

8th SESAME USERS MEETING

Petra, Jordan, 19-21 November 2009

Practical Information for Participants (Including Speakers)

1- Flying into Jordan

The closest airport to the place of the venue is Amman international airport (Queen Alia Airport). Arrivals and departures of all participants will be from Queen Alia Airport.

2- Place of venue of the 8th SESAME users meeting

The 8th SESAME users meeting will take place at the Petra ancient site. Petra is 2.5 hours by car from Queen Alia Airport, and 3 hours from Amman. Therefore, all participants coming from abroad are advised to come to Amman on Nov. 18th. Arrangements have been taken to accommodate the participants for the night of 18-19 Nov. in the Days Inn Hotel in Amman with the compliments of the SESAME Jordanian National Committee (SJNC). The Days Inn Hotel address is:

Days Inn Hotel
Al-Rabiyeh
P.O. Box 950599
Amman 11195, Jordan
Tel.: (+962-6) 551 9011
Fax.:(+962-6) 551 7077
e-mail: info@daysinn.com.jo
Web site: www.daysinn.com.jo

A bus will leave the Days Inn Hotel at 8:00 am on the morning of Thursday Nov 19th to SESAME site. The trip to SESAME takes 45-60 min. The visit to the site will last for 2 hours. After visiting SESAME site, the bus will go directly to the place of venue of the meeting in Crowne Plaza Hotel in Petra. Participants of the meeting will be accommodated in Crowne Plaza Hotel with compliments of King Abdullah II Fund for Development (KAFFD). The Crowne Plaza Hotel address is:

Crowne Plaza Hotel Petra Resort
P. O. Box 30 Petra Jordan
Tel.: (+962-3) 2156266
Fax: (+962-3) 2156977
e-mail: ahmad.ebdah@cprpetra.com
www.crowneplaza.com
www.petra.crowneplaz.com

PLEASE NOTE: in both hotels the sponsors of the meeting will cover ONLY the full board accommodations of the participants. Any extras (Internet, phone calls, mini bar...etc) will be charged to the participant and shall be settled before you checkout of the hotel.

Participants with spouses (*will pay only the difference between single and double rooms*), or those who would prefer to arrive before Nov. 18 or stay after Nov 21 are urged to take advantage of the negotiated price with the two hotels as follows:

Days Inn Hotel in Amman;

Single room BB per one night = 55JD = 78 US\$

Double room BB per one night = 65 JD = 92 US\$

Crowne Plaza Hotel in Petra;

Single room BB per one night = 75 JD = 106 US\$

Double room BB per one night = 85 JD = 120US\$

Participants are advised that for the duration of their stay at the hotels (before Nov 18 or after Nov. 21) they may benefit from a preferential tariff (JD12 per person in Days Inn and JD12 in Crowne Plaza) that has been negotiated for buffet lunches and /or buffet suppers at the hotel.

Please make advanced reservation with the hotels for staying before Nov 18 or after Nov 21.

3- Transportation from Queen Alia Airport to Days Inn Hotel

Participants may take a Taxi from the airport. A Taxi will cost JD20-25 (US\$ 28-35). When identifying their time of departure from the Days Inn Hotel in Amman to go to the airport, participants should bear in mind that the taxi ride between the two points takes approximately 45 minutes and that they have to be at the airport 2 hours ahead of departure time.

Alternatively, participants may take the Airport Shuttle to the "Seventh Circle". Airport Shuttle costs JD3. From Seventh Circle they must take a taxi to the Days Inn Hotel. This will cost another JD3.

4- Transportation from Petra to Queen Alia Airport or Amman

Arrangements have been made to take all participants after the closing session from Petra to Queen Alia Airport or Amman.

Note that the departure for the participants from Petra direct to the airport takes THREE hours driving by car. The participants should be at the airport TWO hours before their departure at the airport.

For more information or help on other arrangements please contact Ms Sonia Al-Faques <sonia@sesame.org.jo>.

NOTE TO SPEAKERS WHO ARE ALSO MEMBERS OF SAC, BAC, and TrAC:

Speakers who are members of the SAC, BAC and TrAC will remain in Petra to Nov 23. Transportations will be available on Nov 23 to take them to either the airport directly, Amman Days Inn hotel if their flight is in the next day, or to the Dead Sea if they are members of the SESAME Council.

5- Meeting room

The meeting rooms are on the premises of the Crowne Plaza Hotel. Other arrangements for parallel sessions will be announced at the meeting.

6- Weather

The temperature in Amman in November will be around 16-20°C . Since the meeting will be at Petra you should be reminded to bring much warmer clothing. This is particularly so as concerns Petra that can be extremely cold in winter. Warm clothing is also needed for the visit of the SESAME site since there the average November temperature ranges from 13-16°C.

7- Banking facilities

There is banking facility in the vicinity of the hotel. Exchange is also available at the hotel, but it is less than the bank rate.

8- Rate of exchange

The rate of exchange between the US dollar and the Jordanian Dinar is fixed at 1 US\$ = 0.708 JD.

9- Visas

If you need a visa to Jordan, and you will obtain the visa at the airport, remember to buy a visa stamp for JD 10 before going to the custom line.

10-The entrance fees to visit Petra are 22 JD, and for Jordanian and Arabs is Two JD.