



INFORMATION NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS

Meeting of the Small Intersessional Working Group on Polychlorinated Biphenyls (SIWG-PCB), 12-14 December 2018, Prague, Czech Republic

Background

Polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) is listed in Annex A to the Stockholm Convention with a specific exemption in accordance with the provisions of Part II of Annex A. Each Party is required, subject to review by the Conference of the Parties, to take action towards the elimination of the use of PCB in equipment by 2025 and make determined efforts designed to lead to environmentally sound management of PCB wastes by 2028.

In its decision SC-8/3, the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention decided to undertake, at its ninth meeting, the review of PCB in accordance with paragraph (h) of part II of Annex A to the Convention. The Conference of the Parties established a small intersessional working group (SIWG) to prepare a report on progress towards the elimination of PCBs for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting. Thus, the objective of this face-to-face meeting of the SIWG is to finalize the report on the evaluation of progress towards elimination of PCB, including recommendations, for submission to the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention.

The meeting is organized thanks to the generous financial support of the European Union and the Government of Norway and in cooperation with the Stockholm Convention Regional Centre in the Czech Republic (RECETOX).

Meeting venue

The two-and-half-day meeting of the SIWG takes place at the NH Prague City hotel in the business district Andel in the Prague centre. Programme is provided in a separate file.

Dates: 12 – 14 December 2018

Venue: Room Zurich, **level -1 of the hotel NH Prague City** (the lower building of the hotel).

Address:

NH Prague City
Mozartova 261/1,
150 00 Praha 5
Česká republika



T: +420 257 151 111

nhpraguecity@nh-hotels.com

<https://www.nh-hotels.com/hotel/nh-prague-city>

Schedule and participation

The meeting will be held from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on 12 and 13 December 2018 and 9:00-12.30 on 14 December 2018.

Participants are invited to register for the meeting between 8.30 a.m. and 9 a.m. on Wednesday 12 December.

There will be two coffee breaks (level -1) per day and lunches (ground floor of the hotel) provided in the hotel for all participants. Please note that we will have two course menu and water for lunch, it is a set menu by chef, but if there are dietary restrictions or allergies, please inform Kateřina Šebková as soon as possible.

The meeting is closed, only for invited members of the Small intercessional working group on PCB. If need be, a SIWG member could have nominated an alternate who participates in the meeting (part of) on his/her behalf.

Language

The meeting will be conducted in English.

Meeting Documents

The documents are shared via dropbox and additional information was sent by Ms. Kei Ohno Woodall in separate e-mails

Arrangements for sponsored participants Daily subsistence allowance (DSA) and payment

Resources have been made available to support participation of eligible participants in the meeting. The support will cover travel at most direct least costly airfare, accommodation for the days of the meeting, and the daily subsistence allowance (DSA) in accordance with the applicable UN regulations.

The DSA will be paid to participants on the first day of the meeting in cash in the Czech currency - Czech Koruna (CZK). See the exchange rate in the "Currency" caption below.

Accommodation

All participants have their room reserved in the NH Prague City hotel, it is single room with breakfast for 67 EUR/night/room.

For sponsored participants their accommodation for the meeting days is covered and paid by SCRC Czech Republic, extra days have to be paid onsite by each participant. Individual



participants will need to pay onsite (upon arrival) for the nights above, the rate as indicated above.

The hotel situated in the business district Andel (Prague 5), a 10-minute metro or tram ride from the Prague historical city centre. The hotel consists of 2 separate buildings connected by a cable car (nice view!) and participants will be accommodated in the lower building. There are two very good restaurants in the hotel as well as two bars. In addition, there is also a nice gym with free access, and a new wellness and spa (open in the evenings, for a fee).

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- distance to the airport: 14 km
- distance from the Old Town Square: 3,5 km

How to reach the hotel

Taxi: It's a 20 - 25 minutes ride (depending on a traffic) and it costs around 700 CZK (about 27 EUR).

Please note the hotel can organize an airport shuttle, it costs 29 EUR per car (max 3 people with luggage). In case you are interested in this offer, please contact sebkova@recetox.muni.cz with details of your flight as soon as possible (the latest on 9 December inclusive). This will be paid individually.

Prague Airport bus stops

From the airport by Bus:

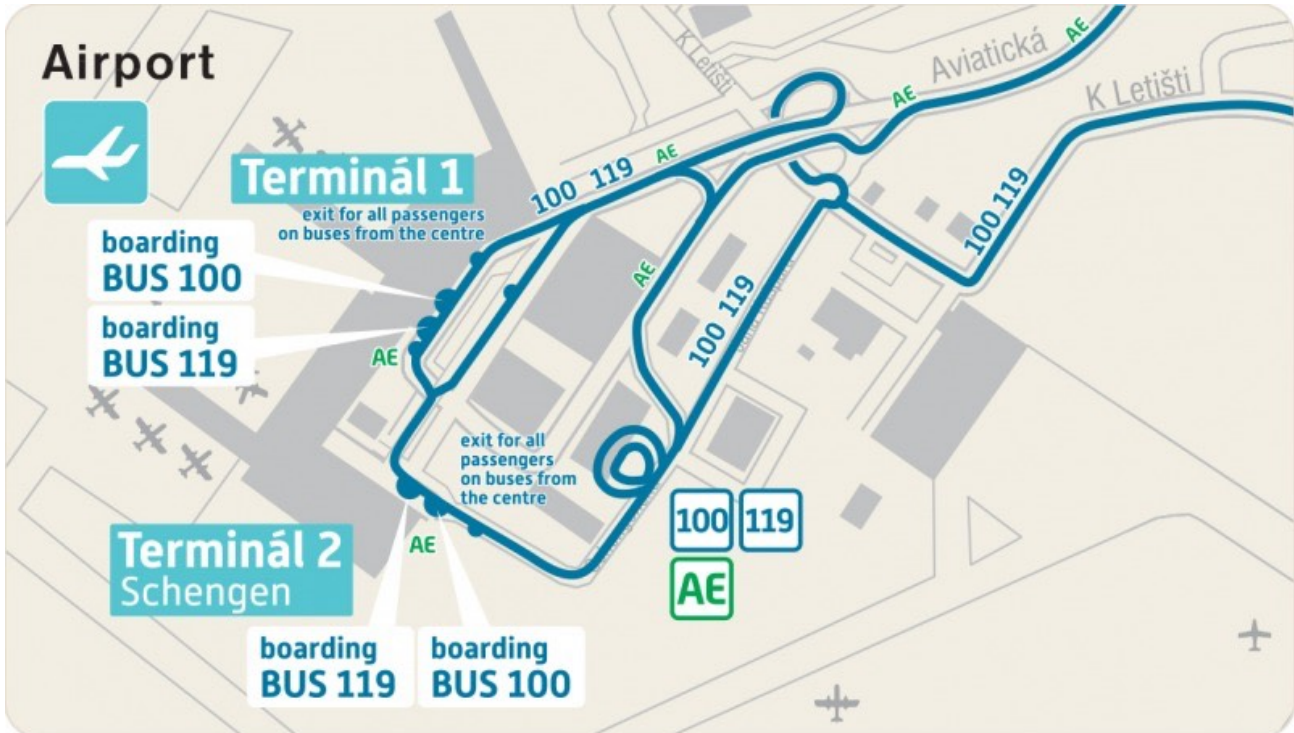
You can take the bus line No. 100, which departs every 15 minutes from Prague Airport terminal 1 and 2 (arrival level - see map in the end of this note) and travel to its terminus to the station "Zlicin". From there take the metro line B (yellow line) to the station "Andel". The journey on the public transport will take about 40 minutes in total. Then it is a 5 minute walk on foot from the station's entrance direction Andel/Nový Smíchov (or 10 minutes from the moment you leave the train).

The ticket for public transport costs 32 CZK (90 minutes ride) and it is changeable (bus, metro, tramway, train, funicular). Tickets can be purchased in the information booths of the Prague Public Transport Company at the airport in the arrival hall between 7 am and 9 pm.



They sell individual tickets for 30 or 90 minutes or for 24 or 72 hours and the Prague Card)

Prague Airport bus stops



Note - if someone travels by car (this was not communicated previously)

The hotel's GPS Coordinates: 50.071243°N 14.397197°E

Parking: Offsite is free, onsite is CZK 590 + VAT / day or CZK50 +VAT / hour

Visas

Visas or any documents necessary for travel are the participant's responsibility, and should be obtained prior to departure.

Electricity

Electrical sockets (outlets) in the Czech Republic usually supply electricity at between 220 and 240 volts AC, and electrical frequency of 50 Hz. The sockets are type C (left), European and E (right photo), French style.



Time zone

The Czech Republic is on Central European Standard Time (GMT+1) .



Currency

The currency in Czech Republic is the Czech Koruna (CZK), Kč.

The exchange rate is approximately 1 Euro = 26.2 CZK and 1 USD = 23 CZK as of 1 December 2018. See the most recent exchange rate at www.kolik.cz

Banknotes and coins used in the Czech Republic are shown here:

http://www.cnb.cz/en/banknotes_coins/banknotes/

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Weather and daylight

December is usually one of the coldest months of the year for Prague, Czech Republic with temperatures around zero °C, but temperatures have been known to rise above 9°C and fall below -11°C depending on the year. Precipitations are usually quite scarce and they can be in the form of snow (2-3 centimetres) or light rain. It may also freeze and it is usually cloudy.

December is also a month with the shortest days - the sun rises around 7.30 and sets around 3.50 pm, there are about 8 hours 15 minutes of daylight.

Names and Contact details of local organizer:

Ms. Kateřina Šebková, Ph.D.

Director of the National Centre for Toxic Compounds and of the

Stockholm Convention Regional Centre in the Czech Republic

Research Centre for Toxic Compounds in the Environment (RECETOX)

Faculty of Science, Masaryk University

Kamenice 753/5

Brno

625 00

Tel: (+420) 604 a683 512

E-mail: sebkova@recetox.muni.cz



MISCELLANEOUS

Traveling around Prague – using public transport

Prague has one of the best public transportation systems in Europe operated by Prague Public Transport Company (DPP). It is easy, reliable and affordable, frequent, punctual, clean and safe. The metro, trams and buses cover the majority of the city and outskirts. The network is quite busy and carries almost 3 million passengers daily.

The different types of transport are very well integrated. Everything is logically laid out and clearly signed making the system very easy to understand. On-board displays and announcements on metro trains, trams and buses make missing a required stop very unlikely.

However, be aware that on the trams and buses the name of the next stop is announced together with the current stop which might be a bit misleading especially for those who don't understand Czech. On the metro, the next stop is announced after the doors are closed and the trains is on its way so it is more clear. Current stop is announced just with its name. The next stop is announced as "Příští zastávka - Staroměstská" that means "Next stop - Staroměstská". The announcements are automatic and recorded by professional speakers, so they are clear and as easy to understand as possible.

The public transport operates between 5 am and midnight, but there are also special night lines (buses and trams only).

Scheme of the network is here: https://czech-transport.com/images/airport_schem.pdf

If you are on-line then use this engine for finding your way and Prague Public Transport website (English version) <http://spojeni.dpp.cz/ConnForm.aspx?tt=PID&cl=E5>

Metro lines

The Prague Metro network consists of three lines designated by letters and represented by colour:

- Green Line A (Nemocnice Motol - Depo Hostivař)
- Yellow Line B (Zličín - Černý Most)
- Red Line C (Letňany - Háje)

Line A is the most popular with tourists as it serves Prague Castle (Malostranska), The Old Town (Staromestska), Wenceslas Square (Mustek, Muzeum) as well as connecting with bus 119 to/from the airport at Nadrazi Veleslavin. You can transfer between lines at Můstek station (lines A and B), Muzeum station (lines A and C) and Florenc station (lines B and C).

Tickets

- 24 Kč - Valid for 30 minutes on metro, tram, bus, night lines and funicular railway. Transfers allowed.



- 32 Kč - Valid for 90 minutes on metro, tram, bus and funicular railway. Transfers allowed.
- 110 Kč - Valid for 24 hours on metro, tram, bus and funicular railway. Transfers allowed. Luggage included.
- 310 Kč - Valid for 72 hours on metro, tram, bus and funicular railway. Transfers allowed. Luggage included.

please note that senior over 70 years of age can travel for free on Prague public transport (age must be proved with a EU identity card, permanent residence permit, a passport or a proof of special fare entitlement for seniors of over 70).

Tickets are sold in the DPP information booths, automatic machines at the stations of trams, buses or in the entrance of the metro stations, but also in any tobacco store, and in some hotels. There is also an SMS option, but there is an obligation to have a CZECH SIM card only. Please note that NH hotel reception also sells tickets.

Important!!! Validation and Inspection

All tickets must be “validated” which means that they must be inserted into the yellow stamping machine inside trams and buses or at the metro stations when **first used**. Tickets **MUST NOT** be re-stamped when transferring services or starting a new journey within the validity period (another stamp on the same ticket, would make the tickets invalid). The tickets are to be stamped in the direction of the arrow printed on them.

Plain Clothes Ticket inspectors, identified by an official badge and a special identification card they have to show on request, regularly check passengers and are authorised to fine a passenger without a valid ticket up to 1500Kč (reduced to 800Kč if paid on the spot) so the passenger must carry the ticket at all times. Please note that ticket inspections are quite frequent.

Few facts about Prague in December aka Do not forget to explore The Picturesque Prague Christmas Markets!

Christmas in Prague would not be complete without the festive Christmas Markets – and those of the Old Town Square and Wenceslas Square (Mustek), Na Příkopě, Náměstí Míru and others are really beautiful. They Open every day from the 2nd of December till 6th of January, including all the big holidays; there is really is no better place to experience the festive atmosphere of Prague in December.

The abundance of delicious street-food is a massive highlight of visiting Prague in December, which is not readily available in most other months of the year. The streets of



Prague are filled with a smorgasbord of options to eat, so many in fact that the average tourist might never step foot in a restaurant or cafe. The top food to try in Prague has to be langose (a kind of fried bread with tomato sauce and grated cheese), chlebicky (an open sandwiches with cheese, ham, egg, salami, and gherkins), Czech sausages (like German bratwurst) and Palacinky (French style pancakes).

To drink you cannot go past svarak (Czech mulled wine with apples instead of lemons or oranges) and of course you must try the current food sensation in Prague, Trdelnik – a soft dough in a cylinder form with cinnamon and sugar- or stuffed with ice-cream and chocolate. There really is nothing like it in the world (and they seemed to be on every street corner in Prague now!). While they are advertised as “traditional Czech pastry”, it is not necessarily true, they seem to have home somewhere in the Balkans and they were discovered by 2003 in Prague. But they ARE TASTY.

In case you are looking for some tips, what to bring home - there is abundance of high-quality handicrafts to get all your gift buying done in Prague at Christmas. Of course, there are plenty of generic mugs, magnets and kitsch items on display which could make a nice present, but for an authentic Prague souvenir you really can't go wrong with Marionettes, Becherovka Herbal Liqueur or Bohemian Glass.

Eating out in Prague

Traditional Czech cuisine is not the healthiest in the world, as it can be a bit heavy for some visitors (forget about your diet here!); however it goes perfectly with the most popular Czech drink – beer!

Avoid tourist oriented restaurants in the Old Town Square, Wenceslas Square or near the Prague Castle, as they are unreasonably overpriced. It is not that difficult to find “hidden” restaurants where locals like to go and where you will not spend a fortune. These “local hot spots” can be found right in the center of Prague.

There are many traditional pubs that offer Czech dishes as well as restaurants offering international cuisine, neat bars, cozy cafés or simple fast food and sausage stands just waiting for you to give them a try!

Some recommendations:

In addition to good Czech food, they usually serve tank beer (often, unpasteurized), making the Czech beer drinking experience all the more enjoyable.

Lokál: One of the newer additions to the Ambiente Restaurant empire. This place serves up quality Czech food at reasonable prices. *Address:* [Lokál](#), Dlouhá 33, Prague 1.



Bredovský Dvůr: Just a block away from popular Wenceslas Square, but with a different feel from the high-traffic tourist areas. Try to go during lunch as there are inexpensive lunch menus and you'll be enjoying your meal with locals on their lunch break. *Address:* **Bredovský Dvůr**, Politických vězňů 13 (parallel street to Wenceslas Square), Prague 1

Na Verandach: This restaurant is right at the Staropramen brewery, so you know the beer is fresh. Hearty food, too. *Address:* **Na Verandach**, Nadrazní 84, Prague 5 (Smichov)

Olympia: Nice Czech pub serving both Czech and continental specialties. *Address:* **Olympia Kolkovna**, Vítězná 7, Praha 1 (Ujezd)

Pivovarský Klub: Features hundreds of beers (Czech and international) on the menu. Ask the waiter for advice if you get paralyzed on what to order. This place also has good and reasonably priced Czech food, too.

Address: **Pivovarský Klub**, Krizikova 17, Praha 8 – Karlín

Kavárna Mlýnská: This isn't so much a pub as it is a mill that has been turned into a café near Kampa Park. It's quite close to the touristy areas, but is a local place that serves wonderful unfiltered Bernard beer.

Address: Všešrdova 449, Prague 1

ENJOY YOUR STAY!