

PAHO



Regional Meeting on the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body (INB) and Amendments to the International Health Regulations (WGIHR) 10-12 July 2023 Washington, D.C.

Welcome!

It is a great pleasure to welcome you to the **Regional Meeting on the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body (INB) and Amendments to the International Health Regulations (WGIHR)**. This logistical note you will find important information for your trip.

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS, INCLUDING PER DIEM

PAHO will cover the cost of your plane ticket and per diem.

Your hotel accommodation in Washington, D.C. will be paid for directly by PAHO.

For questions regarding the purchase of the plane ticket and the payment of the per diem please contact the PAHO Country Office in your country.

Please note that you will receive your per diem either as a check issued by your local PAHO country office or as a direct deposit, depending on the information that you provided to PAHO. **The Organization is unable to issue a per diem check or cash payment in Washington, D.C.**

PASSPORTS AND VISAS

Participants are responsible for having a passport valid for at least six months and the corresponding visa (if required) for entry into the United States. Please check if a visa is required to enter the United States at the following link: [U.S. Visas \(state.gov\)](https://travel.state.gov) or [How to Enter the United States | USAGov](https://www.usa.gov)

For health travel advisories for the United States, please check this [link](#)

VENUE AND ACCOMMODATIONS:

After receiving your confirmation and final itinerary, PAHO will directly make your reservation at the **Fairmont Washington D.C. hotel**, located at 2401 M Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20037, telephone: 202-349-1325.

The meeting will be held in the same hotel.

FOOD AND REFRESHMENTS:

On the meeting days, PAHO will provide lunches. The lunch menu will include vegetarian options. Please write to Rosario Munoz at munozros@paho.org with copy to Judith Martinez martinej@paho.org if you have any food allergies or dietary restrictions.

Your per diem should cover all other meal expenses during your travel. Restaurants are available within walking distance of the hotel.

AIRPORTS:

There are two major airports in the Washington, D.C. area.

❖ Reagan National Airport – DCA

The closest in terms of distance, Reagan National Airport is located approximately 15-20 minutes from the hotel by taxi or shuttle bus, and 16 minutes by Metrorail (metro), followed by a 10-minute walk. The closest metro station is the Foggy Bottom-GWU Station, which is serviced by the Blue, Silver, and Orange lines. For a map of the Metro system and driving directions please see page 4 of this logistical note.

Google directions: [Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport to Fairmont Washington D.C. Georgetown - Google Maps](#)

❖ Dulles International Airport – IAD

Dulles Airport is located about 35 minutes from PAHO by taxi or shuttle bus, and 50-60 minutes by Metrorail (metro), followed by a 10-minute walk. Shuttle buses to and from the airport are available and reservations can be made at the following website:

Super Shuttle: <http://www.supershuttle.com/locations/washingtondca>

LOCAL TRANSPORTATION:

Your per diem covers the cost of taxis and other local transportation for this meeting.

Taxis: Taxis are easily accessible in the Washington, D.C. area. Before taking a taxi always check the fares with cab companies to be sure that you understand the costs involved and the forms of payment accepted.

The following companies provide phone dispatch taxicab service in the Washington, D.C. area:

- ❖ **Yellow Cab Company:** (202) 544-1212
- ❖ **Diamond Cab Association:** (202) 387-6200
- ❖ **District Cab:** (202) 398-0500
- ❖ **VIP Cab:** (202) 269-9000

Metro: <http://www.wmata.com/rail/?forcedesktop=1> The Washington, D.C. Metro is a world-class public transportation system. There are six color-coded rail lines: Red, Orange, Silver, Blue, Yellow, and Green. The direction the train is traveling towards is denoted by the last station on the line the train is servicing. Below are some tips to help you ride Metro like a native Washingtonian:

- ❖ When riding escalators throughout the system, stay to the right if you are going to stand. If you are walking, do so on the left.
- ❖ You can calculate the estimated time and cost for your trip at www.wmata.com
- ❖ There is no eating or drinking on the metro; violating this policy may result in a hefty fine.
- ❖ Make sure to allow customers to exit the train before you board. When boarding, move to the center of the car to make room for more customers boarding down the line.

MEETING LANGUAGE:

The meeting will be conducted primarily in English and Spanish. There will be simultaneous language interpretation into English, French, Portuguese, and Spanish.

KEY CONTACTS:

For general inquiries regarding the meeting, please contact the PAHO Country Office in your country. **For urgent matters**, you may also contact Mrs. Victoria Murno at murnomar@paho.org and Ms. Karen Taborda at tabordakar@paho.org from PAHO HQ with copy to martinej@paho.org .

For an emergency while in the United States, dial 911.

We wish you a great trip and look forward to seeing you in Washington, D.C.!

