to Denmark for the country in question, the procedure is as follows:
The applicant creates a profile, fills in an application and pays the visa fee online at https://applyvisa.um.dk. Then, the applicant chooses a Visa Application Centre, VAC (the company VFS), nearby (there is a link to the VACs at the applyvisa-website) to hand in relevant documents and have their biometrics (photo and fingerprints) taken. VAC sends the application to the local Danish embassy who makes a decision in the case and either issues a visa or refuses the application. Please note, before creating a profile and filling in the form, applicants should click the “Important: Please check processing times before you apply”-button at the top of the applyvisa-website. They should start by booking a time slot at the relevant VFS Office, as this is sometimes difficult. However, they should keep trying. It only takes a short time to create a profile and fill in the application form. It is getting a time at VFS which can be time-consuming and difficult, due to the inordinate number of visa applications in relation to the resources available, both at the VFS offices and at our embassies abroad.

Applicants should check on the website of the local VFS office exactly what kind of documentation is required (typically travel medical insurance; bank statements documenting sufficient funds; return tickets; hotel reservation, etc.) The competent embassies will also need to see a personal invitation addressed to each applicant. Each application is assessed on its merits and only applicants who can prove strong ties to their home country will be granted a visa. To avoid delays and disappointment, it is very important that applicants present complete documentation when they go to VFS, as their visa may otherwise be either refused or it will not be possible to issue a visa in time for them to participate in the conference.

As mentioned, some locations have several weeks’ waiting time for an appointment at VFS, and many Danish embassies need more time than usual to process applications (in some cases up to 60 days). That is why it is extremely important that participants initiate their visa application as early as possible, and at least three or four months before the intended departure date.

Here are a couple of relevant links:
General information about the visa process: How to apply for a visa (um.dk)
The Danish Immigration Service's website: New to Denmark (nyidanmark.dk).

Travel information

Accommodation and travel arrangements
Participants are requested to make their own hotel and travel arrangements. For hotels close to the meeting venue, please visit any of the booking sites available and choose areas:
Copenhagen centre or Vesterbro

**How to get to the city centre (Copenhagen Central Station) from the airport.**

**Train**
When arriving in Copenhagen airport, take the train to Copenhagen Central Station. The journey takes 20 minutes and costs around DKK 36 per person.  
The train is at the far end of terminal 3 – same direction as the metro. Trains are to the left and right – consult the information screen for information about the platform and be sure to take a train that mentions Copenhagen Central Station/Københavns Hovedbanegård as a stop or destination. Otherwise the train goes to Sweden.  
Vending machines are situated just before you enter the stairs to the trains.  
You can buy tickets for the trains here or you can download an APP for buying the tickets.  
To get to Copenhagen Central Station you need a single ticket for 3 zones.  
We recommend taking the train instead of the metro as the train goes directly to the Central Station.

**Taxi**
There are many taxi companies to choose from just outside the Airport exit. Credit cards are accepted. A taxi to Copenhagen Central Station and the meeting venue will cost around DKK 250-350. Always ask the driver beforehand.  
The main taxi companies are 4*35, Dantaxi, 4*27. In addition to the major taxi companies, there are several independent firms; caution is advised.

**How to get to the meeting venue from Copenhagen Central Station.**

**From Copenhagen Central Station**
DGI Byen is located a few minutes’ walk from Copenhagen Central Station. Please consult the map below. If you use google maps on your phone enter the two points at the top left corner of the map (depart from Hovedbanegården and arrive at CPH Conference)
Please find here a map of the train and metro lines in Copenhagen.
Currency

The currency used in Denmark is the Danish krone (DKK). 1 EUR equals approximately 7.4 DKK. 1 US dollar equals approximately 6.8 DKK. Major credit cards are widely accepted. Tipping is not required in Denmark, but appreciated in restaurants. 10 percent of the bill is the usual amount if you are happy with the service.

Weather

The weather in Copenhagen in October may be cold and/or wet. Temperatures may vary but will usually be around 5-10 degrees Celsius.

Tourist information

For more information about Copenhagen, please see: https://www.visitcopenhagen.com/