



INFORMATION FOR CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS
The 71st Health Ministers Conference, 13th Best Practices Forum and 29th Directors Joint Consultative Committee Meeting
5th – 9th February 2023, Avani Lesotho Hotel and Casino
Maseru, the Kingdom of Lesotho

Welcome

The Ministry of Health, Kingdom of Lesotho and the East, Central and Southern Africa Health Community (ECSCA-HC) welcome you to the 71st Health Ministers Conference, 13th Best Practices Forum and 29th Directors Joint Consultative Committee Meeting that will be held from 5th to 9th February 2023 in Maseru. We are delighted that you will participate in this important event.

About the 13th BPF and 29th DJCC

The Conference will bring together Ministers of Health, Permanent/Principal Secretaries, Senior Officials from Ministries of Health, Experts, Researchers, Heads of Health Training Institutions and diverse Collaborating Partners in the region and beyond.

The meeting will be organized in three parts as follows;

- The Best Practices Forum; 5th – 6th February 2023
- The Directors Joint Consultative Committee; 7th February 2023
- The Health Ministers Conference; 8th – 9th February 2023

About ECSCA-HC

The East, Central and Southern African Health Community (ECSCA-HC) is an inter-governmental organization that fosters and promotes regional cooperation in health. Member states of the ECSCA Health Community are Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Eswatini, United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The Secretariat Headquarters of the Community is based in Arusha, Tanzania

About The Kingdom of Lesotho

The Kingdom of Lesotho is a high-altitude, landlocked country encircled by South Africa, crisscrossed by a network of rivers and mountain ranges. It is famous for its spectacular scenic beauty branded by breathtaking mountain ranges, towering peaks, a rich variety of flora and fauna, crystal clear streams, surging waterfalls and diverse culture. The official languages of Lesotho are Sesotho and English.

Venue & Accommodation

The meeting will be held at the Avani Lesotho Hotel and Casino. This incredible hotel is located in the capital of Lesotho and offers panoramic views of the Maseru city centre. The hotel offers complimentary high-speed internet for all guests so you can always stay connected with your life at work and at home. The negotiated rate for Bed and Breakfast for delegates to this meeting is **M2,400**

Honorable Ministers and senior officials from the member states are booked at the Avani Lesotho Hotel. Our partners and other delegates are encouraged to book accommodation at the venue as it will save the cost of daily transport. You can book directly with

Avani Lesotho Hotel & Casino
Hilton Road, Maseru, Lesotho
T: +266 2224 3000 or +266 5222 3000
E: lesotho@avanihotels.com
Contact Person: Maleshoane Mocheba
Phone: +266 2224 3000
Email: lesotho@avanihotels.com

Other recommended accommodation

1. Hokahanye Inn and Conference
Contact person: Busisiwe
Phone: +266 22310488
Email: bookings@kick4life.org
Rate pp per night: M871.22

2. Black Swan Guest House
Contact Person: Makhotso
Phone: +266 58991662
Email: boeti@blackswan.co.ls
Rate pp per night: M790
Rondavels: M900

3. Lancers Inn
Contact Person: Nthatisi
Phone: +266 22312114
Email: info@lancersinn.co.ls
Rate pp per night: M2,150

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4. Mohokare Guest House
Contact Person: Alina
Phone: +266 22314442
Email: reception@mohokare.co.ls
Rate pp per night: M890
Luxury: M1,040
Chalet: M1,200

5. Tribute Guest House
Contact Person: Lebohang
Phone: +266 2232 5356
Email: info@tributelesotho.com
Rate pp per night: M710

Registration

The Ministry of Health Lesotho and ECSA Health Community will conduct registration on Monday 5th February 2023 from 07:30 – 10:00 hours and on Thursday 8th February 2023 from 07:30 – 10:00 hours.

Traveling into Lesotho

Flights into Maseru are routed through Moshoeshe International Airport (MSU). International airlines flying to Maseru are South African Airways and Airlink which operate daily flights between Maseru and Johannesburg. The airport is located about 18kms away from Maseru CBD.

Airport Shuttle arrangements

For Honorable Ministers and officials from the Ministries of Health, arrangements have been made to meet you on your arrival at the Moshoeshe International Airport. Please send your travel itineraries/air ticket to the Secretariat for logistical arrangements. If there will be any change to your incoming flights please notify the Secretariat on email: doid@ecsahc.org and copy to regsec@ecsahc.org in good time before departure.

For self-sponsored participants, you are advised to arrange taxi pick-up in advance as often there are no taxis at the airport.

VISA/Other travel arrangements

For most East, Central and Southern Africa member states, a visa is not required for entering Lesotho. However, it is advisable to contact the nearest Lesotho Embassy for inquiries.

Entry Requirements

- All travelers entering Lesotho must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Unvaccinated travelers must provide a negative PCR COVID-19 test result valid within 72 hours prior to departure.
- All participants should be in possession of a Yellow Fever vaccination certificate.
- Your passport validity must at least be six (6) months. You must have at least 2 blank pages in your passport when you present it at immigration to enter or leave Lesotho.


Medical Information

The conference organizers will provide first aid services to participants for minor ailments during the meeting. Participants are advised to ensure they have adequate medical insurance coverage, covering travel time and the entire duration of the meeting, against costs arising out of sickness, accidents, temporary or permanent disability, death and third-party risk.

Currency

The official currency of Lesotho is the Loti (plural: Maloti). Lesotho is a member of the Southern African Common Monetary Area, and as such the Loti is pegged 1:1 to the South African Rand (ZAR). Both the Loti and Rand are legal tender in Lesotho. Currency Exchange facilities are available at the commercial banks and Bureau de Change. A Visa or MasterCard can also be used to access money from ATMs and for paying hotel bills. It is always advisable to carry local currency for shopping, eateries and local transport.

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Weather and Clothing

Daily high temperatures are around 27°C, rarely falling below 21°C or exceeding 28°C.

Safety and Security in Maseru

Maseru is trouble-free, however, petty theft is as common as any major city. Be very awake when walking around carrying anything of value. It is advisable not to change money on the streets.

Finally

We wish you a pleasant flight and stay in the beautiful Kingdom of Lesotho.

Organizers Contacts

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2. ECSA-HC

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Email: regsec@ecsahc.org or doid@ecsahc.org

Logistics and Programme Issues

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