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Regional Training Workshop on Trade Statistical Data and Metadata eXchange (SDMX)

Venue: at Hotel Golden Tulip El Mechtel, Tunis, Tunisia

Date: 18th – 22th February 2019

ADMINISTRATIVE AND LOGISTICS NOTE

I. Venue of the Meeting

The meeting will take place at **Hotel Golden Tulip El Mechtel, Tunis, Tunisia**.

II. Visa Arrangements

Visa on arrival will be processed for participants who do not get their visas from Tunisian Embassies in the respective countries.

Copy of the letters for visa on arrival will be shared to participants in due course.

III. Hotel Accommodation

All participants should stay at the **Hotel Golden Tulip El Mechtel, Tunis, Tunisia**

IV. Local Transportation

Shuttles of the Hotel will be made available for picking up from and dropping off Carthage International Airport.

V. General Information about Tunisia/ Tunis

Tunis is the capital and the largest city of Tunisia. The greater metropolitan area of Tunis, often referred to as Grand Tunis, has around 2,700,000 inhabitants.

Situated on a large Mediterranean Sea gulf (the Gulf of Tunis), behind the Lake of Tunis and the port of La Goulette (Ḥalq il-Wād), the city extends along the coastal plain and the hills that surround it. At its core lies its ancient medina, a World Heritage Site. East of the medina through the Sea Gate (also known as the Bab el Bhar and the Porte de France) begins the modern city, or Ville Nouvelle, traversed by the grand Avenue Habib Bourguiba (often referred to by popular press and travel guides as "the Tunisian Champs-Élysées"), where the colonial-era buildings provide a clear contrast to smaller, older structures. Further east by the sea lie the suburbs of Carthage, La Marsa, and Sidi Bou Said. As the capital city of the country, Tunis is the focus of Tunisian political and administrative life; it is also the centre of the country's commercial and cultural activities.

Geographically, Tunisia contains the eastern end of the Atlas Mountains, and the northern reaches of the Sahara desert. Its 1,300 kilometres (810 miles) of coastline include the African conjunction of the western and eastern parts of the Mediterranean Basin and, by means of the Sicilian Strait and Sardinian Channel, feature the African mainland's second and third nearest points to Europe after Gibraltar.

As of 2017, Tunisia has a population of 11,403,800 inhabitants. Arabic is the official language, and Tunisian Arabic, known as Tounsi, is the national, vernacular variety of Arabic and is used by the public. There is also a small minority of speakers of Berber languages known collectively as Jebbali or Shelha. French also plays a major role in Tunisian society, despite having no official status. It is widely used in education.

For more information: <https://www.discovertunisia.com/en/> , <http://www.tourismtunisia.com/>

Climate

Tunisia's climate is Mediterranean in the north, with mild rainy winters and hot, dry summers. The south of the country is desert. The terrain in the north is mountainous, which, moving south, gives way to a hot, dry central plain.

The weather during the period of the workshop is expected to be in the range of 28-32 degree centigrade.

Some rain is expected during the days of the workshop.

Electricity

In Tunisia the standard **voltage** is 230 V and the frequency is 50 Hz. You can use your electric appliances in Tunisia, if the standard **voltage** in your country is in between 220 - 240 V (as is in the UK, Europe, Australia and most of Asia and Africa).

Currency

The official Tunisian Currency is "Tunisian Dinar". The exchange rate is **US\$ 1.00 = TND 2.95** as of January 2019.

For any additional information regarding logistical arrangements, please do not hesitate to contact Samson Nougbohoue Bel-AubeN@africa-union.org or Donia Hamouda HamoudaD@africa-union.org