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Final Project Event of the EU/CoE Joint Programme “Emerald Network – Phase II”

4 - 5 October 2016

Hotel Minsk
Nezavisimosti avenue, 11
Minsk 220030
Belarus

PRACTICAL INFORMATION



1. OPENING

The final conference “Reaching concerted site conservation at pan-European level: progress, challenges and future of the Emerald Network” will take place on Tuesday, 4 October in Minsk, capital of Belarus. The meeting will start at 09:00 a.m. at the Hotel Minsk and registration will take place from 8:30 a.m.

On the second day (Wednesday, 5 October), the participants will visit Berezinski State Reserve, a unique Belarussian site located on the plane watershed between the Black and the Baltic Seas.

2. VENUE

The conference will be held at:

Hotel Minsk

Nezavisimosti avenue, 11

Minsk 220030

<http://www.hotelminsk.by/en/>

3. WORKING LANGUAGE OF THE MEETING

The meeting will be held in English and Russian (with translation).

4. GENERAL INFORMATION ON ACCESS TO THE MEETING PLACE



From the Minsk National Airport (<http://airport.by/en>):

- By taxi – the average price is about 20 euros. The taxi can be ordered at the desk in the arrival hall of the airport or directly upon the exit from the terminal.
- By bus – special buses go to the bus station “Centralny” (city center) every hour from the bus-stop at the Airport, which is situated in front of Gate 5-6 (the ground floor, arrival hall). The bus station “Centralny” is located at a walking distance from the hotel “Minsk” (850 m). Alternatively, take bus 199c at “Vokzal” bus stop and get off at “Volodarskogo” bus stop.

From the Central Railways Station (<http://www.rw.by/>): the Central Railways Station is located at a walking distance from the hotel “Minsk” (850 m). Alternatively, take bus 199c at “Vokzal” bus stop and get off at “Volodarskogo” bus stop.

From the bus station “Centralny” (<http://www.minsktrans.by/en/>): the bus station “Centralny” is located at a walking distance from the hotel “Minsk” (850 m). Alternatively, take bus 199c at “Vokzal” bus stop and get off at “Volodarskogo” bus stop.

5. VISA INFORMATION



To enter Belarus a foreign citizen must submit a valid passport, and a visa, if no other order of entry into Belarus is established by an international agreement. The citizens of the Russian Federation, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine don't need a visa to visit Belarus. More detailed info about the procedure can be found at the following link:

<http://mfa.gov.by/en/visa/>

To request an invitation for visa processing, please, contact Tania Braulio (Tania.Braulio@coe.int) or Yuri Solovjev (ecoin@tut.by).

6. HOTEL INFORMATION

The conference will be held at the Hotel Minsk. Kindly ask the organizers if a room has been booked for you. If not, rooms can be booked through the website of the hotel: <http://www.hotelminsk.by/en/> . Meals for participants will be organized in the cafe of the hotel “Minsk”.

7. OFFICIAL LANGUAGE IN BELARUS

There are two official languages in Belarus: Russian and Belarusian.

8. WEATHER AND TIME ZONE INFORMATION



In October the weather in Belarus is mainly cool and cloudy. Daytime temperature is 7-12 °C above zero, night temperature is 5 °C above zero. Moderate southwestern wind prevail most of the time with the speed of 3 m/s.

Belarus is in the Eastern European Standard (EET) time zone. EET is 3 hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT+3)

9. ELECTRICITY

The electrical currents in Belarus are 220 V. The usually used plugs and sockets are the C or F type, as shown below:

Type C



Type F.



10. CURRENCY



The currency in Belarus is the Belarusian Ruble (BYN). The current exchange rate is EUR 1 = 2.25324 (09.09.2016)

The official currency of the Republic of Belarus was redenominated on 1 July 2016. Existing notes (called the 2000 series, BYR) will be exchanged for new ones (called the 2009 series, BYN) at a rate of 10,000:1.

From 1 July 2016 to 31 December 2016 the currency units of the 2000 series and the currency units of the 2009 series will be used simultaneously.

The current exchange rate could be found at: <http://www.xe.com/>.