



Technical Experts Workshop on the
Management of the Capacity Of The Tuna-fishing
FLEET IN THE EPO
23, 24 and 25 April 2014 | Cartagena, Colombia



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**Gobierno
de COLOMBIA**

General Information

Location

Colombia has vast expanses of tropical rain forest on account of its geological development, geographical position and diverse territory; fertile lands in the inter-Andean valleys, its mountain ranges and plateaus; vast marine resources in the Pacific and the Caribbean, and abundant fresh water resources.

Language

Spanish is the official language, although there are still 65 native groups in existence that speak their own languages, distributed into 14 linguistic families. Additionally, there are two Creole languages: Creole, of English origin, spoken by 30,000 native inhabitants of the San Andrés, Providencia and Santa Catalina Archipelago, and Palenquero, of Spanish origin, spoken by Afro-Colombians from San Basilio de Palenque.

Economy

Colombia is one of the most stable economies in Latin America, with sustained growth since the 1960s. In 2010, the GDP was approximately US\$283.109 millions, with a 4.6% increase that year, which ranked the country in fourth place in Latin America. GDP growth is due mainly to increases in exports and foreign investment.

Electric current

Electricity in Colombia is 110 volts, 60 cycles (60 Hz), reason for which it is recommended that the necessary transformers and adapters be brought along. There are two types of plugs:



Local time

Colombian official time is 5 hours behind Greenwich Meridian Time (-5 GMT).

Telephony

57) Colombia Country Code

(5) City code for Cartagena de Indias D.T.C.

(1) City code for Bogotá D.C.

(09/07/05) Prefixes for placing domestic calls.

(009/007/005) Prefixes for placing international calls.

(03) Prefix for calling mobile phones in Colombia.

Examples:

- *International calls from a landline: international prefix + country code*
- *+ city code + phone number*
- *Domestic calls from a landline: National prefix + city code + phone number.*
- *International calls from a mobile phone: (+ sign) + country code + city code + phone number.*
- *Domestic calls from a mobile phone: mobile phone prefix + city code + phone number.*

Information about Cartagena de Indias

History

The Cartagena Bay was discovered in 1501 by Spanish conqueror Rodrigo de Bastidas. It was originally inhabited by a native population of Chimilas, Mocanaes and Zenues, warrior tribes that were part of the Caribe culture. Captain Pedro de Heredia, who was granted rule of the territory on the Caribbean Sea between the Magdalena and Atrato rivers by Queen Juana I of Castille, founded the city of Cartagena de Indias on June 1st, 1533.

The city and its economic prosperity attracted the attention of pirates and corsairs. This led the Spanish Kingdom to build city bastions and fortifications, and to set up controls for naval traffic.

The city preserves its Spanish heritage, especially in the colonial architecture of the historical center: thick stone walls, straight and narrow streets, churches, arcades, squares and corners, vestibules, hallways, lots, patios and stone water wells, represent the legacy of heroic times today.

Cartagena was declared “Cultural Heritage of Mankind” by UNESCO in 1984. It offers the charm of its colonial, republican and modern architecture, and the appeal of a vibrant nightlife, cultural festivals, exuberant landscapes, excellent gastronomic offerings and an important hotel infrastructure. It is a magic territory for both business and pleasure.

Temperature

Just 3 meters above sea level, Cartagena de Indias D.T.C. has an average temperature of 28°C (80°F). Average yearly rainfall is 88.1 cubic centimeters and humidity is 81%.

Cuisine

Colombian Caribbean cuisine is a mix of intense flavors from spices and foods grown in its lands, which produce unimaginable sensations when combined with poultry, red meat and seafood.

Cultural life

Cartagena is the epicenter of activities in the field of visual and performing arts and film. It is the home of the International Film Festival that attracts leading figures of the film industry every year.

Dedicated to literature and other forms of cultural expression, the yearly “Hay Festival” has been growing in importance over the past few years. Another noteworthy festival is the Salvi Foundation Classical Music Festival.

Cartagena has important architectural works, among the most outstanding places, the Casa de Huéspedes Ilustres at the Fuerte San Juan de Manzanillo, as well as buildings with historical importance that reflect the image of the city’s people and history. Among the most relevant. We can mention the Castillo San Felipe de Barajas, the Catedral, the Palacio de la Inquisición, the Iglesia San Pedro Claver, the Templo de Santo Domingo, the Plazas de la Aduana, the Plaza de los Coches, and the Torre del Reloj, the Parques de San Diego y la Merced, the Convento de Santa Clara, the Casa de la Cultura and the Templo de San Agustín.

Venue of the meeting

The Technical Experts Workshop on The Management of The Capacity of The Tuna-Fishing Fleet in The EPO, shall take place mainly at the Centro de Convenciones Julio César Turbay Ayala, which has more than 30 years of experience as one of the most important convention centers and congress venues in South America. The Centro de Convenciones is located at the Historical Center, Getsemaní, Cra 8ª Cartagena de Indias, Colombia.

Hotel



The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission has decided the Almirante Cartagena Hotel as the main hotel. The hotel is located in the main tourist and shopping district of modern Cartagena, on a beautiful beach and just 5 minutes from the walled city and 7 minutes to the Centro de Convenciones Cartagena de Indias, the Almirante Hotel Cartagena provides modern rooms with ocean views, event rooms, pool, restaurants, bars, gym, and the best services for you to enjoy all the magic of the Caribbean.

To the delegates, the hotel rates are \$ 249,000 Colombian pesos for a single room (approximately 122 USD) and \$ 314,000 Colombian pesos for a double room (approximately 154 USD). The rate includes breakfast buffet and WI FI

access. In addition, the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission will provide shuttle service from the hotel to the venue on the meeting.

Hotel address:

Bocagrande, Avenida San Martin, Calle 6 Corner
Cartagena de Indias, Colombia

For more information and hotel booking the form is available at the following link on the page of the Commission.

<https://www.iattc.org/Meetings/Meetings2014/April/PDFs/Meeting-Hotel-Reservation-form.pdf>

Immigration

Visitors must have a valid passport to enter Colombia. Arrivals and departures for delegates should take place preferably through the international airports of Cartagena, Cali, Medellín, Barranquilla and Bogotá .

Participants requiring a visa to enter Colombian territory shall have it at arriving to the Colombian territory. the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Colombia help with the issuance of visas as soon as possible.

Vaccination is not required to enter Colombia through the international airports. However, keep in mind that some countries require it for travelers that arrive from Colombia.

Foreign currency exchange

Foreign currency exchange services are available at the Rafael Núñez airport in the city of Cartagena de Indias, as well as banks, currency exchange offices and the Central Bank.

Exchange rate (as of March 4th , 2014): US\$1 = \$2052,51 Colombian pesos.

Note: The foreign exchange rate varies every day.

Taxes

All purchases in Colombia are subject to a 16% Value Added Tax (IVA).

Tippings/gratuities

Gratuities in Colombia are voluntary. It is customary to leave a 10% tip in bars and restaurants. That percentage is included in the bill when authorized by the client.



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