

## INFORMATION GUIDE FOR PARTICIPANTS TO THE LVBCON-2017 IN MWANZA, TANZANIA

### 1. GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT TANZANIA

Tanzanians are warm-hearted and generous people who are eager to help visitors get the most out of their stay in this East African country. There is a true example of tolerance and cooperation in today's world, with clearly noticeable multicultural diversity of people who have co-existed for centuries, a country that has a lot to offer to the world.

**Security:** Tanzania is one of the most peaceful and politically stable countries in Africa. From the time, it earned independence in 1961, there has never been any civil war or major internal strife. Its citizens continue to live in peace; a people sharing a common national identity. However, as it is in any other country, reasonable precautions should still be taken, such as locking valuables in the hotel safe, which leaves your mind free to absorb the natural beauty and incredible sights and experiences that you are sure to cherish forever. Always keep your valuable items attended.

**Geography:** Tanzania is located in Eastern Africa and lies between latitude 1 - 11degrees South and longitude of 30 - 40 degrees east. It borders Kenya and Uganda to the north, Rwanda, Burundi and Zaire (DRC) to the west, and Zambia, Malawi, and Mozambique to the south.

The country has a wide variety of unique features, such as Africa's highest point, Mount Kilimanjaro 19,340ft (5,896m) above mean sea level, affectionately referred to as The Roof of Africa; then there is Lake Victoria, which is credited to be the world's second largest fresh water body, 51 per cent of whose surface area is within Tanzania's territory. There is also Lake Tanganyika to the west, which is the second deepest lake in the world; gorgeous wildlife conservation areas such as Ruaha, Serengeti, Kilimanjaro, Tarangire, Arusha, Manyara, Mkomazi, Saadani, Mikumi, Udzungwa, Kitulo, Mahale, Gombe, Saa Nane, Rubondo and Katavi National Parks; Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority; Selous Game Reserve which is one of the largest faunal reserves of the world and numerous game controlled areas.

Tanzania as a travel destination is perfectly fit for those looking for places that offer quality vacation spent lazing on postcard perfect white sand pristine beaches of Zanzibar. Few places on earth offer the visual beauty and diversity of Tanzania.

Mwanza Region is located in the northwest of Tanzania between latitude 1 degree 3 minutes and 3 degree 0 minutes south and longitude 31 degrees 45 minutes and 34 degrees 10 minutes east. The city is dotted by protruding rocks that stand out as works of art, hence its nickname, Rock City.

The Mwanza City is the hub for commerce, transport, regional cooperation and economic development within the expansive Lake Zone.

Mwanza Region is located on the shores of Lake Victoria, one of the biggest freshwater lakes in the world, at the crossroads of trade between Tanzania and neighbouring countries of Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda, and Burundi.

Mwanza has every reason to be a prosperous commercial centre and due to its rapid growth in economy, especially in industrial development and tourism. People from all over the country who are looking for employment and opportunities of better life migrate to Mwanza, a region that contributes 9 per cent of the nation's gross domestic product (GDP), which puts it in second place after Dar es Salaam Region which contributes 17 per cent of Tanzania's GDP.

Mwanza Region is occupied by various ethnic groups, including Wasukuma (who comprise the largest group), Wakerewe, Wakara, Wanyantuzu and Wanzinza.

## **2. REGISTRATION AND CONFERENCE VENUE**

The Lake Victoria Basin Environmental Research and Scientific Conference will be held at the city's Malaika Beach Resort Hotel, from 15<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> February, 2017. The online registration process is ongoing through a dedicated website <https://www.lvbcom.org/register/>. All relevant information regarding registration process including participation fee of US\$100 (excluding transfer fee) is available in this website. Those who will not be able to register online, registration will start two days before the conference at the event's venue. Exhibitors are welcome to participate in the conference and are required to pay the exhibition fee of US\$200 (excluding transfer fee) through LVEMP II Account No. 9120000371929, Stanbic Bank—Mwanza Branch. Exhibitors are advised to send their list of exhibition goods, items and materials which require tax exemption for clearance in advance.

## **3. TRAVEL TO MWANZA**

Each participant is required to arrange for his/her own means of transport to Mwanza via the Julius Nyerere International Airport (JNIA) in Dar es Salaam City, or the Kilimanjaro International Airport (KIA) in Hai Town, Kilimanjaro Region. Flights are available from the following airlines:

- i) **International Airlines:** Egypt Air, Ethiopian Airlines, South African Airways, Kenya Airways, Rwanda Air and LAM Mozambique Airlines.

Precision Air and FastJet are low-cost airlines based in Tanzania and these operate in several Southern and East African countries including South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Uganda and Kenya. Also, Turkish Airlines, Oman Air, Qatar Airways, Air India, Emirates, Etihad, Swiss International Airlines, KLM and Fly Dubai.

- ii) Direct airlines from Nairobi to Mwanza via Kilimanjaro—one can board the Precision Air/Kenya Airways
- iii) Domestic flights from JNIA/KIA to Mwanza are offered by Air Tanzania everyday three times, FastJet (three times) and Precision Air (two times).

## **Arrival & Departure**

The conference venue, Malaika Beach Resort Hotel is less than one kilometre from Mwanza Airport and eight kilometres from the city centre. Shuttle services have been arranged for delegates from Mwanza Airport to their respective hotels.

The same applies when the delegates will be leaving their hotels to the airport. Please make sure you provide your return flight details in advance at the reception desk. There will be an Information Desk at the arrival section of the airport for advisory services including private car hire and public transport. Delegates are advised to be on the lookout for a person holding a placard written “**LVBCON 2017 Participants**”.

## **4. PASSPORT & VISA INFORMATION**

Entry to Tanzania requires a valid passport of not less than six (6) months as well as Visa for those nationals who require a Visa. A Visa is issued at our various Tanzania Embassies/High Commissions abroad. For countries where Tanzania has no Embassy or High Commission, participants are encouraged to use the nearest Tanzanian Embassy for Visa application. Information on Visa requirements and modalities can be obtained from the Tanzania Immigration website <http://immigration.go.tz/module1.php/id=32>

## **5. HEALTH**

**Vaccination:** Yellow fever vaccination is mandatory for travellers heading to the United Republic of Tanzania. The vaccination which is given as a single dose should be administered at least ten (10) days before the day of travelling. Failure to produce a valid yellow fever vaccination certificate to those eligible may lead to refusal of entry. See details on [www.moh.go.tz](http://www.moh.go.tz)

**Medical Services** are available in major hospitals such as Sekoutoure, Mwananchi, Mwanza and Bugando Referral. First aid services will be available at the conference venue. It is recommended that visitors bring sufficient supplies of any medicines they need regularly.

**Direct drinking of tap water** is not recommended. Bottled water is readily available for drinking.

## **6. CURRENCY**

The official currency is the Tanzanian Shilling (Tsh). On average the exchange rate is approximately US\$1 = Tsh2200. However, it is advised to check the latest rates which are publicly displayed in all foreign currency exchange facilities (e.g. Forex Bureaux and Banks). These foreign exchange facilities are available at numerous Forex Bureau in Mwanza City and in most of the tourist hotels. Credit and debit cards (e.g. Access, MasterCard, Visa, American

Express, Eurocard, and Dinners) are accepted by most of the tourist hotels. Forex and Bank services will be available at the conference venue as well.

## **7. CONFERENCE TRANSPORT**

Shuttle services will be available for conference participants from/to hotels and to the conference venue. A schedule indicating pick up points and time of departure from respective hotels and back from the conference will be availed to all participants at the information desk on arrival. However, it is advised that all delegates observe punctuality by being at the pickup points on time.

## **8. LANGUAGES**

Kiswahili is the national language. English is widely spoken and then, there are over 126 ethnic groups in Tanzania, each with its own indigenous dialect. A handshake greeting is normal is actually considered cordial and a mark of respect and warmth towards the other person.

## **9. WEATHER**

The daytime temperature for the month of February generally is warm with temperatures of 22<sup>o</sup> C to 30<sup>o</sup> C. Usually, it is good for outdoor activities. Lightweight clothes (preferably cotton), a hat and sunglasses will make your stay more comfortable.

## **10. TIME & ELECTRICITY**

Local time is GMT zone + 3hrs. Electrical supply for domestic use is generally 240 Volts AC, 50 Hz. All installations are British standard (3-pin adaptor) and all electrical appliances need to be fitted with pin plugs or adaptors of British specification, and the plug below is usually used. If your appliances` plug has a different shape, you may need a plug converter/adaptor.



## 11. RECOMMENDED HOTELS FOR ACCOMMODATION

The Mwanza City has several beautiful hotels with different standards. See the following recommended Hotels.

SN	HOTEL NAME & LOCATION	CONTACTS	TARIFF
1.	<b>Malaika Beach Resort</b> Ilemela Street 7 kms to the conference venue	<b>Attn:</b> Mr. Purnandu Gosh <b>Tel:</b> + 255 677 001 006; + 256 677 001 000 <b>Email:</b> fnb@malaikabeachresort.com <b>Website:</b> www.malaikabeachresort.com	Flat rate <b>\$110</b> for all rooms inclusive of all taxes. <b>Total rooms 50</b>
2.	<b>Adden Palace Hotels</b> Iroganzala Street, 1 km to the conference venue	<b>Attn:</b> Mr. David Mutuku <b>Tel:</b> +255 282 560 511; +255 685 450 450 <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:info@addenpalacehotel.com">info@addenpalacehotel.com</a> <b>Website:</b> www.addenpalacehotel.com	Flat rate <b>\$40</b> for all rooms <b>Total rooms 25</b>
3.	<b>Gold Crest Hotel</b> Kenyatta Street 9 kms to the conference venue	<b>Attn:</b> Ms Gloria Sisya <b>Tel:</b> + 255 282 506 058 +255 717 857 011; +255 779 999301 <b>Fax:</b> 255 282 506 059 <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:info@goldcresthotel.com">info@goldcresthotel.com</a> <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.goldcresthotel.com">www.goldcresthotel.com</a>	Flat rates <b>\$75</b> for all rooms inclusive taxes <b>Total rooms 75</b>
4.	<b>Ryan's Bay Hotel</b> Capri point area 9 kms to the conference venue	<b>Attn:</b> Mr. John <b>Tel:</b> + 255 282 541 702; + 255 282 542 347 <b>Fax:</b> +255 282 500 005 <b>Email:</b> manager@nyansbay.com <b>Website:</b> www.nyasbay.com	<b>Single:</b> \$90 <b>Double:</b> \$120 <b>Luxury:</b> \$180 <b>Total rooms 48</b>
5.	<b>Tilapia Hotel Ltd.</b> Capripoint area, 9 kms to the conference venue	<b>Attn:</b> Mr Harshal Sapre <b>Tel:</b> +255 282 500 517; + 255 784 700 500 <b>Fax:</b> 255 282 500 141 <b>Email:</b> tilapia@mwanza-online.com <a href="mailto:info@hoteltilapia.com">info@hoteltilapia.com</a> <b>Website:</b> www.hoteltilapia.com	<b>Single:</b> \$100 <b>Double:</b> \$120 <b>Suites:</b> \$150 <b>Extra Red:</b> \$70 <b>Total rooms 36</b>
6.	<b>New Mwanza Hotel</b> Posta Street, 8 kms to the meeting Venue	<b>Attn:</b> Mr. Senthil Kumar <b>Tel:</b> +255 282 501 071; +255 689 100 393 <b>Email:</b> gm@newmwanzahotel.com senthilloneeman@gmail.com <b>Website:</b> www.newmwanzahotel.com	Flat rates <b>\$60</b> for all rooms inclusive of all taxes. Casino available <b>Total rooms 54</b>
7.	<b>Holmand Hotel</b> Kaluta Street, 9 kms to the conference venue	<b>Attn:</b> Mr Mkamba <b>Tel:</b> +255 754 542 277; +255 682 163 739 +255 282 542 277 <b>Fax:</b> +255 282 250 081 <b>Email:</b> info@holmandhotelandtours.com <b>Website:</b> www.holmandhotelandtours.com	Room rates from Tsh 40,000/= to 60,000/= <b>Total rooms 42</b>

8.	<b>Pentagon Hotel</b> Rwagosore Street, 8 kms to the conference venue	<b>Tel:</b> +255 767 303727; +255 767 895061 +255 28 541 950 <b>Email:</b> hotelpentagon5@gmail.com	<b>Single fan:</b> Tsh25,000/= <b>Single AC:</b> Tsh30,000/= <b>Double:</b> 35,000/= <b>Total rooms 19</b>
9.	<b>The Pigeon Hotel</b> Rufiji Street, 8 kms to the conference venue	<b>Attn:</b> Mr. Fredrick Temu <b>Tel:</b> +255 282 542 454; +255 753 095 087 +255 759 438 814 <b>Email:</b> reservations@thepigeonhotel.co.tz info@thepigeonhotel.co.tz <b>Website:</b> www.thepigeonhotel.co.tz	Flat rate for all rooms: <b>\$60</b>  <b>Total rooms 40</b>
10.	<b>G &amp; G Hotel</b> Miti Mirefu Street 8 kms to the conference venue	<b>Attn:</b> Mr. Julius <b>Tel:</b> +255 282 542 352; +255 783 374 000 <b>Fax:</b> +255 282 552 352 <b>Email:</b> hotelgandg@yahoo.com info@gnghotel.com <b>Website:</b> www.gnghotel.com	Flat rate <b>Tsh 50,000/=</b> for all rooms  <b>Total rooms 40</b>
11.	<b>Javita Hotel</b> Uhuru Street, 8 kms to the conference venue	<b>Attn:</b> Mr. Chacha Juma <b>Tel:</b> +255 282 542 091; +255 754 601 051 <b>Fax:</b> +255 282 542 092 <b>Email:</b> javitas@yahoo.com <b>Website:</b> www.javitahotel.com	Flat rates: Tsh <b>40,000/=</b> for all rooms  <b>Total rooms 28</b>
12.	<b>Isamo Hotel</b> Rwegasore Street, 8 kms to the conference venue	<b>Attn:</b> Mr. Ibrahim Alfani <b>Tel:</b> +255 787 657 899 <b>Fax:</b> +255 282 541 616 <b>Email:</b> hotelisamo@gmail.com	<b>Single fan:</b> 30,000/= <b>Double:</b> 40,000/= <b>Suite:</b> 60,000/= <b>Total rooms 33</b>
13.	<b>Sparrow Hotel</b> Ghana Airport Road 5 kms to the conference venue	<b>Attn:</b> Mr Zakayo <b>Tel:</b> +255 2822561326; +255 767 279 049 +0766727949 <b>Email:</b> sparrowhotel@yahoo.com	Range Rate from <b>Tsh</b> <b>30,000/= to 70,000/=</b>  <b>Total rooms 26</b>
14.	<b>Kingdom Hotel</b> Ghana Street 5 kms to the conference venue	<b>Attn:</b> Mr. George O. Misoloh <b>Tel:</b> +255 0282 561 191 <b>Fax:</b> +255 0282 561 191 <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:reservations@hotelkingdom.co.tz">reservations@hotelkingdom.co.tz</a> <b>website:</b> www.hotelkingdom.co.tz	<b>Deluxe:</b> Tsh 50,000/= <b>Superior:</b> TSh. 80,000/= <b>Standard:</b> TSh. 120,000/= <b>Total rooms 53</b>
15.	<b>Lenana Hotel</b> Pansiasi Airport Road Less than 2 km to the conference venue	<b>Attn:</b> Mr. Japhet Kiboye <b>Tel:</b> +255 763 555 774; +255 282 561 204 <b>Fax:</b> + 255 282 561 2089	Flat rate <b>TSh. 60,000/=</b>  <b>Total rooms 53</b>
17.	<b>La Cairo Hotel</b> Kirumba Street 6 kms to the conference venue	<b>Attn:</b> Mr. Ezekiel Gwalla <b>Tel:</b> +255 28 500 345; +255 28 500 346 <b>Email:</b> lakairo@yahoo.com	<b>Flat rate</b> Tsh 45,000/= to 60,000/= <b>Total rooms 54</b>
18.	<b>Midland Hotels</b> Rwagosore Road 8 kms to the conference venue	<b>Attn:</b> Charles Jumanne <b>Tel:</b> +255 282 541 599; +255 718 431 235 <b>Fax:</b> +255 0282 561 191 <b>Email:</b> info@midlandhotel.co.tz midlandhotel@yahoo.com <b>Website:</b> www.midlandhotel.co.tz	<b>Flat rate \$40</b> for all rooms  <b>Total rooms 40</b>

## 12. CONTACTS

For any additional information regarding practical arrangements of the conference or any other inquiries, please contact the National Organising Committee members: Ms Judith Ngoda through email: [judith.ngoda@meac.go.tz](mailto:judith.ngoda@meac.go.tz) and mobile phone No. +255 754419 571 and Ms. Estella Mgala through email: [estella.mgala@maji.go.tz](mailto:estella.mgala@maji.go.tz) and mobile No: +255 768 222 224

## 13. SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

There are various social activities in Mwanza, like:

### **Samaki and Nyama Choma**

*Samaki* (fish) and *nyama choma* (roast meat– often goat) are wildly popular and incredibly delicious. Go to a local restaurant, order your choice of meat and wait for it to slowly roast. In Tanzania, *nyama choma* and *samaki* are served with chilli and sometimes a tomato and red onion garnish.

## **Tanzanian Beverages**

Everywhere you travel you will encounter a new and unique set of local beverages. When you are in Tanzania you may want to sample a selection of locally brewed beer and you should never miss tasting the local beverages along Mwanza streets.

Tanzania is also known for its Arabica and Robusta coffee plus the pungent Stoney Tangawizi (ginger) soft drink.

## **Tourist sites**

There are numerous tourist sites within and outside Mwanza City which can easily be accessed.

### **In Mwanza City**

- i) Saanane Island National Park “*a majestic isle in the Rocky City*”. It is located 2km from the city centre;
- ii) Bujora Museum: This one is themed around Wasukuma tribe’s traditions and cultural practices. It is located around Kisesa which is some 18km from the city centre;
- iii) Jiwe Kuu: This provides best view points in the city, covered with a spectacular rock formation located at Kitangiri which is about 5km from the city centre and
- iv) City centre attractions including the historical buildings, markets, monuments, shopping mall, curio shops and city garden.

### **Outside Mwanza City**

The destinations below are outside Mwanza City:

- i) Kageye Historical Site: This is the first slave market in the Lake Zone, located on the shores of Lake Victoria within Magu District, about 30km from the Mwanza Airport and
- ii) Ukerewe Island: It is the largest island within Lake Victoria, and it is awash with cultural tourism attractions, plus the Dancing Stone at Nebureka Ukara. It takes only 3 hours from Mwanza City centre.
- iii) **Serengeti National Park**  
The park is about 2 hours and 30 minutes’ drive via Ndabaka Gate from Mwanza City. It’s among the 7 World Natural wonders with a variety of biodiversity and the popular unique Migration of wildebeest. It is the second large national park after Ruaha with an area of 14,763km<sup>2</sup>. The park can be accessed through roads and air transport.
- iv) **Rubondo National Park**  
A green jewel in the blue waters of Lake Victoria covered by a huge forest that is full of wilderness. It is among the largest islands within Lake Victoria, covering an area of 456km<sup>2</sup> within Geita Region. Can be accessed by road and water, about 8hrs by road

and 30 minutes by boat from Mwanza via Muganza route and 5hrs on road and 1hr by boat via Nkome route.

**v) Mwalimu Nyerere Memorial Museum**

The museum is themed around the History of the Father of the Nation Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere. It is located in Mara Region at Musoma District, Butiama Village which is Mwalimu Nyerere's birthplace. The museum can be accessed by road—a 3-hour drive from Mwanza.

**vi) Tourism Attractions located in Kagera Region**

The region can be accessed by road, a journey of about 8hrs from the Mwanza City. There are different attractions in the region including game reserves such as Kinisi and Burigi, waterfalls, historical sites and Kagera Museum.

For the most worldwide-sounding and alluring Tanzanian attractions, just visit the following websites:

[www.tanzaniatourism.go.tz](http://www.tanzaniatourism.go.tz)

[www.tanzanianationapark.go.tz](http://www.tanzanianationapark.go.tz)

[www.ngorongorocrater.go.tz](http://www.ngorongorocrater.go.tz)