Information Note
18 December 2019

I. General

1. The fourth meeting of the intersessional process considering the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020 (IP4) is scheduled to be held at the Palace of Parliament (Romanian: Palatul Parlamentului - http://cic.cdep.ro/en) in Bucharest, Romania from 23 to 27 March 2020. Regional and sectoral group meetings as well as technical briefings will be held on 22 March 2020.

2. To make a positive contribution towards comprehensive climate neutrality, SAICM is committed to organizing and implementing sustainable environmentally-friendly and carbon-neutral meetings, including for this fourth meeting.

II. Registration and identification badges

3. The event will be convened at a government facility that will be carrying out its daily activities during the event. Access to the venue will be possible through two security gates. The first security gate allows access inside the perimeter of the building (Gate C1) and the second security gate is next to the participant registration area (marked with an X in the figure below). In order to ensure easy access to the venue, we strongly recommend that all participants carry an ID card /passport and confirmation of registration in hand.

4. Participants should pre-register online well in advance at https://indico.un.org/event/32633/ to facilitate the issuance of badges at the meeting venue and compilation of the list of participants. Participants are also highly encouraged to upload identification photos in the registration system in advance to speed up the registration process.

5. Registration will open (for pre-registered participants) on Sunday 22 March at 7:30 AM and will remain available the duration of the meeting. Participants may register at the registration counter which will be located beyond the second security gate entrance. Only the names of pre-registered individuals will be included in the list of participants.

6. For identification and security reasons, all participants are requested to wear their meeting badges at all times in the Palace of Parliament complex. The loss of a meeting badge should be communicated immediately to the SAICM secretariat so it may be reissued.
III. Harassment free meeting

7. The organizations of the United Nations system are committed to enabling events at which everyone can participate in an inclusive, respectful and safe environment. UN system events are guided by the highest ethical and professional standards, and all participants are expected to behave with integrity and respect towards all participants attending or involved with any UN system event.

8. Prohibited conduct includes:

   (a) Harassment: any improper or unwelcome conduct that might be expected or be perceived to cause offence or humiliation to another person. Harassment in any form because of gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, physical ability, physical appearance, ethnicity, race, national origin, political affiliation, age, religion or any other reason is prohibited.

   (b) Sexual harassment: any unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature that might be expected or be perceived to cause offense or humiliation. Sexual harassment may involve any conduct of a verbal, nonverbal or physical nature, including written and electronic communications, and may occur between persons of the same or different genders.

Further information on the Code of Conduct to prevent harassment, including sexual harassment, at UN system events may be consulted at: 
https://www.un.org/en/content/codeofconduct/
IV. Travel Advisory

9. Overall security risk in Romania is low. Crimes, such as robbery, mugging, pickpocketing, credit card and internet fraud, and confidence tricks, games or schemes remain among the most common crimes affecting foreigners in Romania.

10. Travelers should be aware that while major streets in larger cities and major inter-city roads in Romania are generally in fair to good condition, many secondary roads are poorly maintained, unpaved, badly lighted, narrow, and lacking marked lanes, and therefore should be avoided.

V. Personal security advice

11. **Crime:** While most crimes in Romania are non-violent and non-confrontational, crimes do occur where individuals may be injured. Reports of sexual assault are uncommon; however, to be safe, please be vigilant, especially at night. Crimes against tourists/foreigners, such as robbery, mugging, pick pocketing, and confidence tricks, games or schemes remain a problem. Organized groups of thieves and pickpockets, sometimes including minors, operate in train stations and on trains, subways, and buses. Credit card and Internet fraud remain among the most common crimes affecting foreigners in Romania. Try to use ATMs located inside banks and check for any evidence of tampering with the machine before use. While an increasing number of businesses accept credit cards, you may wish to use cash for goods and services rendered due to the risk of credit card fraud.

12. **Civil unrest:** Prior police consent is required for public demonstrations. Occurrences of strikes and public demonstrations in Romania may take place, especially in Bucharest. To date, protests have remained peaceful; however, even demonstrations that are meant to be peaceful may become violent and unpredictable. Meeting participants should avoid any potential protest encountered if at all possible. Be alert and aware of your surroundings and pay attention to the local news media to stay informed.

13. **Traffic:** Traffic accidents are arguably the single most dangerous threat in Romania.

14. **Natural disasters:** Romania is situated in a seismically active region and has a history of devastating earthquakes, with the greatest risk in Bucharest. Mountainous areas of the country can be subject to torrential rains and flash floods, especially in the spring and summer months. Winter storms are severe and icy streets and sidewalks may be hazardous. While responsibility for caring for disaster victims, including foreigners, rests with Romanian authorities, disaster preparedness is also a personal responsibility.

VI. Visa requirements

15. A passport is required for travel to Romania. Although a visa or tourist card is not normally required for most nationalities, travellers are urged to seek information on visa requirements for his/her nationality prior to travel. Please check and confirm requirements on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs website: [http://evisa.mae.ro/home](http://evisa.mae.ro/home)

16. Conditions that should be met in order to be allowed entry to Romania can be consulted at: [http://www.mae.ro/en/node/30320](http://www.mae.ro/en/node/30320)
17. Citizens of the European Union (EU) or the European Economic Area (EEA) may enter Romania at any border checkpoint where they must present a valid identity document – passport or other identity document acknowledged by the Romanian authorities.

18. EU/EEA citizens may enter and stay in Romania in keeping with the right of free movement and residence granted under the Romanian legislation, according to European provisions. For a stay in Romania longer than 90 days, a registration certificate must be obtained from the Romanian Immigration Office.

19. Citizens of other states (states not in the EU/EEA) must have an entry visa to enter Romania.

20. To apply for an appropriate entry visa to Romania, participants are required to contact their respective Romanian Embassy/Consulate-General for accurate information regarding visa application procedures and required documents.

21. Participants who apply for a visa outside their country of residence or who reside in a country where there is no Romanian Embassy/Consulate/Consulate General should check for the location(s) where it is possible to apply for a Romanian visa. Please note that certain nationalities, for security reasons, are not allowed to apply for a visa except at the Romanian Embassy/Consulate-General which has jurisdiction over the concerned territory. Please also consult http://evisa.mae.ro/NeedVisa to see specific requirements. Please note that applicants must possess a valid passport of at least six months and must be in possession of a valid return ticket with date of departure within 15 days of the date of entry.

22. The list of countries whose nationals are exempted from the Romanian visa requirements (the list herein is established in accordance with the provisions of Regulation EC 539/2001) is presented below.

**VII. Foreign currency declaration and other currency issues**

23. The official Romanian currency is the New Romanian Leu (RON), with its subdivision “ban”; for sums higher than 1 leu, the plural “lei” is used. The equivalent of 1 Leu (RON) is: 1 Leu = 0.21 € and 1 Leu = 0.23 US$. Please keep in mind that the exchange rates varies on a daily basis so for more information go to https://www.bnr.ro/Exchange-rates-1224.aspx. Foreign currencies may be exchanged at banks or authorized exchange offices (called “casa de schimb valutar”). International airports and larger hotels also offer currency exchange services. International financial systems, such as Visa and Mastercard, are widely used. Most stores accept contactless cards of NFC. Cash exchange offices usually do not charge a commission or fee. ATM machines are available at main banks and at airports and shopping centres. Some ATMs allow the withdrawal of foreign currency.

24. Persons travelling to Romania must declare and present to the customs authorities the goods in their possession and their personal luggage. Goods may be declared in writing and verbally. Goods that are to be marketed are subject to the customs regime. For personal goods no customs duties are levied.
II. The list of countries whose nationals are exempted from the Romanian visa requirement (the list herein is established in accordance with the provisions of Regulation EC 539/2001)

1. STATES:

1. Albania (*)
2. Andorra
3. Antigua and Barbuda (1)
4. Argentina
5. Australia
6. Bahamas (2)
7. Barbados (3)
8. Bosnia and Herzegovina (*)
9. Brazil
10. Brunei Darussalam
11. Canada (#)
12. Chile
13. Colombia (17)
14. Costa Rica
15. Dominica (8)
16. Republic of Macedonia (*)
17. Georgia (25) (*)
18. Grenada (9)
19. Guatemala
20. Holy See
21. Honduras
22. Israel
23. Japan (#)
24. Kiribati (20)
25. Malaysia
26. Marshall Islands (21)
27. Mauritius (4)
28. Mexico
29. Micronesia (23)
30. Moldova, Republic of (*)
31. Monaco
32. Montenegro (*)
33. New Zealand
34. Nicaragua
35. Palau (18)
36. Panama
37. Paraguay
38. Peru (19)
39. Saint Kitts and Nevis (3)
40. Saint Lucia (10)
41. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (11)
42. Salvador
43. Samoa (12)
44. San Marino
45. Serbia [excluding holders of Serbian passports issued by the Serbian Coordination Directorate (in Serbian: Координаційна управа)] (*)
46. Seychelles (6)
47. Singapore
48. Solomon Islands (24)
49. South Korea
50. Timor-Leste (13)
51. Tonga (16)
52. Trinidad and Tobago (14)
53. Tuvalu (22)
54. Ukraine (26)
55. United Arab Emirates (7)
56. United States of America (#)
57. Uruguay
58. Vanuatu (15)
59. Venezuela

(*) The visa requirement exemption applies to holders of biometric passports.
(6) According to the provisions of Decision n° 1108 from 2001 of the Romanian Government regarding the unilateral exemption of the nationals of Canada, Iceland, Norway, of the Swiss Confederation and of Japan, from the obligation of holding an entry visa for Romania, starting with January 1st 2002, nationals of Canada and Japan, are unilaterialy exempted from the obligation of holding an entry visa for Romania for stays of 3 months. Upon expiry of the 3 month period of stay, should they wish to continue their stay in Romania, nationals of Canada and of Japan, have the obligation of applying for the extension of their right of stay, with the Romanian competent authorities, in accordance with the provisions of the Romanian legal framework in force.

(7) According to the provisions of Decision n° 752 from 2002 of the Romanian Government regarding the unilateral freedom of the nationals of the United States of America from the obligation of holding an entry visa for Romania, nationals of the United States of America, holders of valid diplomatic, official and simple passports, are exempt from the obligation of obtaining a Romanian entry visa for stays of up to 90 days per semester. Upon expiry of the 90 day period, should they wish to continue their stay in Romania, nationals of the United States of America have the obligation of applying for the extension of their right of stay, with the Romanian competent authorities, in accordance with the provisions of the Romanian legal framework in force.


(7) The Agreement between the European Union and the United Arab Emirates on the short-stay visa waiver (for stays of no more than 90 days in any 180 day time period) shall provisionally apply As of May 6th 2015.

(8) The Agreement between the European Union and the Commonwealth of Dominica on the short-stay visa waiver (for stays of no more than 90 days in any 180 day time period) shall provisionally apply As of May 18th 2015.

(9) The Agreement between the European Union and Grenada on the short-stay visa waiver (for stays of no more than 90 days in any 180 day time period) shall provisionally apply As of May 18th 2015.

(10) The Agreement between the European Union and Saint Lucia on the short-stay visa waiver (for stays of no more than 90 days in any 180 day time period) shall provisionally apply As of May 28th 2015.

(11) The Agreement between the European Union and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines on the short-stay visa waiver (for stays of no more than 90 days in any 180 day time period) shall provisionally apply As of May 28th 2015.

(12) The Agreement between the European Union and the Independent State of Samoa on the short-stay visa waiver (for stays of no more than 90 days in any 180 day time period) shall provisionally apply As of May 28th 2015.

(13) The Agreement between the European Union and the Democratic Republic of Togo on the short-stay visa waiver (for stays of no more than 90 days in any 180 day time period) shall provisionally apply As of May 28th 2015.

(14) The Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the short-stay visa waiver (for stays of no more than 90 days in any 180 day time period) shall provisionally apply As of May 28th 2015.

(15) The Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Vanuatu on the short-stay visa waiver (for stays of no more than 90 days in any 180 day time period) shall provisionally apply As of May 28th 2015.

(16) The Agreement between the European Union and the Kingdom of Tonga on the short-stay visa waiver (for stays of no more than 90 days in any 180 day time period) shall provisionally apply As of November 21st 2015.

(17) The Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Colombia on the short-stay visa waiver (for stays of no more than 90 days in any 180 day time period) shall provisionally apply as of December 3rd 2015.

(18) The Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Palau on the short-stay visa waiver (for stays of no more than 90 days in any 180 day time period) shall provisionally apply as of December 8th 2015.

(19) The Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Peru on the short-stay visa waiver (for stays of no more than 90 days in any 180 day time period) shall provisionally apply as of March 15th 2016.

(20) The Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Kiribati on the short-stay visa waiver (for stays of no more than 90 days in any 180 day time period) shall provisionally apply as of June 24th 2016.

(21) The Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of the Marshall Islands on the short-stay visa waiver (for stays of no more than 90 days in any 180 day time period) shall provisionally apply as of June 24th 2016.

(22) The Agreement between the European Union and Tuvalu on the short-stay visa waiver (for stays of no more than 90 days in any 180 day time period) shall provisionally apply as of July 2nd 2016.

(23) The Agreement between the European Union and the Federated States of Micronesia on the short-stay visa waiver (for stays of no more than 90 days in any 180 day time period) shall provisionally apply as of September 20th 2016.

(24) The Agreement between the European Union and the Solomon Islands on the short-stay visa waiver (for stays of no more than 90 days in any 180 day time period) shall provisionally apply as of October 8th 2016.
25. For further details visit the websites of:

26. In Romania all types of credit cards that are valid in the European Union are accepted. Credit cards may be used at retailers or service providers where signs indicate the cards accepted, and at any ATM. ATMs dispense Lei, the national currency.

27. Any person who brings or takes an aggregate amount of foreign currency exceeding US$12,000/10,000€ or its equivalent into local currency, shall declare the amount of currency to a Customs Official. Failure to make such a declaration or making any false declaration to a Customs official is considered a criminal offence.

28. Currency exchange facilities are available at hotels throughout Bucharest. Bank hours are from 8:30 to 15:30, with no lunch break, from Monday to Friday.
VIII. Health and vaccination

29. Health and travel insurances are accepted in medical facilities in Romania, provided payment is confirmed first by the foreign insurance company. Insurance companies in Romanian sell health insurances for the duration of the stay in the territory of the Romanian State. For further info please visit the website of the National Health Insurance House: http://www.cnas.ro/default/index/index/lang/EN

30. Participants are strongly encouraged to subscribe to a travel or health insurance plan which is valid in Romania, in order to cover any medical bills or hospitalization fees incurred.

31. The Palace of Parliament is a smoke-free area. Smoking is permitted only in designated areas outside of the buildings.

32. Health emergencies - many pharmacies in Bucharest have late working hours, until 8 or 9 p.m.

33. Addresses of the main hospitals in Bucharest:
   The Emergency University Hospital: Splaiul Independenței nr.169, Tel: +40 21 / 318.0523
   The Floreasca Emergency Hospital: Calea Floreasca nr.8, Tel: +40 21 / 599.2300

IX. Hotel accommodation

34. As of December 2019, the following hotels are recommended by the Host Government.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nr.</th>
<th>HOTEL</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Link</th>
<th>Possible prices per day/Approximate prices per day</th>
<th>Distance to the event location (walking distance)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Hotel IBIS București Palatul Parlamentului</td>
<td>3*</td>
<td>Str. Izvor, Nr. 82-84, sector 5, Bucharest</td>
<td><a href="http://www.accorhotels.com/">www.accorhotels.com/</a></td>
<td>36 USD - No Breakfast ; 42 USD - Breakfast included</td>
<td>500 m approximate 10-15 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Hotel PARLIAMENT</td>
<td>4*</td>
<td>Strada Izvor 106, București, Bucharest</td>
<td><a href="https://www.parliament-hotel.ro/en/">https://www.parliament-hotel.ro/en/</a></td>
<td>83 USD - Breakfast included</td>
<td>500 m approximate 10-15 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Hotel VENEZIA</td>
<td>4*</td>
<td>Str. Pompiâuliu Eliade, Nr. 2, Sector 1, Bucharest</td>
<td><a href="http://www.hotelvenezia.ro/">http://www.hotelvenezia.ro/</a></td>
<td>53 USD - No Breakfast; 66 USD Breakfast included</td>
<td>1.6 km approximate 18 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Hotel VOLO</td>
<td>3*</td>
<td>Bulevardul Schitu Măgureanu nr.6, Bucharest</td>
<td><a href="http://www.volohotel.ro/en/">http://www.volohotel.ro/en/</a></td>
<td>56 USD - No Breakfast ; 66 USD - Breakfast included</td>
<td>1.4 km approximate 20 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Hotel CIȘMIGIU</td>
<td>4*</td>
<td>Bulevardul Regina Elisabeta nr.38, Bucharest</td>
<td><a href="https://www.hotelcismigiu.ro/en/">https://www.hotelcismigiu.ro/en/</a></td>
<td>152 USD - Breakfast included</td>
<td>1.6 km approximate 20 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Hotel CAPITOL</td>
<td>3*</td>
<td>Calea Victoriei nr.29, Bucharest</td>
<td><a href="https://hotelcapitol.ro/en/">https://hotelcapitol.ro/en/</a></td>
<td>55 USD - No Breakfast ; 65 USD - Breakfast included</td>
<td>1.9 km approximate 25 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Hotel RAMADA MAJESTIC</td>
<td>4*</td>
<td>Calea Victoriei nr.38-40, Bucharest</td>
<td><a href="https://www.ramadamajestic.ro/en/en-home/">https://www.ramadamajestic.ro/en/en-home/</a></td>
<td>88 USD - Breakfast included</td>
<td>1.6 km approximate 20 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Hotel NOVOTEL</td>
<td>4*</td>
<td>Calea Victoriei nr.37B, Bucharest</td>
<td>novotel.accorhotels.com/gb/europe/</td>
<td>90 USD - Breakfast included</td>
<td>1.7 km approximate 23 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Hotel INTERCONTINENTAL</td>
<td>5*</td>
<td>Bulevardul Nicolae Bălcescu nr.4, Bucharest</td>
<td><a href="http://www.intercontinental.com/hotels/us/en/bucharest">www.intercontinental.com/hotels/us/en/bucharest</a></td>
<td>108 USD - Breakfast included</td>
<td>2.6 km approximate 33 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Grand Hotel CONTINENTAL</td>
<td>5*</td>
<td>Calea Victorie nr.56, Bucharest</td>
<td><a href="https://grand-hotel-continental-bucuresti.continentalhotels.ro/en">https://grand-hotel-continental-bucuresti.continentalhotels.ro/en</a></td>
<td>126 USD - Breakfast included</td>
<td>2.3 km approximate 29 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Hotel TRIANON</td>
<td>3*</td>
<td>Strada Grigore Cobălcescu nr.9, Bucharest</td>
<td><a href="http://www.hoteltrianon.ro/en/">http://www.hoteltrianon.ro/en/</a></td>
<td>61 USD - Breakfast included</td>
<td>2.0 km approximate 26 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Hotel SIQUA</td>
<td>4*</td>
<td>Calea Plevnei nr.59A, Bucharest</td>
<td><a href="https://hotelsiqua.ro/home/en/">https://hotelsiqua.ro/home/en/</a></td>
<td>69 USD - Breakfast included</td>
<td>2.3 km approximate 29 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nr.</td>
<td>HOTEL</td>
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<td>Address</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Hotel HILTON GARDEN INN Bucharest OLD TOWN</td>
<td>4*</td>
<td>Strada Doamnei nr.12, Bucharest</td>
<td><a href="https://www.hiltonhotels.com/ro_RO/romania/hilton-garden-inn-bucharest-old-town/">https://www.hiltonhotels.com/ro_RO/romania/hilton-garden-inn-bucharest-old-town/</a></td>
<td>93 USD - Breakfast included</td>
<td>2.1 km, approximate 27 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>JW MARIOT Bucharest GRAND HOTEL</td>
<td>5*</td>
<td>Calea 13 Septembrie nr.90, Bucharest</td>
<td><a href="https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/buhro-jw-marriott-bucharest-grand-hotel/">https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/buhro-jw-marriott-bucharest-grand-hotel/</a></td>
<td>134 USD - Breakfast included</td>
<td>1.3 km, approximate 17 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Hotel MERCURE Bucharest UNIRII</td>
<td>4*</td>
<td>28th, Bulevardul Mircea Vodă, Bucharest</td>
<td><a href="https://www.accorhotels.com/gb/hotel-A1H4-mercu-re-bucharest-unirii/index.shtml">https://www.accorhotels.com/gb/hotel-A1H4-mercu-re-bucharest-unirii/index.shtml</a></td>
<td>61 USD - No Breakfast; 71 USD - Breakfast included</td>
<td>2.8 km, approximate 35 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Hotel RIN CENTRAL</td>
<td>4*</td>
<td>Strada Traian nr.57, Bucharest</td>
<td><a href="https://central.rinhotels.ro/en/">https://central.rinhotels.ro/en/</a></td>
<td>54 USD - No Breakfast; 63 USD - Breakfast included</td>
<td>3.6 km, approximate 46 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Hotel CENTRAL</td>
<td>4*</td>
<td>Strada Ion Brezoianu nr.13, Bucharest</td>
<td><a href="http://www.centralhotel.ro/">http://www.centralhotel.ro/</a></td>
<td>61 USD - No Breakfast; 67 USD - Breakfast included</td>
<td>1.5 km, approximate 19 minutes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
35. Participants are advised to book well in advance and should consider staying in a hotel within walking distance from the Palace of Parliament to avoid traffic and help reduce CO2 footprints.

36. Rooms are available to participants on a first-come, first-serve basis. Hotels should be notified of any cancellations, postponements or other changes at least 48 hours in advance.

**All participants are responsible for paying their own hotel accommodation.**

37. Before departure from Bucharest, participants should settle directly with the respective hotels all accounts, including room charges and other expenses, such as for local and long-distance telephone calls, Internet use, laundry, room and hotel transportation services, minibar items, as well as restaurant and bar services.

**X. Transport**

38. Participants should make their own transportation arrangements from Henri Coandă International Airport to their respective hotels. Metered-taxi and bus services are readily available at the airport. Detailed information about the airports may be found at [http://www.bucharestairports.ro/en/](http://www.bucharestairports.ro/en/)

39. Situated 16.5 km North of the Bucharest city centre, the Henri Coandă International Airport is the largest airport in Romania, serving 67 external destinations and 9 domestic destinations.

40. **Ways to get to Bucharest:**

Express bus 24/7 schedule, with stops right outside the arrival and departure terminals: 780 Express line, towards Bucharest North Railway Station (main railway station) and 783 Express line, towards the city centre. A one-way trip on the express line costs 3.5 lei (0.75 Euro); tickets or rechargeable cards can be purchased at the bus stop.

Taxi. Inside the airport there are touch screen terminals, for taxi orders, should customers prefer a particular company. Licensed taxis are available for passengers arriving at Henri Coandă International Airport at the terminal exit and accept passengers in order of arrival. Prices: a trip to Bucharest is around 10 - 15 Euros, depending on distance (taxi charge about 1.69 - 3.50 lei per kilometre, 0.4 - 0.8 Euro)

Car rental. There are several rent-a-car companies in the Henri Coandă International Airport, some of them 24/7. Prices are similar to other EU states. The trip by car or by bus to the city takes 30 – 50 minutes, depending on traffic.

41. **Getting around Bucharest:**

Taxis. In Bucharest, prices vary from 1.69 - 3.50 lei/km (0.4 - 0.8 Euro).

Rent-a-car. Several local and international car rental companies function in Romania, with prices starting at 20 Euros per day.

Uber. In Bucharest Uber is highly used, it is safe and at a reasonable price.

Bucharest public transport:

Trams, buses and trolleybuses. Operating hours: 05.00 a.m. to 11.30 p.m. Various cards available in main stations. For more information, please consult: [http://www.stbsa.ro/mobile/eng/index_en.php](http://www.stbsa.ro/mobile/eng/index_en.php)
The subway / metro. The ‘Metro’ is the fastest way around the Romanian capital, with central stations close to the main institutions and points of interest and the price for one trip is 2.5 lei (0.5 euro). Operating hours are from 05.00 a.m. to 11.30 p.m. Access cards may be purchased at the stations from metro personnel or from touch screen terminals. You can pay with credit card or with local currency. For more information, please consult: http://www.metrorex.ro/first_page_p1352-2

42. Participants should make their own transport arrangements to and from the Palace of Parliament meeting venue.

XI. Catering services

43. Catering services are available at the meeting venue.

44. This event intends to be paper smart and as green as possible. It is therefore encouraged that all participants generate as little waste as possible, including unnecessary paper and plastic.

XII. Meeting documents

45. Please note that the meeting will be a paper smart meeting and participants are kindly advised to bring your own laptop, as copies of meeting documents will not be printed or distributed.


47. Documents for circulation or distribution at the session should be submitted to the SAICM secretariat at saicm.chemicals@un.org.

XIII. Accessibility support for persons with special needs

48. In order to ensure accessibility to the Palace of Parliament for any persons with special needs, all participants should advise well in advance their personal special needs so that the Host Government may try to accommodate and make necessary arrangements.

XIV. Other facilities available

49. Banking services are available inside the Palace of Parliament. One bank and various ATMs are available. Also, other banks are available close to the meeting venue.

50. Prayer and meditation rooms may be found in the premises of the meeting venue.

XV. Internet services

51. Romania has one of the fastest internet connections in the world. Nearly every hotel, bar or public place provides free WiFi. 4G is available mostly everywhere, except very remote areas.
52. Free wireless internet access is available in all conference and meeting rooms. No password is required.

XVI. Electric plug and socket

53. The electric power in Romania is 220V running at 50Hz and the power sockets are of type F. Delegates are strongly encouraged to carry their own adapters for use with laptops and other electrical appliances as neither the SAICM secretariat nor the Host Government will be able to provide these. In case of need, adapters may be purchased from shops in the city dealing in electronic and electrical items.

![Electric plug and socket diagram]

XVII. Financial & administrative arrangements including Daily subsistence allowance (DSA) (only if applicable)

54. Participants whose travel is sponsored by UN Environment, will be provided with a daily subsistence allowance at prevailing United Nations rates. In order to facilitate the payment of the subsistence allowance, eligible participants are requested to submit copies of their passport and boarding pass(es) to the SAICM secretariat.

55. Any participant unable to stay for the duration of the meeting are requested to inform the secretariat as soon as possible after arrival, so that the subsistence allowance may be adjusted accordingly.

56. In cases where participation costs are borne by the UN Environment, UN Environment will provide only travel and DSA as expressed and will not assume responsibility for any other expenditures, including the following:

(i) All expenses in the home country incidental to travel abroad, including expenditure for visa, medical examination, inoculations and other such miscellaneous items and internal travel to and from the airport of arrival and departure in the home country;

(ii) Salary and related allowances for the participants during the period of the meeting;

(iii) Costs incurred by participants in respect of travel insurance, accident insurance, medical bills or hospitalization fees in connection with attending the meeting;

(iv) Compensation in the event of death or disability of participants in connection with attending the meeting;
(v) Any loss of or damage to personal property of participants while attending the meeting or losses or damages claimed by third parties as a result of any negligence on the part of the participants;
(vi) Any other expenses of a personal nature, not directly related to the purpose of the meeting.

57. DSA for this meeting will be provided through cash cards. These cards are rechargeable multiple times within their validity written below the card number. Funded participants are, therefore, advised to keep the cash card in safe custody for future use. Should a funded participant already have a cash card issued in USD, please inform the SAICM Secretariat by giving the number of the cash card already in your possession and bring it with you to receive your DSA payment. The cash card number must correspond to a card issued in USD in order for it to be usable. These cash cards should be kept away from smart phones to avoid any damage to the magnetic tape.

58. Further and more detailed information on the use of cash cards will be provided to funded participants during the meeting.

XVIII. Gender-related issues

59. In Romania, the issue of equal opportunities is regulated by a special law, Law 229/2015 for amending and completing Law no. 202 of 2002 on equal opportunities and treatment between women and men. In addition to the general provisions, the law presents the areas in which the measures are applied to promote equal opportunities and treatment between women and men and to eliminate all forms of discrimination based on gender. These areas are work, education, health, culture, politics, decision-making and other areas regulated by special laws. According to Eurostat, the salary difference between women and men in Romania is 3.5%, by far the lowest gap in the member states of the European Union.

XIX. Safety and security

60. Unique emergency telephone number for Ambulance Services, Police and Fire Brigade is 112.

Useful Phone Numbers:
Prefix for Romania: +40 - for further info go to: www.tourismguide.ro/x/prefixe
Bucharest Otopeni Airport – for further info go to: http://www.bucharestairports.ro/en/;
Bucharest Baneasa Airport – for further info go to: http://www.bucharestairports.ro/baneasa/en/;
Railways Information (Bucharest) – for further info go to: https://www.cfrcalatori.ro/en/;

61. For more information you can also access the following websites:
Ministry of Health: http://www.ms.gov.ro/
Ministry of Public Works, Development and Administration: https://www.mdrap.ro/
National Customs Authority: http://www.customs.ro/en/
Mobile Emergency, Resuscitation and Extrication Service (SMURD): http://www.smurd.ro/