

GCOS Joint Panels Meeting
8th Session of the WCRP Data Advisory Council
WG Climate
Marrakesh, Morocco
18-22 March 2019

INFORMATION NOTE

1. Venue

The meeting will be held at the
Es Saadi Marrakesh Resort:



Rue Ibrahim El Mazini
Marrakesh 40000
Morocco
Tel: +212 5243 37400
Website: <https://www.essaadi.com/>



The Es Saadi Marrakesh Resort is located close to both the bustling, history-filled Medina and the quiet of the Hivernage neighbourhood in a peaceful backdrop of lush greenery, the Resort resonates with the beating heart of the city and the calm of a remote oasis.

Special conditions have been negotiated and you will be provided accommodation including breakfast and lunch for the all period of your stay.

2. Registration and Opening

The registration will start from 9:00 on **Monday 18 March 2019** and the Plenary at 10:00.

3. Arriving in Marrakesh

Airport : <https://www.marrakesh-airport.com/>

Please note that the Hotel proposes a service of shuttle from and to the airport.

- For individuals, from 8:00 to 20:00, price MAD 150/bedroom, after 20:00 price MAD 200
- A special price would be proposed for group of participants arriving and departing with same shuttle.

4. Security

Marrakech is a safe city and well supervised by the police, and especially by the tourist police brigade in plain clothes. In case of trouble, shout "POLICE", it will arrive in a minute and your intruder will depart.

You can walk safely in Marrakech as it is considered safer than major European cities.

As in any city, watch your cameras and pickpockets, especially in the vicinity of Jemaâ El Fna Square.

5. Entry Requirement

- Citizens of the following countries do not need a visa to enter Morocco

The following countries *do not require a visa* for visits lasting less than 90 days, but require a passport valid at least 6 months on entry with one blank visa page to enter Morocco, holds proof of sufficient funds, proof of onwards/return flights.

Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Congo (Brazzaville), Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Guinea, Hong-kong (short stay of 30 days), Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Oman, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Puerto-Rico, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore (short stay of 30 days), Slovakia, Slovenia, South Korea, Spain, Suede, Switzerland, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United States of America, Venezuela

NB: The United Nations Experts' passports or laissez-passer issued by the UN are exempted from visa to enter Morocco.

- Other countries

Citizens of countries not previously mentioned like South Africa will need a visa to enter the Kingdom of Morocco. We suggest asking for more information at the Embassy of Morocco in your country. You can also check out [Morocco's Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation](#). Valid passport for a stay of less than 90 days. Some nationalities require a visa, it will be necessary to check with the Moroccan consulate or diplomatic representation in your country.

6. Getting around Marrakesh

There are different ways to visit the city: by car, on foot, bike or scooter.

The [bus network ALSA](#) (urban and electrical) of the city is well developed and not expensive (4 dirhams the way). Taxis are also very effective, and the fare is very accessible, around 20 dirhams depending on the length of the trip and the increase which takes place at night for trips in the city center. The minimum fare is fixed to 7 dirhams. Green taxis can also book in advance subject to availability of taxis in the geographical area to the 0524409494, specify the desired path.

Arrival at Marrakech-Menara airport is 3 km away from the city, two choices available to you to reach the Center: the shuttles of the urban network of ALSA, the bus n° 19 run between 6: 00 and 9:30 pm for a fee of 30 dirhams (passing every 20 minutes about). You can also use taxis, which are present at the airport day and night. Their rates are regulated and are displayed on a sticker. It will cost 70 dirhams in day and 100 dirhams the night in the airport and the city center direction. In the opposite direction, prices are more negotiable.

Renting a car is more recommended if you stay in the Palm Grove or if you plan a few trips outside Marrakech.

Car rental agencies are many. Beside the international brands like Hertz, Sixt, opinion or Europcar, local agencies also offer this service.

The Hotel has a concierge that can help you out with any questions regarding the city, excursions, transfers etc.

7. Time zone and currency

Located GMT+1 time.

The Moroccan currency is the dirham, which is divided into 100 cents. The currency must be exchanged at banks or other accredited establishments. At the airport, in the new city Guéliz, Avenue Mohammed V, near the Jemaa El Fna, exchange offices are numerous in Marrakech. Some hotels may also offer this service. Traders willingly accept euros (1 euro = 10,6 Dirhams).

8. Electricity

In Morocco the power plugs and sockets are of type C and E. Check out the following pictures.

- Type C: also known as the standard "Euro" plug. This socket also works with plug E and plug F.
- Type E: this type is of French origin. This socket also works with plug C and with plug F if it has an additional pinhole.

In Morocco the standard voltage is 220 V and the frequency is 50 Hz. You can use your electric appliances in Morocco, 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). Manufacturers take these small deviations into account. If the standard voltage in your country is in the range of 100 V - 127 V (as is in the US, Canada and most South American countries), you need a voltage converter in Morocco. You can also consider a combined power plug adapter/voltage converter.

9. Weather

Marrakech enjoys almost all year round a limpid blue sky. Temperature differences are significant in summer and winter, although mercury does not drop much below 0 ° C in January, 15 in March and 25 in April.

Spring and autumn are the two ideal seasons to visit the region.

In spring:

It is at this season that nature reveals all its beauties. The imposing bougainvillea flowers adorn the city of shimmering colours, as well as the trees in bloom, especially in the Ourika Valley. Temperatures are ideal, varying between 22 ° C and 27 ° C.

Luggage side : Light suits are quite appropriate. Warmer clothes will also not be too much for the evenings that stay cool. If you go to the mountains by the sea, a windbreaker will never be too much.