

SPC MEETINGS - CRGA/CONFERENCE
14-20 November 2001**GENERAL INFORMATION FOR MEETING PARTICIPANTS**

Welcome to Noumea. The Secretariat is pleased to provide the following general information for meeting participants, including the attached Program for the week of CRGA and Conference. If you should require additional information or assistance, please contact the SPC at (687) 26.20.00 or after-hours, contact the Director of Corporate Services, Louni Hanipale Mose at (687) 28.69.10. or mobile (687) 83.63.37

The CRGA meeting is scheduled to begin at 08:30 on Wednesday, 14 November. The official opening of Conference will take place on Monday, 19 November at 08:30, immediately followed by the Conference meeting.

CRGA/Conference – Meeting services

Meeting venue. The Conference facility featuring the Jacques Iekawe Conference room is located in the SPC Complex located along Anse Vata in Noumea.

The SPC has a Non-Smoking policy in effect in the offices and conference facility. It would be appreciated if this rule is strictly adhered to. Smoking, however, is allowed only outside in the garden area.

Participants' mail and **meeting papers** will be placed in pigeon holes marked for each of the participants in the Secretariat Office adjoining the Conference room.

Internet access will be available through the Internet computers located in the foyer of the Conference facility. Web accessible e-mail accounts, such as Hotmail can be directly accessed through the web browser provided.

Other mail accounts (POP based mail) can also be accessed from the browser as long as the participant knows the server name, username and password of his/her account.

Participants unable to reach external mail accounts may ask correspondents to send e-mail to conference@spc.int. Mail received in this account will be placed in participants' pigeon holes.

Participants with laptop computers will be able to connect them directly to the Internet if they have a 10BaseT network adapter.

Fax facilities are available at the Conference office during meeting times. The charges for outgoing faxes will be the responsibility of the participants incurring them. Incoming faxes will be delivered to addresses or placed in pigeon holes. Fax services are also available at most hotels.

Overseas **telephone** calls can be made from the Conference facility. Telephone cards in the amount of 1000 CFP or 1500 CFP can be obtained from the Meeting Secretary or the Conference/Travel Officer.

Local telephone calls can be arranged as usual with the Meeting Secretary.

Return **travel bookings** may be confirmed through the Conference/Travel Officer or Meeting Secretary. All tickets must be handed to the Secretariat from Thursday, 15 November.

Participants are invited to become honorary members of the **SPC Staff Social Club** during their stay and all are welcomed to the Club bar.

Participants are welcomed to the **SPC Canteen** which is open daily for participants during the lunch break, and which operates on a cash basis.

The working **languages** will be English and French, and simultaneous interpretation will be provided.

Any participant requiring **medical or dental attention** is asked to contact the Meeting Secretary or the Conference/Travel Officer. In urgent cases, the nearest medical facility, the Polyclinic, is located 100 metres from the SPC complex.

It should be noted that SPC does not insure participants whilst attending or travelling to and from the CRGA and Conference meetings, and will not be responsible for any expenses arising from sickness, injury, other disability or loss of life.

Noumea Information

Currency. Delegates are advised that New Caledonia uses the Pacific French Franc (CFP) as its domestic currency. Most major international credit cards are widely accepted.

Travellers' cheques can be cashed at hotels. There is a bank exchange (Banque Nationale de Paris) situated at La Maison des Iles Loyaute, between the old SPC site and Hotel Nouvata which is open Monday to Friday, from 07 :20 to 15 :45.

Local transport. There is frequent bus service between town and Anse Vata, where SPC and most hotels are located. The one-way fare is 120 CFP on week days, and 140 CFP on weekends.

Taxis are available by calling 28.35.12. Drive-yourself cars may also be hired.

Power supply. The New Caledonia power supply operates at 240 volts. French power adapters are available for purchase from the SPC canteen.

Tourism information. Please contact the front desk at your hotel for available tourism brochures.

PROGRAMME

SPC MEETINGS – CRGA/CONFERENCE

14-20 November 2001

Wednesday, 14 November

- 08:30 – 17:30 : CRGA Meeting
- 18:30 – 20:30 : Cocktail, hosted by the Director-General
Venue: SPC Conference deck

Thursday, 15 November

- 08:30 – 17:30 : CRGA Meeting

Friday, 16 November

- 08:30 – 17:30 : CRGA Meeting

Saturday, 17 November

- 08:00 : Golf tournament
Venue: Tina golf course
- 08:00 : Tennis challenge
Venue: SPC tennis courts
- 14:00 : Lunch, organised by the SPC Social Club
Venue: SPC Conference deck

Sunday, 18 November

Free Day

- Afternoon : Tour of the Jean-Marie Tjibaou Cultural Centre
(to be arranged upon request)
- 18:30 : Cocktail, hosted by President of New Caledonia
Monsieur Pierre Frogier
Venue: (to be confirmed)

Monday, 19 November

- 08:30 : 2nd Conference of the Pacific Community
Official opening ceremony
Venue: SPC courtyard
- 12:30 – 14:00 : Lunch, hosted by the Director-General
Venue: SPC Conference deck
- 18:30 – 20:30 : Cocktail, hosted by French High Commissioner
Monsieur Thierry Latasse
Venue: High Commissioner's residence

Tuesday, 20 November

- 08:30 : Conference session
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SPC Social/Sports Day
Saturday, 17 November

On Saturday 17th of November, the SPC Social Club will be hosting a sporting/social day. All CRGA/Conference participants are cordially invited to join in the various activities and really enjoy a day off. The day will include golf, tennis and petanque games, as well as an island food extravaganza in the early afternoon.

To assist with the organisation of the festivities, we would appreciate it if you would fill out the questionnaire on the following page and return it to the reception desk at the Conference Secretariat centre by Thursday 15/11.

Please note the sporting events will take place in a very social environment, so we welcome participants of all skill levels.

Details for lunch

Time: 14:00 – 16:00
Location: Next to SPC tennis court
Cost: 1000 cfp per person, or 2000 cfp per family
(tickets can be purchased at the Secretariat office)
Drinks: Will be sold during the day (beer, wine & soft drink)
or you can BYO

Details for the sporting events

Golf

Time: 8.00am (but some may want to start as early as 6.00am, you can indicate your preference on the attached sheet).
Venue: Tina golf course, about 20 minutes drive from SPC headquarters.
Transport: Can be arranged if required.
Cost: approximately 3000 cfp for 9 holes, or 4500 cfp for 18 holes
(plus club/buggy/cart hire if necessary).
Dress code: Neat attire – collared shirts, shoes and socks (no thongs/jandals or jeans)

Tennis

Time: 8.00 am onwards
Venue: SPC tennis courts
Cost: Free!
Format: Doubles, preferably mixed, and we will be trying to make pairings as even and sociable as we can arrange. We will be aiming to make sure that everyone who wants to play will get at least one set – if there is quite a crowd then we will play short sets (4 games to win instead of 6). There will be racquets available for visitors.

Pétanque For those who don't know this game, it involves throwing steel balls close to a small wooden ball (the "cochonnet", or "little pig"). It takes very little effort and is great fun – well worth trying, and a great photo opportunity for memories of the trip. People will be there to teach you the rules if required.

Time: 10.00 am onwards
Venue: Near the SPC tennis courts, between the Health and Coastal/IT Buildings.
Cost: Free! (but broken windows may incur a "fine"!)

Questionnaire for the SPC Social Sports Day
Saturday, 17 November 2001
(please return completed form to Conference Secretariat)

Name : _____ Delegation: _____

Hotel: _____

Lunch

Will you be attending the lunch? (tickets available from the Conference Secretariat)

Yes No

If additional family members are attending, please indicate how many:

Golf

Would you like to participate in the golf?

Yes No

If yes, how many holes would you prefer to play?

9 18

What time would you prefer to tee-off?

6am 8am

How would you describe your golf? Regular Social Laugh a lot

Tennis

Would you like to participate in the tennis?

Yes No

How would you describe your tennis? Regular Social Laugh a lot

Petanque

Would you like to participate in the pétanque?

Yes No

Other

Any special requirements / requests? _____

Thank you/Merci for taking the time to fill out this questionnaire. It will help us plan what should be a really good day.

Sunday, 18 November 2001

The schedules of Church services in Noumea is provided for your general information.

Catholic Churches

Cathédrale de Nouméa
Sunday 6.00hrs and 9.00hrs

Eglise du Voeu
Sunday 7.00hrs and 10.00 hrs

Eglise St Jean Baptiste
Vallée des Colons
Sunday 6.00hrs and 8.30hrs

Protestant Churches

Paroisse du Vieux Temple
Bld Vauban
Sunday 9.00hrs

Pentecostal Church

EgliseEvangélique dePentecôte
5, rue Reims
Faubourg Blanchot

If you wish to visit the Jean-Marie Tjibaou Cultural Centre on Sunday afternoon, please sign up at the Conference Secretariat office no later than Saturday noon so that transport can be arranged. Those planning on the visit should meet at the front entrance of the SPC at 14:00.
