



**United Nations Regional Workshop on the 2020 World
Programme on Population and Housing Censuses:
International Standards and Contemporary Technologies**

Tbilisi, Georgia

24-27 April 2018

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. Srdjan Mrkic
Chief, Demographic Statistics
United Nations Statistics Division, New York
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Mr. Seiffe Tadesse
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United Nations Statistics Division, New York
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In case of emergency while in Tbilisi, please contact the following staff from GeoStat:

Ms. Nino Jakobia
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3. WORKSHOP ORGANISATION AND COORDINATION

The regional workshop is organized by the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) in collaboration with the National Statistics Office of Georgia (GeoStat) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) country offices and the regional office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

4. OBJECTIVE OF THE WORKSHOP

The main objective of the workshop is to introduce three recently revised/prepared international guidelines for population and housing censuses—the *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses (Revision 3)*, the *Handbook on the Management of Population and Housing Censuses (Revision 2)* and the *Guidelines on the Use of Electronic Data Collection Technologies in Population and Housing Censuses*—and the standards, concepts and methods contained therein in order to facilitate national planning and preparations for 2020 round censuses. The workshop will also provide a forum for

reviewing national experience in, and document good practices on, the use of contemporary technologies including those for census mapping and data collection.

5. VENUE & DATE OF THE WORKSHOP

The venue of the workshop will be the **Hotel Vere Palace** in Tbilisi (located at 22-24 Kuchishvili Street, 0179, Tbilisi, Georgia; Tel.: +995 0322 25 33 40; E-mail: hotelpv@verepalace.com.ge; Web: <http://www.verepalace.com.ge>). The workshop will be conducted from 24 to 27 April 2018.

6. CONFERENCE PACKAGE

The conference package will include lunch and morning and afternoon coffee breaks.

7. LANGUAGE

The workshop will be conducted in English with simultaneous interpretation service provided in Russian.

8. REGISTRATION AND IDENTIFICATION BADGES

Participants are requested to collect their identification badges at the registration desk between 8:00 and 8:30 AM on Tuesday, 24 April 2018.

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

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: <http://www.tbilisiairport.com/en-EN/Transportation/Pages/Bus.aspx>

10. HOTEL ACCOMMODATION

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

The Vere Palace Hotel where the workshop will be held offers participants a rate of US\$80 per night for single occupancy, inclusive of breakfast and VAT taxes. Participants can make a reservation at the Vere Palace Hotel by sending an e-mail message to Mr. Rati Ratishvili at e-mail: hotelvp@verepalace.com.ge or by calling +995322253340.

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
Vere Palace Hotel	US\$80	Breakfast, VAT taxes	Mr. Rati Ratishvili E-mail: hotelvp@verepalace.com.ge Phone: +995322253340 Web: http://www.verepalace.com.ge/
Hotel Prima Vera	US\$75	Breakfast, VAT taxes	Web: http://www.primavera.ge/
Hotel Coste	US\$85	Breakfast, VAT taxes	Web: http://hotelcoste.ge/
Holiday Inn	US\$142	Breakfast, VAT taxes	Web: https://www.ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/us/en/tbilisi/tbsms/hoteldetail

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 April 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>

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 as of 4 April 2018 at the National Bank of Georgia were: 1 USD = 2. 2.3912 GEL and 1 EUR=2.9364 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: <https://georgia.travel/>