



**World Health
Organization**

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR **Africa**

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REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR AFRICA

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INFORMATION BULLETIN

1. Visa

An entry visa to the Republic of Congo is mandatory. Visas can be obtained at the Embassy or Consulate of the Republic of Congo in the country of nationality or residence. If there is no diplomatic representation of the Republic of Congo in your country, an authorization of entry to the Republic of Congo must be obtained one week prior to arrival via the Regional Office by providing your name, country of embarkation and information regarding your itinerary. In this case, at the Brazzaville international airport (Maya-Maya) or the autonomous Port a visa can be obtained after payment of 20 000 (Twenty Thousand) FCFA. The passport is kept by the immigration authorities for processing of the visa and returned 48 hours later.

Nationals from central African countries do not require any entry visa; they are only required to have a valid passport.

2. Immigration formalities

On your arrival, an immigration form will be provided to you. You are requested to fill in the form and present it to the immigration officers together with your national passport or United Nations Laissez-Passer.

3. Luggage

You are requested to keep your luggage tags and present them at the exit to the customs officials. You can entrust the withdrawal and the carriage of your luggage to uniformed porters with the assistance of the WHO AFRO team. In general, the fee payable to the porters is 2000 FCFA.

4. Transport

Airport – Hotel

Upon arrival, a WHO vehicle will be available to transport you to your hotel. The same will apply on your departure, from your hotel to the airport. You will only need to return your “*Return Journey Information Form*” to the Travel Unit at the Regional Office.

Hotel – Regional Office

For meetings organized at the Regional Office, daily transport is provided between the hotels and the Regional Office during meeting days.

Transportation in town

The Brazzaville international airport is about 4kms from the city centre and about 10kms from the Regional Office. Taxis can be used as means of transportation. A ride by taxi costs at least 2000 to 3000 FCFA between the airport and city centre, and 1000 FCFA to 1500 FCFA within the city. Taxis are identifiable by their green and white colour. Some hotels provide shuttle transport services.

5. Vaccination and health information

An international certificate of vaccination against yellow fever is mandatory. Check the validity of your international health certificate and update it if necessary. The presentation of your international health certificate is required by health workers upon arrival.

Vaccination against typhoid fever, hepatitis A and B virus, meningitis, tetanus and poliomyelitis is advisable.

With regard to malaria, Congo is classified in zone C. The risk of contracting malaria especially from *Plasmodium falciparum* exists all year round. Antimalaria prophylaxis appropriate for each individual is recommended before the onward journey until two weeks after return. The use of other individual protection measures (sprays, creams, mosquito nets, etc) is recommended.

A dispensary located at the Regional Office provides medical care for all visitors upon request during working hours.

6. Bank and foreign exchange

Currency exchange: The BCI Bank has an office on the premises of the Regional Office for currency exchange.

Opening hours: Monday to Friday, 10:00am to 14:00pm. You are requested to provide a copy of your passport and air ticket.

Automatic Teller Machines: Two functional ATMs are available at the ground floor lobby of the Regional Office: One for ECOBANK and the other for BCI. The ATM for ECOBANK accepts only cards of the ECOBANK network and the ATM of B.C.I accepts only VISA cards. ATMs are accessible every day, 24/24h. Other ATMs operate on 24-hour basis near banks in the city centre.








The currency used in the Republic of Congo is CFA Franc whose exchange rate is fixed at: **1 euro=655,957 FCFA.**

7. Security

All UN staff require security clearance before travelling to the Republic of Congo. To obtain a security clearance a request is submitted through the web site <https://dss.un.org>. Kindly read the AFRO Security Guide for further guidance.

8. Climate

The Republic of Congo has a tropical climate. The annual average temperature is about 25°C, with permanent atmospheric humidity. There are two dry seasons (low temperatures, with no rainfall) and two rainy seasons (high temperatures, with very heavy rainfall).

The seasons	Average Temperature
January-February: short dry season 	25 ⁰ C
March-May: long rainy season   	25 ⁰ C
June-September: long dry season 	23 ⁰ C
October-December: short rainy season  	25 ⁰ C

9. Languages

French is the official language of the Republic of Congo. The two local languages most commonly spoken are Lingala (in Brazzaville and the north of the country) and Kitouba (in Pointe-Noire and the south).

10. Electricity

220 Volts- 230 Volts AC50

11. Cuisine

The Congolese cuisine is quite varied. The popular national dishes served in restaurants include:

- *Saka-saka*: Pounded cassava leaves, seasoned and prepared with groundnut paste or palm oil and served with rice.
- *Chicken á la Mouambe (Mossaka)*: Chicken boiled or roasted in groundnut paste or thick palm oil sauce served with rice or pounded plantain.
- *Maboke*: Freshwater fish, boiled in spices, piri-piri and other seasoning, wrapped in leaves.
- Grilled piri-piri chicken (or barbecued).
- Mutton stew in groundnut sauce.
- Cabbage palm salad.
- Asparagus spears.
- Smoked fish (*Moukalou*): Smoked fish soup or eaten with *koko* (sliced leaves) and groundnut paste (salted fish is sometimes used).

12. Hotels

Recommended hotels within the UN safety zone

Name	Address	Telephone Number	Preferred price per room in FCFA
OLYMPIC PALACE	Av. de l'Amitié	06 669 99 30/22281 13 11	127 500–150 000
MICHAEL HOTEL	Av. Nelson Mandela	05 366 66 60	96 000–360 000
HOTEL LEDGER PLAZZA	Av. Auxence Ickonga	05 666 95 95/96 96	100 000
ADONIS	Av. Foch	05 560 00 00/06 860 00 00	80 000–165000
VERDA POLITAN	Av. A Ickonga	05 312 12 12	80 000–175 000
VILL LYS HOTEL	Av. du Dr Jamot	05 595 00 02/05 596 00 02	105 000–185 000
LA PERLE HOTEL	Av. de l'Am it i é	05 350 13 13/06 665 10 10	80 000–150 000
HOTEL BOULEVARD	Centre ville 491-492 Soprogi Mougali 3	05 537 04 07/06 672 55 73	65 000–140 000
BRAZZA BEACH HOTEL-EX PROTEA	Cité OMS AFRO au Djoué	05 570 02 21/06 634 85 76	60 000–120 000
MAYI HOTEL	Barrage du Djoue	06 652 01 01	50 000
BRAZZA HOTEL	Rue Maréchal	06 638 96 12/06 655 80 80	35 000–50 000
AMBASSADOR	Centre ville, face Olympic Palace	05 548 00 00	40 000–65 000
ROYAL HOTEL	Av. de l'Ami ti é	06 638 96 10/06 655 80 80	40 000–60 000
MARINA	Centre ville BP 1947	06 655 85 55/06 650 79 79	82 000–292 500
ETOILE HOTEL	Av. de l'Amitié	06 944 90 00	40 000
LEON HOTEL	Av. Colonel Bisset	222 81 23 11/06 653 28 11	100 000–250 000
MERCURE	de l'Amitié	06 661 44 44/06 655 80 80	30 000–35 000
LA CLE DES CHAMPS	Av. de Brazza	06 921 54 13	30 000
DREAMS HOTEL	5 bis, av. N. Mandela (Montée du Méridien)	06 656 76 76/22 81 00 20	50 000–80 000
BOLD HOTEL	Rue de Reims Face BGFI	05 688 38 38	85 000–200 000
RADISON HOTEL	Av. de l'Amitié	06 888 88 44	60 000–140 000
CLASS HOTEL	En face de Bayardelle	06 663 44 44	85 000–120 000
PARADIS HOTEL	14 Avenue de l'Amitié, vers le HCR	06 888 88 44/05 300 00 01	60 000–140 000
PLATINIUM HOTEL	Avenue de l' Amitié vers Olympic Palace	05 311 11 13	60 000–150 000

13. Restaurants

- Olympic Palace: *Av. de l'Amitié*, Tel.: 22281 34 36/06 660 66 71
- *Le Jardin des Saveurs*: In front of Olympic Palace, Tel.: 05 525 22 61/01-223-04-18
- Mami Wata: by the Congo River, Avenue de la Corniche, Tel.: 05-534-28-79
- Terminalia: next to the City Hall, Tel.: 05-396-27-27
- Sympathic: between *Pharmacie Mavré* and the SNPC building, Tel.: 06-666-41-36/06-677-81-43
- *La Taverne Corse*: next to Alima Duty Free Shop, Tel.: 06-670-44-47/05-717-05-29

- *L'Orchidee*: Behind Ministry of Works, Tel.: 06-660-67-32
- Nénuphar : downtown opposite to the Market of *Plateau ville*, Tel.: 222 81 09 15
- Exotic Palace: 46 Avenue William G, opposite to Grasavoye, Tel.: 06-663-06-08
- Kouzinty (Maroccan): 175 Avenue de l'Amitié, Tel.: 06-800-18-18/05-344-45-55
- *Grande Muraille* (Chinese): Avenue de l'Amitié, Tel.: 06-885-07-28
- *La Coupol*: roundabout of the Coupol, Tel.: 05-533-98-46
- *La Mandarine*: Avenue Foch, Roundabout of the City Hall Tel.: 05-566-31-30

14. Clinics

- Net Care: opposite CHU (the general Hospital), Tel.: 05 547 09 11
- COGEMO: Tel.: 06 665 60 46

15. Important contacts at WHO Regional Office for Africa

- Reception Tel.: 06 508 11 14
- Mr Charlemagne Pissara, Administrative Services (ASO) Tel.: 06 508 10 96
- Mrs Marie Paule Rutabuzwa, Travel Services Tel.: 06 895 77 10
- Mrs Eniko Toth, Conference et Protocol Service Tel.: 06 508 10 53
- Mr Frédéric Diakoundila, Transport Services Tel.: 06 661 38 13
- Mr Abdoulaye Doumbia, Security Services (FSO) Tel.: 06 508 10 87
- Mr Jean Pierre Mouzele, Security Services Tel.: 06 660 43 27
- Dr Roland Rizet, Regional Staff Physician Tel.: 06 660 68 08
- Mrs Minata Traoré, Principal Nurse Tel.: 06 660 68 05
- Mrs Paulette Pedro, Nurse Tel.: 06 666 39 13
- WHO Regional Office web site: <http://www.afro.who.int/>