LOGISTICS NOTE

Inception and Training Workshop of the Project
Minamata Initial Assessment

Istanbul – Turkey,
26th - 27th March 2019

Venue

Venue: Istanbul Marriott Hotel Sisli
Abide-i Hurriyet Caddesi No.142, Sisli Istanbul, 34381 Turkey
ACCOMODATION OPTIONS

Accommodation options:

1. **Marriott Sisli Hotel** (Venue of the workshop) Single room rate of 90 EUR/double room rate 100 EUR + 8% VAT includes breakfast

   **Contact:** Ms. Kerim Bahtigul at bahtigul.kerim@marriottthotels.com
   reservation.marriottsisli@marriott.com
   **Note:** Please indicate that you are a participant of the Global MIA workshop on 26 and 27 March 2019 so that you can benefit from the special rate.

2. **Radisson Blu Sisli** (5 minutes walking distance): 90 € - room rates are per night, inclusive of breakfast, excluding 8% VAT
   **Contacts:** Kubra Colakel kubra.colakel@radissonblu.com
   Begum Bayram begum.bayram@radissonblu.com

3. **Hilton Bomonti** (10-15 minutes walking distance): 90 € - room rates are per night, inclusive of breakfast, excluding 8% VAT.
   **Contact:** Nursu Ozgenc Nursu.Ozgenc@hilton.com

LUNCHES, RECEPTION, COFFEE BREAKS AND RESTAURANTS

The coffee breaks for the workshop will be offered by the organizers and served at the countries representatives next to the meeting room.

Lunches will be at the expense and discretion of the participants. The express lunch menu at the Marriott hotel (workshop venue) is 45 TRY.

Airport transfer and way to the meeting venue

Please note that Istanbul has 2 airports. TAV Istanbul Ataturk Airport is located on the European side where the event will take place, while Sabiha Gokcen International Airport (SAW) is located in the Asian side of the city. Ataturk Airport is considerably more convenient. Various transportation options for transfers to and from the airport are provided below:

1st option: Havabus shuttle provides a bus service to and from both airports to Taksim. Buses leave at 30 minute intervals. Please check the website for details [http://www.havabus.com/](http://www.havabus.com/). Taksim is approximately 3km from the Istanbul Marriot Sisli Hotel. Passangers can take either metro (M2 line) and get off at Sisli/Mecidiyekoy” station, or take a taxi.

2nd option: The Istanbul metro (M1 line) runs from the Ataturk Airport into the city centre. The “Sisli/Mecidiyekoy” metro stop on the M2 green metro line can be used to reach the Istanbul Marriot Sisli Hotel. (change from the M1 to the M2 metro lines is at the Yenikapi metro station) Link to public [http://www.metro.istanbul](http://www.metro.istanbul)

3rd option: Taking a taxi from the airport. Please make sure the taxi meter is on. A taxi from Ataturk Airport to the Istanbul Marriot Sisli Hotel hotel will cost approximately 70-80 TRY. Payment will be in cash in Turkish lira.
**Currency**

Official currency is Turkish Lira (TRY). The current exchange rate is 1 USD = 5,26 TRY approximately. One Lira is made up of 100 kurus. ATMs generally accept MasterCard, Visa, Cirrus and Maestro cards. There are also small money-exchange offices; they usually take US dollars and Euros.

**Climate**

According to the Köppen–Geiger classification system, Istanbul has a borderline Mediterranean climate (Csa), humid subtropical climate (Cfa) and oceanic climate (Cfb), due to its location in a transitional climatic zone. The average high temperature from 25-28 March is 13°C and the average low is 4°C.

**Electricity**

Mainly 220 volts AC. Plugs are usually the two-pronged cylindrical European style. (Please, refer to https://turkeytravelplanner.com/details/Electricity.html for more details)

**Visa requirements**

Visas are required for entry into Turkey. It is therefore strongly recommended to check with the local Turkish Embassy or Consulate before traveling. Participants are responsible to secure their entry visa in advance. Please do not hesitate to contact us (contacts below) should you require any supporting document for the request of your visa.

**Security**

The UN Department of Safety and Security currently classifies the security situation in Istanbul as Level 2.

**Time zone**

Time zone for Istanbul is: UTC +3 hours, no daylight saving time

**Communications**

The country code is +90 and the area codes for Istanbul are 212 (for European Continent) and 216 (for Asian Continent). Turkish mobile operators (Turkcell, Vodafone and Avea) cover almost the whole territory of the country.

**For any further information, please contact:**

**Logistics and agenda:**
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