

## **INFORMATION NOTE**

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the World Customs Organization Europe Region National Contact Points for Capacity Building**

#### **Venue and Date of the Workshop**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the World Customs Organization (WCO) Europe Region National Contact Points for Capacity Building will be convened in the Conference Hall of the Regional Office for Capacity Building (ROCB Europe) Premises in Baku, Azerbaijan from 29 to 31 January 2020.



[Natig Aliyev str, 4-a AZ1025, Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan](#)

#### **Accommodation**

Hotel reservation will be made by the ROCB Europe for participants with the preferred rates.

#### **Background**

The Meeting is intended to further strengthen the network of the National Contact Points in the region, to clarify the role of National Contact Points, and to strengthen cooperation between the Members, the ROCB Europe and the WCO.

Participants will also be provided with updates and information in the field of capacity building and customs modernization.

#### **Local Transportation**

Transportation from the airport to hotel (vice versa) and from the hotel to the ROCB Europe Premises (vice versa) will be provided for all participants as well as from the hotel to event venue (vice versa).



### **Meals**

Lunch, coffee, tea and snacks will be offered during lunch and coffee breaks accordingly.

### **Event Website**

All documentation will be made available through the dedicated event web page in the Meeting Documents segment of the [ROCB Europe web site members section](#), as they become available.

### **Currency and Exchange**

Local currency Azerbaijani Manat (AZN) can be obtained in exchange for USD, Euro or other currencies in banks and hotels.

The current exchange rate for 1 USD is 1.70 AZN and 1 EUR is 1.88 AZN effective 21 November 2019.

Fixed exchange-rate system is applied in the Republic of Azerbaijan.

### **Working Language of the Meeting**

The working language of the Meeting will be English and Russian with the simultaneous translation.

### **Internet Connection**

Wireless internet access will be available at the ROCB Europe Premises.

### **Time Zone**

The time zone in Baku, Azerbaijan is GMT+4.



## VISA

All participants are requested to obtain their visa for entering the Republic of Azerbaijan if they need one, as well as any transit visa, prior to the start of their travel. Please note that all visa costs will be borne by the participants.

The Republic of Azerbaijan provides a simplified e-visa application. Please visit <https://evisa.gov.az/> or consult the respective Embassy or Consulate of the Republic of Azerbaijan regarding visa application deadlines and documentation required.

## Weather

Expected weather condition in Baku during the time of event is partly cloudy with approximately 9 (day) and 1 (night) degrees Celsius.

## Electricity

The electricity in Azerbaijan is 220 volts at AC at 50HZ. Recommended plugs are 2-pin round.

## Baku

Baku is the capital and largest city of Azerbaijan, as well as the largest city on the Caspian Sea and of the Caucasus region. It is located on the southern shore of the Absheron Peninsula, which projects into the Caspian Sea.

Baku has wildly varying architecture, ranging from the Old City core to modern buildings and the spacious layout of the Baku port. Many of the city's most impressive buildings were built during the early 20th Century, when architectural elements of the European styles were combined in eclectic style. Baku thus has an original and unique appearance, earning it a reputation as the 'Paris of the East'.

The Old City of Baku, also known as the Walled City of Baku, refers to the ancient Baku settlement. Most of the walls and towers, strengthened after the Russian conquest in 1806, survived. This section is picturesque, with its maze of narrow alleys and ancient buildings: the cobbled streets past the Palace of the Shirvanshahs, two caravansaries, the baths and the Juma Mosque (which used to house the Azerbaijan National Carpet and Arts Museum but is now a mosque again). The old town core also has dozens of small mosques, often without any particular sign to distinguish them as such.

In 2003, UNESCO placed the Inner City on the List of World Heritage in Danger, citing damage from a November 2000 earthquake, poor conservation as well as "dubious" restoration efforts.



### **Contact**

For further queries about logistical issues, please contact Ms. Rubaba Mammadova (rubaba.mammadova@rocb-europe.org).

### **Emergency**

For emergency issues, please call +994 50 289 7269.

***We wish you a safe and sound trip.***