

THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN AFRICA ON CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

Theme: Taking Stock of the Status of Child Sexual Abuse in Africa since the First International Conference in Africa on Child Sexual Abuse in 2007

12 – 14 March 2012, La Palm Royal Beach Hotel, Accra, Ghana

PRACTICAL GUIDE- ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW



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Welcome- Akwaaba

We take this opportunity to welcome you to the Second International Conference in Africa on Child sexual Abuse.

We say Akwaaba (meaning welcome) to Ghana as well.

This packet contains basic information that address some practical issues that will help you get ready for The Second International Conference in Africa on Child Sexual Abuse.

AMPCAN and ANPPCAN hope to make this event a wonderful and insightful experience for you.

Getting a Visa to Ghana

To get a Visa to Ghana, Participants are advised to contact the nearest Ghana Embassy or Diplomatic post in the Country of residence.

Below are some basic requirements for obtaining a Visa to Ghana.

Visa Application Requirements

An applicant is required to fulfil the following requirements when applying for a Ghana entry visa;

- Applicants should be legally resident in the country in which he/she will apply for the Visa
- Applicant should submit a duly completed visa application form(written in block capitals), to be submitted with four (4) passport photographs taken not more than three (3) months prior to the date of submission.
- A copy of a return ticket or print out of travel itinerary.
- In cases of Journalists and/or film crew who are covering an event or shooting a film in Ghana, additional requirements are needed. More information can be obtained by contacting the Consular Section.
- An international certificate of vaccination for Yellow Fever
- Applicant's passport must have validity of at least six(6) months

Application Forms can be obtained from the Embassy or Your Travel Agent

Additional Information:

Business visas: Applicant's in this category are required to submit in addition to the above, a letter from the applicant's organisation stating among other things the reasons for the visit and a supporting/invitation letter from the applicant's Business Associates in Ghana. Please use the names and addresses of Business Associates as your references in Ghana.

This is the link to the invitation letter:
http://sicacsconference.weebly.com/uploads/9/0/1/5/9015638/invitation_letter_2nd_international_conference_in_africa_on_child_sexual_abuse.pdf

Please contact AMPCAN Ghana in case you need more documentation to support your application.

More information on entry Visas can be found through the Ghana Embassy in your country or on the website of the Ghana Immigration Service
http://www.ghanaimmigration.org/visa_info.htm

Arrival at the Airport

If you are travelling by Plane to Ghana you will arrive at Kotoka International Airport (KIA) which is the largest airport in Ghana.

Upon arrival you will go through the Immigration gates where they will check your visa, its validity and the reason for visiting Ghana. You will be requested to fill an immigration form. Please don't forget to bring the address of AMPCAN and the hotel where you will be staying during the conference. You can use these addresses as your references/residence address in Ghana.

Please note that for safety and security reasons all baggage pass through X-ray machines and hand searches are also carried out courteously in passengers and their bags.

Pick Up at Airport

Mostly hotels will pick up participants from the Airport. When exiting the Airport you will see a staff of the hotel where you will be staying carrying a card with your name on it. Participants are advised to confirm with their hotels on whether they will be picked up or not.

If this service is not provided by the Hotel please inform the conference staff at AMPCAN about this and we will make arrangement to pick you up from the airport.

Some tips for you

- ✓ Passengers should never leave baggage or trolleys unattended
- ✓ All passengers should adequately secure their baggage
- ✓ Don't look after or check-in baggage for someone else
- ✓ Don't carry anything into an aircraft for someone else
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Accommodation and Venue

Booking your Hotel

The Conference secretariat has negotiated special delegates rates with the hotels listed in the registration form. Participants can book their hotel directly or contact the conference team if they need assistance in doing this. Unless otherwise indicated, please note that all cost associated with your accommodation will be paid by participants.

When booking the hotel please use the codes indicated to ensure that you get the discounted rates purposely arranged for participants of the conference.

Most hotels will provide breakfast. We advise you to find out about this when booking the hotel.

The list of hotels which gives discounted rates purposely for this this conference can be found on the registration form.

Link to the form with list of hotels:
<http://sicacsconference.weebly.com/accomodation-and-visa.html>

Venue

The conference will be held in Accra Ghana at La Palm Royal Beach Hotel on 12th – 14th March, 2012.

All participants are expected at the Venue on **12th March at 09:00am**. La Palm Royal Beach Hotel is Ghana's premier city-center beach resort. Since its commencement, La Palm has quickly become Accra's principal address for businessmen, government delegations and tourists on holidays and conferences. Hugging the shores of



the Atlantic, La Palm is located inside 30 acres of lush lawns and landscaped gardens. Explore a world of luxury that features 152 rooms laid out in chalet fashion, creating the feeling of a village complete with eight bars and restaurants, swimming pool, shopping mall, casino, health club and the finest conference and meeting facilities in the country. Relax on your own private veranda and enjoy spectacular views of the Atlantic Ocean, or watch the sunset. La Palm Royal Beach Hotel exceeds your expectations with a perfect medley of great service and intriguing facilities with a unique Ghanaian touch.

Address of the venue:

La Palm Royal Beach Hotel

Location: No. 1 Bypass, Accra

P.O.Box OS 3000, Osu, Accra, Ghana

Tel: +233 (0) 302 215100 / 215111/ 24 4342621-4

Fax: +233 (0) 302 771717

Email: lapalm@gbhghana.net

Pickup to and from the Conference Venue

Participants who are staying in the Hotels which have been approved by the conference organizing committee will be pickup from their Hotels by the conference Shuttle.

The pickup time is **8:00am and 8:20am**. After these times participants will have to arrange their own means of travel to get to the conference venue.

Participants will be brought back to their hotels each day after the conference. More information on this will be given during the conference.

Arranging your own Transport to Conference Venue

The easiest but probably not the cheapest way to arrange for your own transportation to the conference venue is to ask the hotel staff to call a Taxi for you. We advise that you ask the hotel staff to negotiate the price for you. This will make it cheaper than you doing it yourself.

Registration

All participants are advised to register at the conference venue and give details of the hotels they are staying as well as who can be contacted in Ghana/abroad case of emergency.

Sponsorship

The conference organizers have made a provision to sponsor ONLY A FEW participants whose abstract will be selected for presentation during the conference. Access to this funding is however not automatic. Selected participants will have to prove that they cannot pay for the cost associated with attending the conference.

The funding can be requested to cover either the registration fees, plane ticket or accommodation of participants.

The organizing committee reserves the right to make decision as to which participant actually qualifies for this sponsorship.

Conference Logistics

The conference will provide refreshment in the morning and during the coffee and tea breaks, lunches and cocktail during the conference.

Standard facilities at the conference center include flipchart paper, board with markers, projectors, connection to sound system etc. During the conference participants will have access to the **FREE** wireless internet available at the conference center.

The rich program, great diversity and variation in the experience of participants promise inspiring and fruitful discussions, so we truly hope that you can share your experiences, thoughts and ideas, and will be actively involved in the program.

Travel Insurance

We advise all participants from outside Ghana to arrange their travel insurance before travelling to Ghana.

Exhibition of posters and Organizational Material

During the conference, we have provided an opportunity for organizations and participants to exhibit their products, posters and organizational materials on special stands which have been reserved for this purpose. A small fee is charged for the stands. To reserve a stand please contact the conference organizing committee for more information and prices.

Using Electricity in Ghana

Electricity in Ghana is 220-240 volts at 50 cycles. Most connection points are 13-amp three-pin square sockets. However, 2-pin and other adaptors may be available for use. Please bring adaptors along or ask your hotel about this. For those running on different voltages (e.g. US appliances utilizing 110 volts), please carry a transformer with the right specifications for your appliances.

In case of power failure, a standby generator maybe available in most hotels to meet your power needs. However, please note that when power is reconnected (after 30 seconds) there can be a sudden voltage surge, which could damage sensitive electrical equipment. ***Therefore, please exercise caution in this regard.***

Currency in Ghana

Ghana's currency, the Cedi can be obtained at Forex Bureaux and Hotels throughout the city. You can change some of your currency at the airport on arrival. You can also contact AMPCAN staff or your hotel for assistance in exchanging foreign currency notes into cedi for your local transactions during your stay in Ghana.

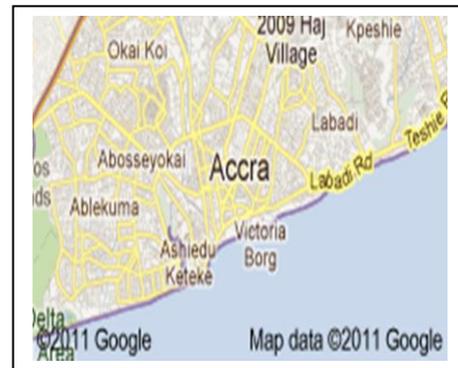
Tour Information about Accra

Discover Ghana

The lonely planet reports that *“if an award were given for the country with the friendliest people in West Africa, Ghana would be a strong contender. Spend a few hours in the breezy capital - Accra, and you'll swear the wind and waves off the Gulf of Guinea have infused the land and people alike with equatorial warmth”*.

Location and Climate

Ghana is uniquely located on the West Coast of Africa in the gulf of Guinea. In geographical terms, the capital city of perhaps the fastest developing West African republic -Accra- sits 5 North of the Equator on Latitude '5'; longitude '0' or the Greenwich Meridian timeline. “Accra is literally the centre of the earth”.



There is very little variation in temperature throughout the year. The mean monthly temperature ranges from 24.7°C in August (the coolest) to 28°C in March (the hottest) with annual average of 26.8°C. Ghana happens to be the first African country to gain independence from British colonial rule and until 1957. The country was then known as the Gold Coast of Africa, because of its large deposits of gold and the pristine beaches that lined the entire coastal belt. There are some 41 historically significant forts and Castles in Ghana, marking the periods in history from the date when the Portuguese first arrived on the coast of Guinea (what is now Ghana) in 1471.

What clothes to wear?

The month of March may be the warmest in the year. Therefore, participants may please carry summer clothing for outdoor use. The La Palm Royal Beach Hotel and other hotels in the city have air conditioning in all their rooms so you can dress as fit for all major engagements and programmes. If you are in need of summer wear, many cheap shops abound with lots of beautiful clothing for your picking! Please remember to leave some space in your bags for quality Ghanaian clothing for yourself or your friends.

What is Famous about Accra

Tourism Attractions

Accra provides a concentration and variety of accommodation and other tourist facilities and services for both business and holiday tourists. Both the Labadi Beach Hotel and the La Palm Royal Beach Hotel rank five stars. The elegant Golden Tulip Hotel and Novotel Hotel, which is right in the centre of Accra's main business district, both ranked four stars.

There are numerous three star hotels, including the exotic Hotel Wangara, Shangri-La and Erata Hotel. There are, indeed, hotels for every kind of tourists, including budget hotels. The Accra International Conference Centre and other meeting facilities such as the National Theatre, provide facilities for conference tourism, an area in which Ghana leads the rest of the West African sub-region.

For the purposes of exploring the country with its rich cultural and historical heritage, you can visit the world famous castles and forts that dot the coastline of Ghana and were used in the infamous Atlantic Slave Trade. The Kakum Forest Reserve provides the serenity and warmth of nature.

Spreading along the Atlantic coast, the city is endowed with excellent restaurants and decent night clubs. A range of absorbing museums and fine public monuments, modern business and commercial areas, as well as busy, well-stocked markets and tree-lined residential suburbs are waiting to be explored.

The Accra metropolis hosts the National Museum, which houses a cream collection of Ghana's historical treasures; the National Theatre, with its distinctive modern Chinese architecture; and the National Cultural Centre, whose arts and crafts bazaar and traditional textile market is the best place to find traditional handicrafts from all over Ghana.

The Accra Zoo is a habitat for a small but very fascinating collection of animals and birds

indigenous to Africa. The Du Bois Centre is a source of inspiration, housing a research library and gallery of manuscripts, as well as the graves of this famed African – American scholar and his wife.

The Kwame Nkrumah Mausoleum is the last resting place of Ghana's first President who is remembered in history as one of the leading exponents of Pan –Africanism during his day.



NATIONAL THEATRE

The magnificent National Theatre of Ghana which has over the decade been the hub of entertainment for Ghanaians and foreigners.

Historical sites, such as Jamestown area in which the national monuments of Usher Fort and James Fort are located, are well preserved. Accra is repleted with palm tree-fringed beaches, blue skies and the Atlantic Ocean. The most popular is Labadi Beach, a festive beach for relaxation and entertainment.

Kokrobite Beach is 25 kilometers west of Accra. A modern hotel faces the beach front and the area houses the Academy of African Music and Arts.

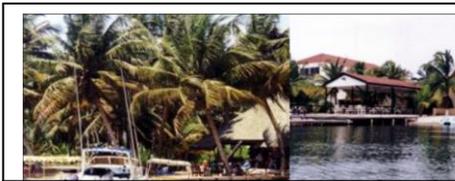


NKRUMAH MAUSOLEUM

The front view of Kwame Nkrumah Mausoleum, containing the mortal remains of the first President of Ghana, Dr Kwame Nkrumah.

Accra is the gateway to Ghana, whether for investors or tourists.

As a shining citadel of Ghana’s attempts at economic growth and self-actualisation, the Accra Metropolitan Area has lots for people to do and lots for them to see.



DU BOIS MEMORIAL CENTRE

The front view of Du Bois Memorial Centre where research work on Pan Africa issues could be done.



WATER SPOT - ADA

Surfers having a field day at one of the beautiful and sandy beaches of Ada. Foreigners frequent such places due to the warm temperature.

Contact Information:

African Movement for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (AMPCAN), Ghana

Visiting Address: # 200 Westlands Boulevard, West Legon, Accra.

Postal Address: OS 38, Osu, Accra

Telephone: 00233302 423239

Conference Website: www.sicacsaconference.weebly.com

Website: www.ampcanghana.org

www.annpcan.org

Email: info@ampcanghana.org

Email for Conference: conference@ampcanghana.org

For assistance on logistics, Visa, accommodation, route description and further enquiries please call or contact;

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