“Don’t live with it – deal with it.”


Information booklet The Netherlands/The Hague

Hosts/Contact persons for the meeting

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I. Administrative Information about the Netherlands/The Hague:

**Accommodation/Housing:** You will be staying at the Ibis hotel in The Hague

Ibis Hotel
Jan Hendrikstraat 10, 2515 GL, The Hague
Phone: (+31)70/2039001 Fax: (+31)70/3184319

The hotel is in the City Center of The Hague.

**Conference Venue:** The conference center, Concordia, is approximately 500 meters from the hotel. Address: Hoge Zand 42. We'll arrange for guides to walk from the hotel to the conference center on Wednesday and Thursday mornings.

*Route Ibis hotel (A) to Concordia (B).*
**Accommodation**: Your accommodation costs will be covered by GNDR, you will only need to cover the extra costs that you might have had during your stay: minibar, laundry, phone calls, etc.

**Food/Water**: Your meals will be provided by GNDR. Breakfast will be served at the hotel and lunch at Concordia. GNDR will arrange dinners outside the hotel. Tap water is potable, but you can also buy bottled water in the hotel or small shops around the hotel area.

**Internet facilities**: Ibis provides free WiFi for all their guests.

**Weather**: [http://www.weatheronline.co.uk/Netherlands.htm](http://www.weatheronline.co.uk/Netherlands.htm) for a ten day forecast. Note that it often rains and that it is in general still cold end of March (about 10 °C).

**Clothing**: You may need a jacket and an umbrella or rain-proof cover.

**Medical facilities**: The hotel will be able to assist with any medical queries you may have as well as calling out the resident doctor for any emergencies.

**Electricity voltage**: The Voltage in The Netherlands is 220V. Electricity plugs used in The Netherlands are 2-pin. Please make sure you have an adaptor.

**Money/ and money exchange**: The currency used in The Netherlands is Euro. You will need some cash (about 20-25 Euro) for local transport so please plan to change money at the airport. You can find exchange rates at the following website: [http://www.xe.com/](http://www.xe.com/)

ATM machines can be found throughout the whole city. Note that in most shops in the Netherlands you can’t pay with a credit card so make sure you have cash money when you’re planning to buy something

**Embassies**: Most embassies are based in The Hague. To locate your Embassy’s number please visit: [http://embassy.goabroad.com/embassies-in/netherlands](http://embassy.goabroad.com/embassies-in/netherlands)
II. Country information

The Netherlands

**General description:** The Netherlands is part the Kingdom of the Netherlands and has 16.7 million inhabitants (2012). With a surface of 41,526 km² and with 447,9/km² it has a high a population density. The Netherlands is geographically a low-lying country, with over 18% of its area and 21% of its population located below sea level. Most of the areas below sea level are man-made, caused by centuries of extensive and poorly controlled peat extraction, lowering the surface by several meters. From the late 16th century land reclamation started and large polder areas are now preserved through elaborate drainage systems with dykes and canals. Most of the country is very flat, with the exception of foothills in the far southeast and several low hill ranges in the central parts.

**Borders:** Belgium and Germany  
**Climate:** Moderate maritime climate, in March the average temperature is 10 °C  
**Time zone:** GMT + 1  
**Government type:** Republic, Kingdom  
**Capital:** Amsterdam  
**Population:** 16.7 million (2012 est.)  
**Languages:** Dutch and Frisian

The Hague

**General description:** The Hague is the seat of the Dutch government and parliament, the Supreme Court and the Council of State, but is not the capital of the Netherlands. The Hague is the third largest city of the Netherlands, after Amsterdam and Rotterdam. Most foreign embassies and 150 international organizations are located in The Hague, including the International Criminal Court, which makes The Hague one of the major cities hosting the United Nations.  
**Population:** 500.000