

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Undernoted please find list of questions that we anticipate you or your partner may be asking about the forthcoming Annual Meeting in Dubai:

1. Which airport do we arrive at? Dubai International Airport, (DXB) located approximately 3 miles, 4.6 km, east of central Dubai.
2. How do I get from the airport to the hotel? A taxi will take approximately 10 - 12 minutes, depending on traffic conditions. Taxis can be picked up on arrival, booked online with Emirates (for those travelling with that airline) and the hotel offers a limousine service on application. An indicative cost is AED 50.00 but the cost is metered so may change depending on a number of factors.
3. What is the exchange rate? The exchange rate fluctuates but at the end of August, the rates were AED 4.7 = £1.00, AED 3.67 = US\$ 1.00, AED 4.3 = €1.00
4. Are ATM's easily available? ATM's are available at the airport, in the hotel and elsewhere.
5. What is the time difference against GMT? Dubai is 4 hours ahead of GMT/UTC. Dubai does not observe daylight saving.
6. What type of electrical plug is used in Dubai? European and UK plugs can be used in Dubai and adapters are available from the hotel for other plugs.
7. Are irons available in the room? Irons and ironing boards are available in the rooms.
8. Is wifi available? Wifi is available in the rooms and public spaces in the hotel and is free of charge to guests.
9. What is the anticipated weather during the period of the meeting? In October the daily mean temperature is 30⁰ C with an average high of 35.6⁰ C and average low of 24.3⁰ C. Rain is rare (average 1.1 mm in October) and humidity is around 60%. Dubai enjoys around 303.8 hours of sunshine in October (85%) and the UV index is 8. Sunscreen and a hat or other covering for the head are therefore strongly recommended. As always, FONASBA gives no guarantees as to the weather during the meeting, even in Dubai!

Continued overleaf.

10. What is the dress code for the social events? A suit and tie or cocktail dresses are appropriate for the Welcome Reception. Cool, comfortable clothing and footwear are recommended for the desert safari and as always the Gala Dinner is formal so dinner jackets, black tie or national dress should be worn. Otherwise cool clothing and comfortable shoes are advisable. For the visit to the Sheik Zayed mosque in Thursday 19th, participants must be respectfully dressed, otherwise entry will be denied. Sleeveless tops and shirts, short skirts, jeans, leggings, shorts or any form of sports clothing are not permitted. Tops should be plain, as any form of logo that is considered offensive may also be banned. Women must cover their heads with a scarf or shawl before entering.
11. Public conduct Whilst in many respects Dubai is a tolerant society, there are strict rules on issues such as public displays of affection, appropriate dress for the location, drugs, drunkenness in public and relationships outside marriage. Electronic cigarettes are also banned. There is a very detailed summary on complying with the local laws on the UK Foreign Office travel advice website at: www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/united-arab-emirates/local-laws-and-customs and similar information is also available from other sources. Delegates may also wish to note that very sophisticated drug detection equipment is in place at Dubai Airport, see the "Safety and Security" section of the DXB page on Wikipedia at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dubai_International_Airport Delegates are strongly recommended to take heed of this information. Should any delegate wish to hire a car whilst in Dubai or elsewhere in the UAE, please be aware that a 0% alcohol limit applies and this is rigidly enforced.
12. Emergency contact In case of emergency, please contact Nayana Nandkumar, Manager of the Dubai Association, on: +971 50 552 1354