



**ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES**  
Inter-American Council for Integral Development  
(CIDI)



**NINTH INTER-AMERICAN MEETING OF  
MINISTERS OF EDUCATION (9IAMME)**

February 9 and 10, 2017

Nassau, Commonwealth of the Bahamas

**INFORMATION BULLETIN**

**PLACE AND DATE**

The Ninth Inter-American Meeting of Ministers of Education (9IAMME) will be held on February 9 and 10, 2017 at the following venue:

**Atlantis, Paradise Island**

Nassau, the Bahamas

**Tel:** (242) 363 3000

**Website:** [www.atlantisparadiseisland.com](http://www.atlantisparadiseisland.com):

**NATIONAL COORDINATING OFFICE**

**Ministry of Education, Science and Technology**

**P. O. Box N3913/4**

**CONTACT: Janice Knowles**  
**Tel :** 502 8201/502 8243  
**Email:** 9IAMME@BAHAMAS.GOV.BS  
**Fax:** (242) 328 8970

**ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES**

**CONTACT: Mr. Rodrigo Idrovo**  
**Tel:** (202) 370 0671  
**E-mail:** ridrovo@oas.org

**TRANSPORTATION**

Participants are responsible for making their own air travel arrangements to The Bahamas. The Government of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas will provide ground transportation from the airport to the hotel and Conference Centre, and return to the airport during the period February 6<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Please note that transportation will only be provided to and from Atlantis Resorts Paradise Island the designated meeting site.

**SPOUSES/PARTNERS**

There is no spousal programme planned however, a fully managed 9IAMME hospitality desk will be available to facilitate the needs of spouses/partners travelling with delegates.

**HOTEL ACCOMMODATION**

Rooms have been secured at the Atlantis Resorts on Paradise Island also the conference site of the 9IAMME. Note that Hotel Accommodation for all OAS Ministers of Education will be provided compliments of the Government of The Bahamas.

HOTEL	PREFERENTIAL RATE (US \$)	EMAIL / WEBSITE
<p><b>Atlantis Resort, Paradise Island</b></p> <p>Address: Paradise Island, The Bahamas</p> <p><b>Tel:</b> <b>Contact: Jamal Hepburn: Local Conference Representative</b></p>	<p>•Single or double occupancy US\$366.00 per night</p> <p>The rate includes the following :7.5% VAT (assessed on all charges except gratuities), 10.75% Resort Levies (based on nightly room rate), Wi-Fi (in guest rooms and lobby areas for up to 4 devices per room),Access to the Fitness Center (up to two (2) guests per day per room), Two (2) bottles of water daily per room, In-Room Coffee and Tea, Unlimited <b>LOCAL</b> calls (<b>all overseas calls will be charged to the registered guest</b>), Access to the Atlantis Theatre, Resort shuttle service, Bellman Gratuity (\$6:00 per person one time charge, 12 years old and over), Pool/Beach Attendant/Lifeguard Gratuity(\$1.60 per person, per night 12 years old and over), Housekeeping Gratuity (\$5:00 per night,12 years old and over).</p> <p>The rate <b>DOES NOT INCLUDE</b> breakfast</p> <p><i>The rate of \$366:00 will be available until January 9, 2017.</i></p>	<p><b>Website: <a href="http://www.AtlantisBahamas.com">www.AtlantisBahamas.com</a></b></p>
<p><b>Assistance can also be sought from the 9IAMME Local Secretariat</b></p> <p><b>Contact: Valerie Gaitor/ Sheereza Gibson</b>  <b>Tel: 1(242)502-8204, 1(242) 502-8201, 1(242) 397-2726</b>  <b>E-Mail: 9IAMME@BAHAMAS.GOV.BS</b></p>		

Delegates are required to make their own reservations. Credit cards are needed to guarantee room reservations. Most hotels charge a penalty of one night's room rate for late cancellation of a room.

### **HOSPITALITY**

Welcome Reception:

**Atlantis, Paradise Island, Foyer of the Grand Ballroom,  
Wednesday, February 8, 2017 at 7: 00pm.**

All participants are invited. Accompanying spouses/partners are also invited to attend this event.

### **VISA REQUIREMENTS**

Nationals of the following OAS countries require visas to enter The Bahamas: Cuba, Dominican Republic and Haiti.

Please note that The Bahamas is willing to waive the visa requirements for delegates of the countries listed above. To facilitate this, the delegate's name, scanned copy of their passport information and their travel itinerary, must be emailed to the National Coordinator, Mrs. Janice Knowles at 9IAMME@BAHAMAS.GOV.BS no later than January 9, 2017.

All visa entry requirements for non-nationals can be found on The Bahamas Immigration Department website. [immigration@bahamas.gov.bs] Click on **Entry Requirements** for details.

In addition, you may contact the following offices regarding the issue of visas:

**Consulate-General of Bahamas**

1025 Vermont Avenue, NW Suite 2015

Washington DC 2005**Tel:** (202) 734 6578**Fax:** (202) 595 8251**Embassy of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas**

3006 5th Ave. 3/30 Y 32

Miramar, Playa

Havana, Republic of Cuba**Tel:** 011-(537) 206-9918**E-mail:** yellow\_elder@outlook.com**Embassy of Haiti**

12 Rue Goulard

Place Boyer,

Petition-Bille

Republic of Haiti**Tel:** 011(509) 257-8782**E-mail:** bahamasembassy@hainet.com**Bahamas Consulate**

Cesar-Nicolas Person 116,

Edificio TPA

Santo Domingo

Dominican Republic**Tel:** (809) 688-3787**E-mail:** bahamasconsul@claro.net.do

Persons whose journey to The Bahamas originates from Washington, DC may obtain their visas from the Consulate of The Bahamas in Washington.

**VACCINATIONS**

The Bahamas currently requires yellow fever vaccinations for travellers coming from the following countries, which have the risk of yellow fever transmission:

Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela

**REGISTRATION**

The attached registration form (Appendix I) should be filled in and sent to the CIE Technical Secretariat and The Bahamas Local Secretariat no later than **January 9, 2017**. Late registration facilities will be available at the Atlantis Resort on Wednesday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, from 10:00 am to 3:00 p.m.

For security reasons, all participants will be required to wear their I.D. badges during all sessions. Participants will be required to produce an official photo ID, e.g. passport, in order to be issued a conference badge and kit containing the documents for the meeting.

Note: delegations, observers, and special guests are asked to send their credentials, registration forms, and any other correspondence regarding the meeting to:

**CIE Technical Secretariat**

Department of Human Development,  
Education and Employment  
Organization of American States  
1889 F St. N.W., Washington D.C. 20006,  
**E-mail address:** pvaldez@oas.org  
**Tel:** (202) 370-9136 or (202) 370-9082  
**Fax:** 202-458-3561

**Bahamas Local Secretariat**

Ministry of Education, Science and  
Technology  
**E-mail:** 9IAMME@BAHAMAS.GOV.BS  
**Tel:** 1(242)5028201  
**Fax:** 1(242)328-8970

The attached registration form (Appendix I) should be completed and submitted to the OAS by **January 9, 2017** at the latest. Appendix 2 should be completed and returned to the National Coordinating Office listed above.

**WORKING LANGUAGES AND DOCUMENTS**

Simultaneous interpretation will be provided at the working sessions of the meeting in Spanish, French, Portuguese and English. Translation services will also be available on site.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

There will be a Delegates Lounge at the Atlantis Resort, Paradise Island which will be adequately equipped with computers and internet access. Kindly note that wireless internet will be available in the meeting room.

**LOCAL TIME**

The local time in The Bahamas is Eastern Time (ET) which is five hours behind Greenwich Mean Time (GMT).

**CURRENCY**

Bahamian dollar.

Exchange rate: US \$1.00 = Bh. \$1.00

Major credit cards (Visa, MasterCard) are widely accepted in most commercial establishments.

**WEATHER**

Bahamas' weather is mostly sunny and fair however, in February warm days, cool winds and comfortable nights may prevail. Summer business wear is advised and it is recommended that delegates bring a light jacket, sweater or scarves.

**ELECTRICITY**

The electricity in Bahamas is 120/240 volts, 60 cycles.

**MEDICAL ASSISTANCE**

A mini clinic staffed with nurses and ambulatory personnel will be established at the Atlantis for delegates attending the meeting on a 24 hour basis. Persons seeking critical medical care will be transported to the Government operated Princess Margaret Hospital. Private medical care is available however, delegates will be responsible for the cost should this option be selected.

The OAS and the Government of The Bahamas do not accept liability for any eventualities concerning travel, sickness or accidents. Participants are therefore advised to make appropriate travel insurance arrangements.

**SECURITY**

The Bahamas Police Force will provide security on site for the duration of the meeting.

## APPENDIX I / ANEXO I

**NINTH INTER-AMERICAN MEETING OF  
MINISTERS OF EDUCATION/  
NOVENA REUNIÓN INTERAMERICANA DE  
MINISTROS DE EDUCACIÓN**

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February 9-10, 2017 / 9 y 10 de Febrero de 2017  
Nassau, Commonwealth of The Bahamas

**REGISTRATION FORM / FORMULARIO DE INSCRIPCIÓN**

Country or Organization:/ País u Organización/

- PRINCIPAL REPRESENTATIVE/ REPRESENTANTE TITULAR
- ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE/ REPRESENTANTE SUPLENTE
- OBSERVER/ OBSERVADOR/
- OTHER / OTRO

Personal Information/ Información Personal:

<b>Last Name/ Apellidos:</b>		<b>First Name/Nombre:</b>	
<b>Designation/Cargo:</b>			
<b>Organization / Organización:</b>			
<b>Country / País:</b>			
<b>Telephone / Teléfono:</b>	<b>Fax:</b>	<b>Email / Correo Electrónico:</b>	

Please send this form as soon as possible to the CIE Technical Secretariat, Department of Human Development, Education and Employment. Email: pvaldez@oas.org / Favor enviar este formulario Departamento de Desarrollo Humano, Educación y Empleo /Tel: (202) 370-9136 or (202) 370-4952

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**TRAVEL SCHEDULE FORM/ FORMULARIO DE VIAJE**

<b>Last Name / Apellidos:</b>		<b>First Name / Nombre:</b>	
<b>Designation / Cargo:</b>			
<b>Organization / Organización:</b>			
<b>Country / País:</b>			
<b>Telephone: Teléfono:</b>	<b>Fax:</b>	<b>Email / Correo Electrónico:</b>	

**Arrival information / Información de llegada**

<b>Date of arrival/ Fecha de llegada</b>	<b>Time of arrival/ Hora de llegada</b>	<b>Airline and Flight No / Aerolínea y número de vuelo</b>

**Departure Information / Información de salida**

<b>Date of departure / Fecha de salida</b>	<b>Time of departure/ Hora de salida</b>	<b>Airline and Flight No./ Aerolínea y número de vuelo</b>

<b>Name of hotel booked / Nombre del hotel reservado:</b>
Please provide any other relevant information (eg. special transportation requirements, etc.) / Favor incluir información adicional relevante (Ej. Necesidades especiales de transportación, etc.)

Please send this form to \Por favor enviar este formulario a, Ms. Sheereza Gibson/Lisa Adderley Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, [Thompson Boulevard, Nassau The Bahamas], send electronically to \ correo electrónico: [9IAMME@BAHAMAS.GOV.BS] Fax: 1(242) 328 8970 Tel.: 1 (242) 502-8201/397-2726.

This form should be completed by all persons wishing to take advantage of the transportation offered. Este formulario debe ser llenado por todas aquellas personas que deseen utilizar los medios de transporte ofrecidos.