INFORMATION NOTE

15th Meeting of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (IAEG-SDGs)

> Oslo, Norway 21–23 October 2024







Dates and venue of the meeting

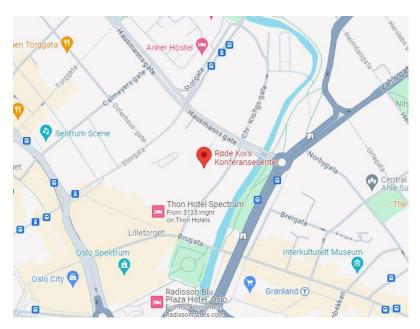
The 15th meeting of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (IAEG-SDGs) will take place 21–23 October 2024 in Oslo, Norway. The meeting will be co-hosted by the UNDP Global Policy Centre for Governance (GPCG) and Statistics Norway. The meeting comprises a Members' 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 plenary session will be held on the 22nd and 23rd of October 2024 and will be held at:

Red Cross Conference Center

Address: Hausmanns gate 5, 0186 Oslo, Norway

Phone: +47 22 05 42 92

Website: https://www.rodekors.no/om/kurs-og-konferansesenter/



Meeting information

Website address and documentation

The documents for the meeting will be available at: https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/meetings/iaeg-sdgs-meeting-15/, Participants are kindly requested to bring copies of all meeting documents as no documents or printing facilities will be made available in the venue. Free Wi-Fi is available in all meeting rooms (a mobile phone number may be required).

Inquiries

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

Note: Neither the UN Statistics Division (UNSD), GPCG, nor Statistics Norway offer supporting funds to facilitate the travel of participants. Attendance must therefore be completely self-arranged, including travel, accommodation and any other related expenses.

Travel information

Visa information

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 Norway.

Participants from outside the European Economic Area (EEA) should check in advance whether or not a visa is required.

The duration of visa processing times varies by location. 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.

Want to apply visitor visas for Norway: https://www.udi.no/en/want-to-apply/visit-and-holiday/visitors-visa-to-norway/?resetquide=1

Where to send your visitor visa application: https://www.udi.no/en/contact-us/find-the-correct-embassy-or-police-district/embassies-consulates-and-visa-application-centres-abroad/embassies-visitors-visa/?resetguide=1

If you have any questions in relation to the application process to which you don't find the answers in the links provided above, please contact the consulate or embassy from which you are sending the application to.

Note: Approved registrants will receive an email notification. However, please note that an approved registration notification to attend the event does not guarantee that a visa will be issued.

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 close to the venue.

All hotels in the city centre should be okay. All Thon hotels, Scandic hotels, Clarion/Comfort hotels and Radisson hotels should be of good standard and comfortable. See the reviews of the hotels from the booking sites before selecting the room.

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

Airport Express Train (Flytoget)

Tickets for the Airport Express Train can be purchased together with air tickets online (https://flytoget.no/en/) or from your travel agency. Tickets are also available at all Airport Express Train stations, at ticket counters and at card / cash ticket vending machines. You could even purchase tickets in the Flytoget App.

For more information, please visit the website: https://flytoget.no/en/

Regular trains

The trains (branded as VY) from Gardermoen to Oslo City Centre depart at regular intervals from the airport approximately once per hour. Travel fare from Oslo Airport (Gardermoen) to Oslo City Centre is Nok 114 (rates in 2022) and travel time is approximately 37 minutes.

All VY Regional Trains that have a connection to Skien, Oslo, Lillehammer and Trondheim stop at Oslo Airport as well. The VY local train on the Kongsberg - Eidsvoll line also stops at the Airport.

For more information, please visit the website: https://www.vy.no/en/

Flybussen (Airport Express Coach)

The Airport Express Coach / bus runs between Oslo City Centre and Oslo Airport every day at a frequency of every 20 minutes. The travel time is approximately 55 minutes.

For more information, please visit the website: https://www.flybussen.no/en

Flybussekspressen (Nor-way bus Airport Coach)

The Nor-way bus Airport Coach have routes and pick up points around the city. This coach has routes to and from Majorstuen, Lommedalen, Ski and Fredrikstad.

For more information, please visit the website: https://www.nor-way.no/?lang=en_GB#/?step=2

<u>Taxi</u>

Taking a taxi is not recommended due to the high rates. An airport taxi ride can cost 4 to 5 times more than the Airport Express Train, and a regular taxi from the airport will cost much more than that. If you do decide to take a taxi after all make sure you make enquiries at the Avinor Information Center and check the prices at the taxi booking machine which is in the vicinity of the Information Center.

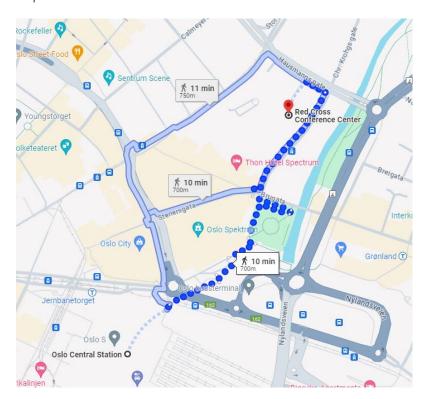
Most taxi companies offer fixed prices for trips between the airport and Oslo.

How to get to the Red Cross Conference Centre from Oslo Central Station.

From Oslo Central Station

Red Cross Conference Centre is located a few minutes' walk from Oslo Central Station. Please consult the map below. If you use google maps on your phone enter the two points below or click here:

Depart from "Oslo Central Station" and arrive at "Red Cross Conference Centre".



Arriving at the venue

The plenary sessions take place in the Red Cross Conference Centre.

Check-in to collect badges starts at 8 am Tuesday, 22 October and Wednesday 23 October. Please have your passport (international participants) or national ID (local participants) when checking in.

A special side event starts at 8:30 am on the first day of the plenary (22 October).

On the second day of the plenary (23 October) no check-in is needed if you have already collected your badge on the first day.

The meetings start at 9 am on the second day of the plenary.

Currency

The currency used in Norway is the Norwegian Krone (NOK). 1 EUR equals approximately 11.8 NOK. 1 US dollar equals approximately 11.03 NOK. Major credit cards are widely accepted and the preferred means of payment.

Tipping is not expected in Norway but appreciated in restaurants. Instead, a service charge will normally be added to your bill. The service charge will usually be declared on the menu if you're in a cafe or restaurant. Ten percent of the bill is the usual amount if you are happy with the service.

How to get around in Oslo

Oslo city center is relatively compact, and many points of interest can be reached by foot. Walking around is considered safe.

There is good coverage of public transport, and several bus routes run 24/7. The tram and metro also run from early morning to late night depending on the line.

It is recommended to download the Ruter app if you plan to use public transport. https://ruter.no/en/journey/the-ruter-app/

The app provides real-time information about all means of public transport and is also where it is most convenient buy your ticket.

Tickets and travelcards can also be bought at the following sales outlets:

The kiosks Narvesen, 7-Eleven, Deli De Luca and Mix, as well as the customer service centre of Ruter S and Service Points.

Weather

Daily high temperatures in October in Oslo are from 54°F to 43°F, rarely falling below 34°F or exceeding 61°F. Daily low temperatures are from 41°F to 33°F, rarely falling below 23°F or exceeding 50°F.

October is usually among the wettest months of the year in Norway and winds often adds to the chill, so it is recommended to bring warm as well as water resistant clothing and shoes.

Tourist information

For more information about Oslo, please see: https://www.visitoslo.com/en/

Lunch and snacks options (close to the venue)

Lunch:

Trattoria Populare: https://maps.app.goo.gl/4aRD3Nb3DdHY2W3H8

• Excellent Italian for lunch and dinner

Falafel me: https://maps.app.goo.gl/MgXZbhscUXpyHhwC7

• Convenient falafel wraps

Banh Mi: https://maps.app.goo.gl/TTw4fFbpXgXRTzFeA

Vietnamese sandwiches

Café Frosken: https://maps.app.goo.gl/rKo5TD8LZU8GgbFCA

• Proper French cuisine.

Oslo Street Food - Torggata Bad https://maps.app.goo.gl/8b3xVYU2mUyKveRg8

• Street food courter with many options of cuisine. Communal tables.

Dinner:

Scarpetta pastabar: https://maps.app.goo.gl/rQXeG7pQo81cRLB99

• One of Oslos best pastas

28 Smash Burgers: https://maps.app.goo.gl/PK4XQmt7PQSpQS4b6

Just opened

Fiskeriet Youngstorget: https://maps.app.goo.gl/eGLsrweJ1EMPT8Fr7

Sea food restaurant