

**10th Stop TB Coordinating Board Meeting & Satellite Meetings,
Abuja, Nigeria
24th-25th April 2006**

DOC 1.06 - PRACTICAL

MEETING VENUE

The Government of Nigeria has made arrangements for the meeting to be hosted at:

NICON Hilton Abuja

Address: 1 Aguiyi Ironsi Street, Maitama, Abuja, Nigeria

Tel: +234-9-4131811

Fax: +234-9-4132418

Website: www.hilton.com

NIGERIA

Nigeria is situated in the West African Block. The country shares the border with Republic of Benin on the West, Republic of Cameroon on the east and the Republics of Chad and Niger on the north. Nigeria is the most populous nation in Africa with over 250 ethnic groups in the country. The major groups are the Hausas in the north, Yorubas in the Southwest and Ibos in the Southeast. The Southern population is mostly Christian while the Northern population has a Muslim majority. The official language is English. Most spoken languages are Hausa, Yoruba and Igbo. Nigeria is a federal country with three tiers of Government. Federal level consists of 36 states in addition to the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) and 774 Local Government Areas (LGAs).

Abuja, the Federal Capital City, lies in the central savannah. The city is located in the undulating Gwagna plains and takes as its focus from the ancient Aso rock. Time is GMT + 1 hour.

REGISTRATION

For security, visa and protocol reasons, please complete the attached registration form and return this to Winnie Deguzman (deguzmanw@who.int) by **15th March 2006**.

FLIGHTS

It is strongly advised that participants take direct flights to Abuja. From Europe this can be done with British Airways, KLM, Air France, Lufthansa or Virgin Nigeria. If a transfer through Lagos is necessary, the Secretariat would recommend you use Virgin Nigeria for internal flights.

<http://www.virginnigeria.com>

HOTEL ACCOMMODATION

Under a blocked booking, reservations have been made with a special rate at the Hilton Abuja. Participants will settle their own bills on check out.

- Standard Room (King Size): Naira 12,000 (including breakfast & tax but not service charge)

FIELD/ADVOCACY VISIT

A field visit is planned on the 26th of April 2006.

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VISA REQUIREMENTS

You should then apply to the Nigerian Embassy in your respective country for a visa prior to arrival. To secure a Nigerian visa, you will need to complete the enclosed registration form and return it to the Secretariat. The Secretariat will then send you an individual letter of invitation and a letter from the Government of Nigeria confirming their agreement to host the Coordinating Meeting in Abuja. You will need these to secure your visa.

- If there is no Nigerian Embassy in your country, please contact Louise Baker (bakerl@who.int) as soon as possible so that individual arrangements can be made.

SECURITY

Nigeria is currently classified Phase 2 (modified) by UN Security. All UN staff arriving from outside of Nigeria must ensure that UN Security Clearance is secured prior to travel. UN Security Coordination Officer in Nigeria is Mr. Brian Drayner +234 803 403 5185.

For any security problems while in Nigeria contact +0803 306 8125.

CRIME

Abuja is one of the safest cities in Nigeria. However, crime from pick-pocketing and petty crime to advanced fraud and violent attacks do occur. Please show caution when travelling and ensure that valuables are not on display.

AIRPORT TRANSFER

A shuttle service with Security will be provided by WHO to transport you to the hotel from the airport. The Government of Nigeria will make special arrangements for Ministerial level Board members.

FLIGHT CONFIRMATION

Give your airline ticket to Winnie Deguzman in the Secretariat as soon as possible on arrival in Nigeria for re-confirmation of your return flights.

MEDICAL ADVICE

In case of medical emergency, please contact the UN Physician (Dr. Kuakab) Tel 00 234 (0) 803 402 2095 or alternate Dr. Owoh Nkechi Perpetual +234 (0) 803 704 0025. There is also a medical clinic within the Nicon Hilton,

Please note that yellow fever vaccine certificate is required for entering Nigeria from an affected area. Malaria prophylaxis are STRONGLY recommended.

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FOREIGN EXCHANGE

Foreign currency may be exchanged at the Hilton Hotel. The Government Exchange rate is 1 USD to 130 Naira. Bureau de Change exchange rates range from 136-140 Naira.

There is a maestro/mastercard ATM in the lobby of the hotel and a visa ATM at Standard Chartered Bank (not far from the hotel). Payment by card is not widely accepted in Nigeria. Participants are strongly advised have sufficient funds in cash available.

CLIMATE

April may be the start of the rainy season in Abuja with temperatures averaging around 30°C with high humidity. It is recommended to wear business attire inside the hotel and during meetings.

Cultural dress is welcomed.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Tourist visits in Nigeria can be undertaken prior to or following the meeting. Do inform the Secretariat if you would like us to arrange something for you. This will be done on an individual basis.

For independent trips around Abuja, air conditioned cars taxis can be hired from the hotel for a flat rate of 1000 Naira per journey. Public taxis (green and white striped) and private vehicles (unmarked) also take passengers for approximately 200 Naira per journey. It is NOT advised that participants take unmarked private cars. In all cases, please ensure that others are aware of your travel plans.

The Secretariat can provide you with a list of cultural, shopping and restaurant options outside of the meeting location. Contact Louise Baker bakerl@who.int for further details.

Further General Information about Nigeria may be obtained at the following website:
<http://www.abujacity.com/home.htm>

MEETING ORGANIZERS & SECRETARIAT

There will be a secretariat established in the hotel to assist you during your stay. So for any assistance with the meeting arrangements, please do not hesitate to contact the meeting organizers/secretariat:

Louise Baker	+41 22 791 2879 (off), email: bakerl@who.int
	+41 22 79 249 3519 (mobile)
Winnie Deguzman	+41 22 791 4937 (off), email: deguzmanw@who.int
Ebenezer Johnson	+41 22 791 3399 (off), email: johsoneb@who.int

We wish you a productive & happy stay in Nigeria!