



21st Session
Of
FAO/WHO Coordinating
Committee for Asia (CCASIA 21)
23rd – 27th Sept. 2019, Goa, India

Information Note for Participants

1.INTRODUCTION

The 21st meeting of the FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Asia (CCASIA 21) will be held at Double Tree by Hilton, Panaji, Goa (a tiny emerald land on the west coast of India) from 23rd to 27th September 2019 wherein various experts and policy makers from 24 Asian countries will gather to discuss and address the food safety, food quality and nutrition issues of interest at the regional level.

2.DATE AND VENUE:

- ❖ The Session will start at 09:30 hrs on 23rd September, 2019.
- ❖ Plenary Session: 23rd- 27th September 2019; 09:00 hrs to 17:00 hrs at the Grand Ballroom



Address: **Double Tree by Hilton Goa - Panaji**

Kadamba Plateau, Panjim Old Goa Bypass Road, Velha Goa, Panaji, 403006, India
Board No.: +91-832-2491900 Fax: +91-832-2491901

3. REGISTRATION AND IDENTIFICATION BADGES:

Codex Contact Points are invited to pre-register the participants through the Online Registration System (ORS) on the Codex [Website](#).

Onsite Registration of participants will take place at Hotel Double Tree by Hilton, Panaji on:

Sunday 22nd September 2019: 14:00–18:00

Monday 23rd September 2019: 08:00hrs onward.

Name badges will be distributed at the registration desk outside the Grand Ballroom. Delegates are requested to wear name badges visibly in order to gain admittance to the Hotel and Ballroom.

4. INTERPRETATION

Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in English and Chinese during the meeting.

5. DOCUMENTATION

Delegates are requested to bring their own documents to the meeting. These are available in English and Chinese on www.codexalimentarius.org Conference Room Documents (CRDs) and additional documents, if any, will be available at the registration desk outside the conference room.

6. Wi-Fi

Free Wi-Fi will be available at the meeting venue.

7. RECEPTION

A welcome dinner for all the delegates and observers is scheduled on Monday 23rd September 2019 at the meeting venue.

Another reception for all the Heads of the delegation is being organised on Tuesday 24th September 2019 at the meeting venue.

8. ACCOMMODATION:

- Delegates are reminded that they are responsible for making their own hotel accommodation arrangements. It is highly recommended that the delegates make their hotel reservation as soon as possible. Reservation must be made with the hotels directly.
- A limited number of rooms in Hotel Double Tree by Hilton, Panaji are blocked at special discounted rates for the delegates for CCASIA. Reservation will be accepted on a first-come, first served basis. The Special discounted rates will only apply to the reservation made before 31st July 2019. For booking rooms in the hotel please click on following links:

1. CP (includes breakfast only) Rate INR 7499 (Single Occupancy)/ INR8000 (Double Occupancy) Plus tax:Booking Link 1:
2. MAP (includes breakfast and dinner) Rate INR 8000 (Single Occupancy)/ INR8500 (Double Occupancy) Plus tax:BookingLink 2:

- Some other hotels near the meeting venue are listed at Annex-I.
- Cancellation policies vary from hotel to hotel. Please contact hotel directly for any queries.

9.VISA REQUEST:-

- ❖ Participants are advised to contact the consular authorities of India well in advance, in order to allow sufficient time for the processing of visa applications (if necessary). However, nationals of Nepal and Bhutan do not require visas to enter India. Nationals of Maldives do not require visa for entry in India for a period up to 90 days (a separate visa regime exists for diplomatic/official passport holders). India has requested the Embassies to issue visas to participants. For further details, visit the following link: <https://www.mea.gov.in/cpv.htm> and <https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/>
- ❖ The delegates can provide their passport details while registering through the ORS and then a personalized invitation letter will be issued by India.
- ❖ In case of problems with visa applications or need for a personalized invitation, please contact by e-mail at codex-india@nic.in.

10.ACCESS TO GOA

By Air

Goa is well connected by airline services to most major cities in India. All flights, national and international, to and from Goa, operate from the Goa Airport at Dabolim near the port town of Vasco-da-Gama. The airport is about 30 kms from the capital city of Panaji and the meeting venue. Major airlines that have flights to Goa from other Indian cities with international flights includes Air India, Spice Jet, Go Air, Air Asia, Vistara and Indigo. Pre-paid taxis are available outside the terminal building.

By Rail

Goa has two major railway stations — Margao and Vasco-da-Gama, both located in the southern area of the state. The South Central Railway terminus is at Vasco-da-Gama and the Konkan Railway terminus is at Margao. Besides the two main stations, the trains usually halt for a few minutes at a number of other smaller stations in Goa.

11.CUISINE

The long period of Portuguese rule, besides that of the Muslim and Hindu kingdoms, has left an indelible influence on the original style of Goan cooking and this has led to an exotic mix of truly tasty and spicy cuisine. Most people, who sample Goan cuisine, enjoy this different and unique style of food which

has a distinct and unique combination of spicy flavours. With a wide variety ranging from prawns to sausages, chicken to beef, and numerous vegetarian dishes, Goan cuisine is able to satisfy even the most finicky gourmet appetites. Goa has some magnificent culinary delicacies like the prawn balchão and sorpotel which have become famous around the world. Goan food is simple but most, though not all, of it is chili hot, spicy, and pungent. Items made from rice, fish, and coconut abounds in nearly every Goan meal.

12.TIME ZONE

The official time in India is the Indian Standards Time (IST) which is Greenwich Mean Time +5.30 hours.

13.WEATHER

Goa's balmy tropical weather means that temperatures don't fluctuate much, hovering between 24°C to 29°C all the year-round. The period of June to September is South West Monsoon Season and it adorns Goa with greenery all around. This is most rainy season for Goa state. The average high stands around 30°C while the low falls to mid-teens.

14.ELECTRIC POWER SUPPLY

Electric supply in India is at 230 Volts, 50 Hz. India follows the 3 pin concept (earthed). However, the 2 pin variants will also work. The new plug points may have a combination of different types of plugs. The ones in some hotel have 2 three-pin plugs (1small and 1 large). It is advisable to carry universal adapters, should you wish to use appliances of 110 volts.

15.LOCAL CURRENCY

The official currency in India is the Rupee, represented by INR.

16.PAYMENTS

Accommodation, meals in restaurants, shopping can be paid in cash, major credit cards and debit cards. Usually, no cash in foreign currency is accepted for payments. ATMs (Automated Teller Machines) are often located outside of the banking offices. A number of them can be found within walking distances from the venue.

Master card, VISA, credit and debit cards are acceptable in most hotels, restaurants, and shops. Attendees are advised to ask about additional fees before completing commercial transactions.

17.SMOKING

Smoking is prohibited at public places in India.

LIST OF OTHER HOTELS

Hotel	Address	Room Tariff	Distance from meeting venue
The Postcard Velha	H No D-69/4/5 Before Church Of Our Lady Of Mount Ella, Old Goa 403402, India	INR 20,000 Plus Taxes	4.2 Km
Highland Heritage	Salvador Do Mundo B Borkar Road, Alto-Porvorim 403521, India	INR 9700 Plus Taxes	5.7 Km
Grand Hyatt Goa	Goa University Road, Bambolim 403206, India	INR 17,600 Plus Taxes	6.0 Km
Goa Marriott Resort & Spa	Post Box No. 64 Miramar, Panaji - Goa, Panjim 403001, India	INR 13,500 Plus Taxes	8.0Km

*Subject to change as per the availability of the rooms at the time of booking

Goa - India

Goa, a tiny emerald land on the west coast of India, the 25th state of the Union states of India, was liberated from Portuguese rule in 1961. It was a part of Union Territory of Goa, Daman & Diu till 30th May 1987 when it was carved out of form a separate state. Goa covers an area of 3702 square kilometres and comprises two Revenue district viz North Goa and South Goa.

Goa has emerged as the most favoured tourist destination in the country, both for domestic as well as foreign tourists. Goa is amply bestowed with natural beauty, lovely beaches along with its 105 Kilometres coast line segregated into various beach stretches, eco-friendly atmosphere, lush green hills, world heritage monuments, churches, temples and above all friendly hospitable people.

LOCAL ATTRACTIONS:-

Mapusa Friday Market

If you happen to be in Goa during a Friday, do not miss the bustling Mapusa Friday Market that takes place every week. Just outside Mapusa Municipal Market. It is located approximately 18 kms from the meeting venue. You will find an array of stalls enticing you with local goods got by farmers and small entrepreneurs across the state. Get your hands on anything to everything from fruits to jewellery, pottery to spice, carpet to home made products and more.



Baga Beach

Baga Beach is the centre of tourist attraction in Goa, approximately 21kms from the meeting venue. Situated in North Goa, pleasant ambience, scenic views of the shoreline and plenitude of things to do, makes this fishing village one of the finest places to visit in Goa.

Arambol Beach

Permeating a distinct bohemian vibe, Arambol Beach is said to be the most beautiful in the state. The sandy shore is considered safe for swimming and hence attracts several family goers. Over here, one can indulge in adventure sports such as paragliding and kite surfing. It is located approximately 39kms from the meeting venue



Calangute Beach

One of the captivating tourist places in Goa. It is located about 24 kms from the meeting venue. The largest beach in north Goa. There are several accommodations available here. This is where one can dabble with some watersports such as parasailing and water skiing.

FAMOUS ISLANDS

Bats Island

Also referred to as The Pequeno Island, the Bat Island is ideal for adventure seekers. This is where one can enjoy snorkelling or simply spend a lazy day soaking up the charms of the setting. It is located about 10kms from the meeting venue





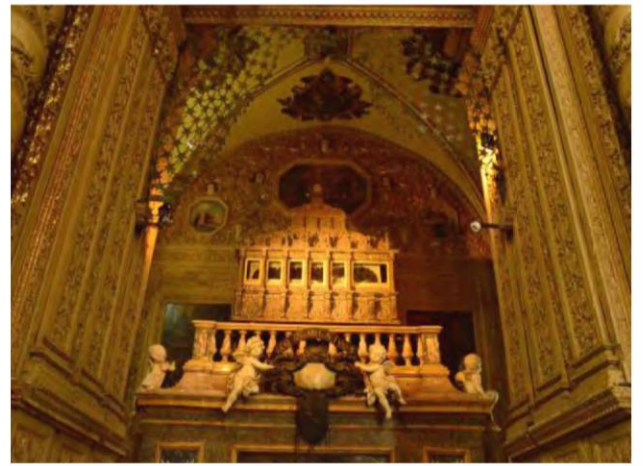
Divar Island

Divar Island is huddled away across the Mandovi River, about 24 kms from the meeting venue. At this place, you can unravel the appeals of old Goa countryside. Enjoy a pictorial drive amidst paddy hills and woody hillocks. When at the hilltop, you can soak in sweeping sights of the surroundings as well as Old Goa and meandering Mandovi River. The island especially comes alive during the Bonderam festival that is held with great gusto during the monsoon.

HISTORICAL PLACES

Bom Jesus Basilica

A UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the oldest churches in the country, the church of Bom Jesus Basilica was formally consecrated in 1605 and is amongst the top places to see in Goa. Located about 5.1 kms from the meeting venue, this church is considered to be one of the finest representations of Baroque architecture. An important pilgrimage for the Christians, it is here where the body St. Francis Xavier is kept. Whether an architecture enthusiast or a history worm, amongst all the best places to visit in Goa, this ancient landmark with all its glories, will surely keep you stunned!



Fort Aguada

This fort is amongst the many preserved places to see in Goa and essays an era of yore filled with events. A Portuguese fort overlooking the Sinquerim Beach and the Arabian Sea, Fort Aguada was constructed in 1613 and since then it has become a prominent landmark or a reference point for ships visiting the Goan shores from Europe. It is located about 24 kms from the meeting venue.





Goa State Museum

Located in the capital city of Panjim, 11kms from the meeting venue, this Museum houses artefacts pertaining to its golden and bygone history. There are about eight thousand interesting artefacts housed in this museum, which makes this place one of the top places to see in Goa. The artefacts include numismatic collections, anthropological artefacts, coins, sculptures and ancient manuscripts.

Chapora Fort

The structure as it stands today belongs to the 18th Century. Soaring above the Chapora River in Bardez, the Chapora Fort though in ruins, is an intriguing place of visit. The stronghold has witnessed the passage of many hands from Portuguese to Marathas. It is located about 29kms from the meeting venue.



FAMOUS WILDLIFE SANCTURIES & OFFBEAT PLACES

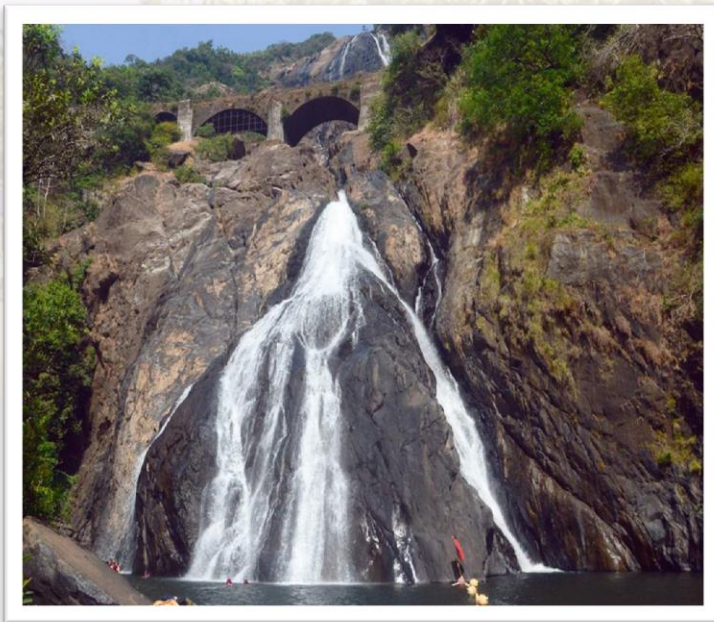


Mollem National park

Also called the Bhagwan Mahavir Wildlife Sanctuary, this region spreads over 240 sq. km. Amongst all the places to visit in Goa, visitors come here mainly to see the impressive biodiversity of this land and the ancient temples inside the forest. It is located about 54 kms from the meeting venue. A paradise for birds and reptiles, it houses some of the rare and exotic species of both the species. To name a few of the dwellers, Fairy Bluebirds, Drongos, Hornbills and Wagtails comes up as the most spectacular natives of Mollem National Park.

Salim Ali Bird Sanctuary

Among the serene tourist places in Goa, Salim Ali Bird Sanctuary is a trove for bird lovers. It was coined so after the illustrious ornithologist with the same name. The estuarine mangrove habitat is positioned in the Island of Chorao by Mandovi River. It is located about 8.4 kms from the meeting venue



Dudhsagar Waterfalls

The largest of its kind in the state and the fifth largest in the country, the Dudhsagar Falls is among the finest places to visit in Goa. This cascade is especially known for its milky white appearance. It is perched high up on the Mandovi River and lies around 10 km upstream from Collem hamlet. The beauty spills over four tiers in full force amidst clusters of green and makes quite a sight. The fall is also quite a popular for trekking and lures several adventure enthusiasts for the same. The waterfall is situated approximately 70 kms from the meeting venue.

