

Logistic Information for the 24th IOCCG Committee Meeting

University of Science & Technology (USTH), Hanoi, Vietnam

4-5 April 2019

Meeting Details

The 24th IOCCG Committee meeting is scheduled to take place from 4 – 5 April 2019 in Hanoi (Hà Nội), Vietnam, hosted by the Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology (VAST), which is gratefully acknowledged. The meeting will take place at the University of Science & Technology (USTH), located on the campus of VAST (Building A21, 5th Floor, 18 Hoang Quoc Viet, Cau Giay District, Hanoi). The IOCCG Executive meeting will take place on Saturday 6 April 2019 (9 am – 3:30 pm).

If you require an official letter of invitation from IOCCG for travel permission, please contact the IOCCG Project Office (venetia.stuart@dfo-mpo.gc.ca). For visa purposes, you may also require an official letter of invitation from our host (VAST). In this case, please contact Hubert Loisel at Hubert.Loisel@univ-littoral.fr (see Visa Information below).

Transportation from the hotel to VAST/USTH will be arranged each day – please meet in the lobby of the hotel at 8:15 am on the first day. For lunch, we will go to nearby small restaurants, so please ensure that you have cash in small bills (see section on currency below).

Visa Information

Travellers from most countries require a visa before travelling to Vietnam, apart from a few countries (see <https://www.myvietnamvisa.com/vietnam-visa-exemption.html>). Visas can be applied for electronically via email (~3-day processing time) at your nearest Embassy, or you can apply via USTH by completing the form here: <https://bit.ly/2AsrEgm> and sending a copy of your passport information page to ico@usth.edu.vn. This process will take about 2 weeks so please apply as soon as possible (the coordinating department at USTH is WEO). If you need more information, please contact Mme. Nhung Nguyen Ha (nguyen-ha.nhung@usth.edu.vn).

Getting from Hanoi International Airport (Noi Bai) to Hanoi

Several international airlines fly directly to Hanoi's Noi Bai International Airport, the biggest airport in northern Vietnam. The airport is located ~25 km from the hotel. Various transportation services are available at the airport arrivals level, including taxis, minibus and

public bus. A taxi ride to the hotel takes about 25 minutes and costs approximately 320,000 VND (~\$15 USD).

Accommodation

A block of 1- and 2-bedroom suites has been reserved for IOCCG-24 at the Diamond Westlake Suites, on the north-eastern side of Hanoi's Tay Ho Lake. They have agreed to provide all suites at the same rate (\$85 per night for two people – see below).

Diamond Westlake Suites

96 To Ngoc Van, Quang An, Tay Ho District,

Hanoi, Vietnam

Website: <http://diamondwestlake.vn/2/56/Home.aspx>

Contact: Ms. Linh (linhln@diamondwestlake.vn, cell: 098778.9191)

Daily Rates for IOCCG-24 Meeting:

RoomType	Number Guests	Daily Rate <i>(includes buffet breakfast, VAT and service charge)</i>	
		USD	VND rate
1-Bedroom Suite (limited number) (1 double bed, separate living room/kitchenette)	2	\$85.00	1,955,000
2-Bedroom Suite (1 double bed and 1 single bed, separate living room/kitchenette)	2	\$85.00	1,955,000
	3	\$95.00	2,202,000

To reserve a room please email Leu Ngoc Linh (linhln@diamondwestlake.vn). You may be asked to provide a credit card number to hold the room. IOCCG-sponsored participants are requested to contact Venetia Stuart to have their booking added to the master list for payment. **Note:** If you intend participating in the excursion to Ninh Bin (see below), we plan to stay overnight in Ninh Binh on Saturday night (6 April), so you should check out of Diamond Westlake Suites on the morning of Saturday (6 April).

Points of Contacts for IOCCG-24

Point of Contact (in Vietnam): Mr. Dinh Ngoc Dat
VAST
18 Hoang Quoc Viet, Cau Giay,
Hanoi, Vietnam:
Tel: +84-915089159
Email: dndat@sti.vast.vn

IOCCG Chair: Cara Wilson
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IOCCG Project Coordinator: Venetia Stuart
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Power and Appliances

Vietnam uses a wide range of power sockets including types A, C and D (see below). The standard voltage is 110 / 220 V and the standard frequency is 50 Hz.

- Type A: mainly used in North and Central America, China and Japan.
- Type C: also known as the standard "Euro" plug.
- Type D: mainly used in India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, and some African countries.



Type A



Type C



Type D

Weather in Hanoi

In Hanoi, the weather in April is relatively warm and humid (22 to 27°C), with occasional strong winds, and a possibility of rain. Check out the weather forecast before you go:

<https://www.theweathernetwork.com/vn/weather/ha-noi/hanoi>.

About Hanoi

Hanoi sits on the banks of the Red River and features a unique mix of French and Asian flavors in its architecture and landscaping. In the middle of the city lies Hoan Kiem Lake (Lake of the Restored Sword) with the 18th-century Ngoc Son Temple (Jade Mountain Temple) sitting on an island in the centre of the lake. To the north of Hoan Kiem Lake is the Old Quarter, a maze of small streets lined with markets and pavement cafes. There are a number of interesting pagodas in Hanoi. The most legendary being the One Pillar Pagoda, first constructed in 1049, and built to resemble a lotus flower.

Excursion to Ninh Binh – Sunday 7 April 2019

We are making plans for an optional trip to Ninh Binh (~ 100 km from Hanoi) on Sunday 7 April. This region has hundreds of limestone cliffs emerging from the ground, scattered across rice fields, and offers a great opportunity to see the rural way of living. The plan is to leave Hanoi on Saturday 6 April after the IOCCG Executive meeting (around 4 pm) and spend the night in Ninh Binh (hotel and transportation will be arranged). We would spend Sunday 7 April touring around Ninh Binh and would return to Hanoi in time for the midnight flights to Busan (for those going on to the IOCS-2019 meeting).

Currency in Vietnam

The Vietnamese dong (VND) is Vietnam's official currency. It comes in polymerized notes with multiple zeroes: VND 10,000 is probably the smallest bill you'll find on the streets (~\$0.43), with the upper limit of the VND 500,000 bill (~\$21.40 USD). Coins are no longer minted or in active use but they are still legal tender. Very few vendors will change a VND 500,000 note, so make sure to carry smaller bills when shopping or going to small restaurants. Cash is preferable, and can be obtained from local ATM machines although credit cards are accepted in many restaurants, hotels, and shops (you may be charged an addition 3-4 percent per transaction). USD cash is also widely accepted in restaurants, cafes, shops and all international hotels. At the time of writing 1 USD = ~23,000 VND.

