



WAIPA-BANCOMEXT WORKSHOP IN FOREIGN INVESTMENT
October 17-18, 2006
Mexico

Information Guide

A. Meeting Information

1. Place and dates

The Waipa –Bancomext Workshop in Foreign Investment will take place from October 17 and 18, 2006, in Bancomext premises in Mexico City.

BANCOMEXT CENCACI Center
Periférico Sur 4284
Col. Jardines del Pedregal de San Ángel
04500, México, D.F.

2. Organizers

The Workshop organizers are WAIPA and the Mexican Bank for Foreign Trade (BANCOMEXT). We are expecting to have between 20-25 WAIPA members, 60 representatives of Mexican States and 60 owners of industrial parks in Mexico.

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WAIPA

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3. Arrival, transportation from Mexico City Benito Juárez International Airport to the Host Hotel, and Registration

All participants shall arrange their Mexico City Airport –Hotel transportation.

Upon arrival to the Airport, participants should make sure they buy their taxi ticket from the official yellow – sign “Transportación Terrestre” ticket terminals, located in both the national and international terminals. The rates are fair and your taxi ride will be private. Your taxi should be yellow and white with an airplane symbol on the side. These are the only taxis authorized to operate out of the airport. Be wary of anyone offering a cheap taxi ride.

On hiring the taxi service, participants shall request to be taken to the Mexico City host hotel: the Royal Pedregal Hotel (at the south of the city). Since rides are hired according to the destination zone, participants must make clear that the hotel is near the Perisur Shopping Mall.

Royal Pedregal Hotel

Periférico Sur 4363
Col. Jardines en la Montaña
14210, México D.F.
T: +52 (55) 5449 – 4000
F: + 52 (55) 5645 – 7964
www.hotelesroyal.com.mx

When doing your reservation at the host hotel, please mention your participation in the WAIPA-Bancomext Workshop, and you will get the special rate of \$1,066.00 Mexican pesos + tax (approximately 112-120 US dollars). If you have any problem with your reservations, please contact Mrs. Claudia Manjarez.

Bancomext is planning to have a welcome cocktail in the Host Hotel, October 16, 2006 from 6:30-9:00 PM where all of you are invited.

Transport to the CENCACI Center from the host hotel will be arranged by BANCOMEXT in Mexico City. There will be buses in the host hotel main entrance at 8:00 AM September 16. Transportation from CENCACI to the host hotel will be provided for the two days after the program is finished that day.

5. Trip to the Pyramids.

Bancomext invites all keynote speakers and participants from abroad to a Mexico City tour and a trip to the Pyramids on October 19, from 8:00 AM to 14:00 Hrs. and will return to the host hotel.

6. Mexico Arrival and departure arrangements

Participants should arrange their own arrival and departure flight reservations, taking into account the specific requirements and recommendations made by the BANCOMEXT representative office.

All participants shall have arrived by Monday October 16 to Mexico City.

B. Mexico City Information

1. Geography

It is located on an enormous dry lake bed in a highland basin (elevation 7400 feet) and surrounded by mountains and two volcanoes. The city is built on the ruins of *Tenochtitlan*, the ancient Aztec capital. It is a remarkable showplace for Mexico's 3,000 years of human cultural achievement.

It is the capital and seat of the government and the center of commerce, finance, arts and base of many foreign companies; in addition to being one of the largest cities in the world with nearly 20 million inhabitants in the urban area.

The website <http://www.visitmexico.com> will provide you a lot of useful information about Mexico.

2. Population

Mexico, has more than 103 million inhabitants. Mexico City and its metropolitan area has approximately 20 million inhabitants.

3. Local time

Mexico City is – 6 GMT.

4. Climate

Weather is mild in summer and fall, but cool temperatures predominates, with an average temperature of 15 °C or 59 °F. Weather changes throughout the day; fresh in the mornings and evenings, and semi - warm during the day. Please bring a sweater or jacket for nights and mornings.

5. Entry formalities

Regarding departure on international flights, all delegates should arrive at the airport at least three hours prior to their flight time of departure and observe the security measures established by the airlines and airport authorities.

Times are less stringent in case of a domestic flight, an hour and a half is enough.

6. Passports and Visas

All participants must carry a valid passport or applicable travel documents and visas or entry permits for Mexico. Participants are responsible for their visa arrangements at the Mexican Trade Services.

7. Electricity

The voltage in Mexico is 110V, 60HZ. Most sockets are 2-rectangular-pin sockets and most hotels provide adaptors for your electrical appliances.

8. Currency

The local currency is the peso. There are no restrictions on the amount of foreign currency, travelers' checks or credit cards brought into the country. However, non-residents carrying more than 10,000 U.S. dollars must report it on the Customs Declaration.

Currency exchanges ("Casas de Cambio") and banks will exchange major foreign currencies. These are usually open from Monday to Friday, from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., and the rates offered are often better than at hotels. The present exchange rate) will be around \$11.50-12.00 pesos to \$1.00U.S.

Currency bills are in 20, 50, 100, 200 & 500 peso denominations. Mexican coins are in the following denominations: 10, 20, and 50 cents and 1,2,5,10 and 20 pesos.

Twenty four hour ATMs are available in many places in the city, generally outside of banks and in hotels and shopping centers.

8. Credit cards

Mexico's hotels and retail chains accept major credit cards. Most restaurants of any appreciable size will also accept major credit cards,

though visitors should check with smaller establishments. ATM machines accept most major credit cards for cash advances as well as bank cards linked to the Plus or Cirrus networks.