**Welcome to Accra Ghana. We are pleased to have you participating in this meeting**

**BACKGROUND**

The office of the President of Ghana together with the Government of Norway and WHO is co-organizing an international strategic dialogue on NCDs and the SDGs. The Dialogue aims to raise the profile of the NCD agenda within the SDGs internationally and bring together national and international actors and partners to share knowledge and ideas with key stakeholders from the public and private sectors, the academic and business world, and international development experts. The Dialogue will be organized to foster the emergence of additional ideas to “progressively cover all people by 2030 with quality essential health services and quality, safe, effective, affordable and essential medicines, vaccines, diagnostics and health technologies for the prevention, screening, early diagnosis and treatment of NCDs within the framework of the SDGs.

**Geography and Climate**

Ghana, before the attainment of independence, was called Gold Coast. It is a republic in West Africa, on the Gulf of Guinea. It is bordered to the north by Burkina Faso, to the east by Togo, to the south by the Atlantic Ocean, and to the west by the Ivory Coast. Accra is the capital of Ghana and its administrative and communications centre. The country has a land area of 238,535 sq. km. Temperatures are normally between 29-36°C. The onset of the raining season is between 3rd week of March and 4th week of April. [https://www.meteo.gov.gh/gmet/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Forecast-of-the-MAJOR-RAINY-SEASON-2022_Final.pdf](https://www.meteo.gov.gh/gmet/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Forecast-of-the-MAJOR-RAINY-SEASON-2022_Final.pdf)

Official language: English

**Time zone**

GMT +00:00

**Arrival**

Kotoka International airport is within the city and about 10km from the Kempinski Hotel Gold Coast City Accra where the International Strategic Dialogue (ISD) will be held.

Facilities at the airport include a bank and bureau de change, restaurants and bars, duty-free and gift shops, travel agents, a post office, a tourist help desk, Paid and FREE Wi-Fi at departure lounge and transit area.

**Immigration requirements**

All nationals of African countries except citizens of 15 states of ECOWAS bloc require visa before entry into Ghana. However, nationals from Rwanda, Kenya and Swaziland are exempted from acquiring visa before entry into Ghana. With exception of Morocco, citizens of all other AU member states requiring visa before visiting Ghana can do so by
acquiring one at the Kotoka International Airport at a fee of $150. This is in line with a 1st July 2016 policy of Government of Ghana. Visas in this category are valid for a maximum of a 30-day duration.

Venue of the meeting

The meeting will be held at the Kempinski Hotel Gold Coast City, Accra which is about 30 min drive from Kotoka International Airport.

Contact details for the hotel are as follows:
Favour Chimezie
Assistant Groups and Events Manager
Kempinski Hotel Gold Coast City Accra
PMB 66 - Ministries · Gamel Abdul Nasser Avenue, Ridge · Accra · Ghana
T +233 24 243 6000 · M +233 55 255 8762
favour.chimezie@kempinski.com

Hotel Accommodation

Accommodation costs will not be borne by cohost organizations. Kindly make arrangements for accommodation. Please note that the following are five-star hotels within Accra:
- Kempinski Gold cost city hotel
- Movenpick hotel
- Tang Palace hotel
- Accra City hotel
- Airport view hotel
- Fiesta Royale hotel

Travel arrangements

Visa: Participants who are nationals of ECOWAS countries DO NOT require entry visas into Ghana. Those from other countries are to obtain their visas from a Ghanaian Embassy or Consulate nearest them. UN Laissez Passer Holders do not require an entry visa to Ghana.

Participants from countries where there are no Ghana Missions are to send scanned copies of their relevant passport pages to WHO Country Office Ghana (haganc@who.int);(senrahi@yahoo.com) at least ONE WEEK before their arrival to facilitate the issuance of visa on arrival. Visas issued on arrival cost USD150.

Arriving Passengers

All international arrivals including those from the ECOWAS region will be required to meet the following health requirements prior to admission into Ghana by the Ghana Immigration Service.

1. Must not have any symptoms suggestive of COVID-19 including body temperature >38°C
2. Must complete a Health Declaration Form https://ghs-hdf.org/
3. GHS/MOH Guidelines on COVID-19 Safety for International Flights
   Effective 28th March 2022, fully vaccinated travelers will be allowed entry into Ghana without a negative PCR test result from the country of embarkation. However, travelers who are not fully vaccinated will have to provide a negative PCR test result not more than 48hrs and will be required to undergo an antigen test upon arrival at the Kotoka International Airport and be offered vaccination there.
4. Undergo COVID-19 testing on arrival at the Kotoka International Airport at a cost of $50 for ECOWAS citizens and $150 for non-ECOWAS citizens. Payment for the test has to be done at https://myfrontierhealthcare.com/home?l=en before the health declaration form can be completed.

**Currency**

The currency of Ghana is GH¢ (Ghana cedi) in the following denominations:

**Notes**: 50, 20, 10, 5, 2, 1 (GH¢)

**Coins**: 50, 20, 10, 5, 1, pesewa(s)

The UN Exchange rate for April 2022 is USD 1.00 to GH¢7.3. The hotels accept Visa, Master and Credit Cards as well as cash payments.

**Health**

Participants should have valid vaccination certificates. For participants coming from non-endemic countries, prescribed dosages of Malaria prophylactics should be taken according to a physician’s recommendation.

Should there be the need for medical assistance, the following could be contacted:

1. UN Clinic – 0302 773890-6 and
2. Nyaho Clinic - 0302 775341, 0244239346.

*Cost for all medical treatment will be borne by participants.*

**Electricity**

The electricity supply in Ghana is at 220-240 volts, 50 cycle AC. Recommended plugs are 2-pin round or 3-pin square. Please bring adapters if required.

**Registration of participants**

Registration of online participants should be done using the link below: https://who.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_n-1HbtIORCeg5xDy5zkXDQ

In-person participants should confirm their participation via email: ISDNCD2022@moh.gov.gh. We recommend early registration to ensure accreditation is received for the event.

**USEFUL CONTACTS**

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