



Republic of Rwanda  
Ministry of Agriculture  
& Animal Resources



## CONFERENCE LOGISTICS NOTE

7<sup>th</sup> AFRICA ANIMAL WELFARE CONFERENCE - ACTION 2023

### **Theme:**

Navigating the delicate balance of animal welfare, climate change and development: concerted actions towards a healthy and sustainable environment

Sainte Famille Hotel

Kigali, Rwanda

**SEPTEMBER 25 - 27, 2022**



## AAWC LOGISTICS NOTE

**EVENT DATES:** September 25 – 27, 2023

**VENUE:** Sainte Famille Hotel. Kigali, Rwanda

**EXPECTED PARTICIPANTS:** 200 In Person; 500 Virtually.

**The conference will be a hybrid event comprising both in- person attendance and live-streamed for virtual participants.**

### **ABOUT AAWC**

Lauded as the first and largest animal welfare conference in Africa, AAWC is an annual conference that brings together representatives of animal welfare, wildlife and environmental conservation organizations, NGOs, government officials and government-affiliated institutions, academics, researchers, media, policy makers, legal practitioners, community members, interest groups, development practitioners to discuss, explain and discern current issues affecting the sector. Issues are presented and plans are solidified in resolutions that are enacted over the next year. The conference observes the WOAHA Animal Welfare Standards, Five Freedoms of Animal Welfare and the Animal Welfare Strategy for Africa as guidelines in discussions in installing policies, informing legislation and in decision making at workshops and conferences.

### **REGISTRATION**

Interested organizations, groups and individuals are invited to register online on the website [www.aawconference.org](http://www.aawconference.org). Registration is ongoing. Once you submit the registration application, you will receive a confirmation email. All participants (virtual and physical) will receive a certificate of participation generated digitally at the end of the conference.

For urgent inquiries, please call us on +254 – (0) 798 452 625 or write to [info@aawconference.org](mailto:info@aawconference.org).

## ACCOMMODATION

- The conference organizers have negotiated with Sainte Famille Hotel for suitable conference packages for participants. It includes airport transfers, half board accommodation (bed, breakfast and dinner) at the following rates:
  - Single Room => USD 130 per day => USD 520 for 4 nights
  - Double Room (Twin Room) => USD 95 per person per day => USD 380 for 4 nights
- The above accommodation packages/rates include:
  - Pick up from airport to hotel upon arrival.
  - Four (4) nights' accommodation as per above rates; check in the 24<sup>th</sup> September and check out on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2023.
  - Breakfast and dinner (Lunch, teas/snacks taken during the conference)
  - Pick up from hotel to airport during departure.
- The conference venue is Sainte Famille Hotel. Kigali, Rwanda.
- For those who have already booked and paid for accommodation through the conference website, your accommodation has been reserved as per your booking.
- If you have booked and paid for accommodation but did not receive a confirmation email, kindly write to us through [info@aawconference.org](mailto:info@aawconference.org) soonest possible. Please expect us to reach out to you for your ID/Passport to finalize their reservation.
- For those who have not booked accommodation for the Conference through the organizers yet, please know that space is limited and is on a first-come, first-served basis. If you would like to book accommodation with us, please click on this link to book today. (Booking deadline: September 22, 2023).

AAWC 2023 - Accommodation Booking and Payments Link:

[http://www.aawconference.org/index.php?option=com\\_sppagebuilder&view=page&id=27](http://www.aawconference.org/index.php?option=com_sppagebuilder&view=page&id=27)

- Those who have **not** and will not book for accommodation **through the conference organizers** will be required to seek and cater for their own accommodation within Kigali.

## **AIRPORT**

- A logistics team is in place to cater to and ensure your safe arrival. The Sainte Famille shuttle service will be present at the airport with a pickup sign labelled '**7th Africa Animal Welfare Conference**' to ensure transfer to the St. Famille Hotel for those who have booked with Sainte Famille Hotel.
- Taxis will also be available at the airport parking facilities for personal pickups to the hotel at your own fee.

## **PLASTIC BAGS**

- Please refrain from bringing plastic bags to Rwanda. Plastic bags are not allowed in Rwanda as part of policy. Banned by law since 2008, any plastic bags found in the luggage will be confiscated at the airport or other points of entry.
- Plastic bags must be discarded by passengers entering Kigali International Airport (KIA) or any border checkpoint. Travelers are given a cost-effective, ecologically friendly alternative. Rwanda has promoted the use of eco-friendly alternatives to plastic bags such as paper bags and reusable fabric bags. The Government has worked closely with businesses, industries and retailers to encourage compliance with the Plastic Ban.
- As a country, they strive to protect, safeguard and promote the environment – a matter which is written into their constitution and carefully observed by their citizens, who participate in a community service called *Umuganda* on the last Saturday of every month.

## **PROGRAMME**

- A final programme will be shared with delegates on the first day of the conference at the registration desk. A scan code will be provided at the back of the name tag for easy digital access. The programme is aligned to the conference theme and sub-themes. For online participants, the conference program will be shared on email.
- The theme of the conference is *‘Navigating the delicate balance of animal welfare, climate change and development: concerted actions towards a healthy and sustainable environment’*.
- Speaker summaries and presentations will be availed after the conference on the website, [www.aawconference.org](http://www.aawconference.org) and on the conference and organizers’ social media pages. Please see the links to the social media pages under ‘Social Media’ below.

## **THE CONFERENCE**

The room is expected to accommodate approximately 200 people. A fully branded team will usher in speakers and panelists from different sectors and professionals of the animal welfare and conservation field. The event will be streamed live as the conference proceeds.

English and French translation will be provided at the venue.

## **SOCIAL MEDIA**

The official social media pages for the Africa Animal Welfare Conferences that will be used are as follows:

- Facebook- @Africa Animal Welfare Conference

<https://www.facebook.com/AAWConference/>

- Twitter- @AAWConference

<https://twitter.com/AAWConference>

The official hashtags for the 7<sup>th</sup> African Animal Welfare Conference – Action 2023 (AAWC 2023) are:

- #AAWC2023
- #AAWConference
- #AAWC23

## **MEALS**

An array of options for non-vegetarian, vegetarian, and vegan lunch will be available from September 25 – 27, 2023 at the conference venue, Sainte Famille Hotel. Tea and snacks will also be provided at 10.00 am and 4.00 pm during the conference.

We would like to encourage participants to bring a **reusable water bottle** for the conference to stay hydrated.

## **CONNECTIVITY**

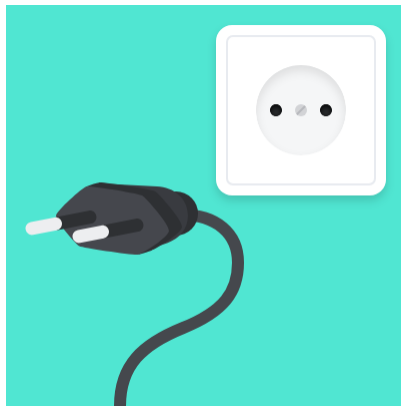
- Local SIM cards are readily available. The primary providers are MTN and Airtel Tigo. Mobile phones can be purchased or rented from major shops in Kigali.
- Note that by Rwandan legislation, every user/buyer must be registered to activate the SIM, and it is easy to do. Upon arrival, one would be required to present a form of identity of one's preference (ID card or passport). At the point of purchase, visitors can register.
- Wifi will be provided at the conference venue, including the Sainte Famille Hotel.
- There is high speed 4G LTE wireless broadband in Kigali.

## **RWANDA TRAVEL ADAPTORS**

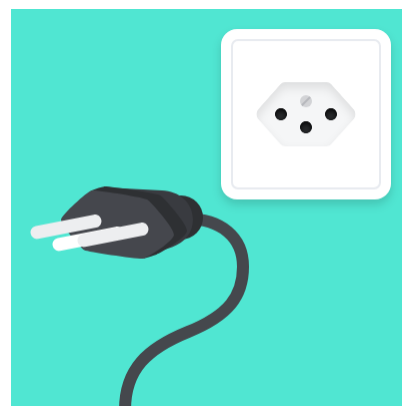
It is critical that participants consider what to pack, to ensure they can use their personal electrical appliances safely. This normally includes the use of a travel adaptor, which is a device that simply allows one to plug any UK

electrical appliance into a foreign electrical socket. It is important to note that it does not convert voltage or frequency.

For Rwanda there are two associated plug types, types C and J. Plug type C is the plug which has two round pins and plug type J is the plug which has three round pins. Rwanda operates on a 230V supply voltage and 50Hz.



*Type C*



*Type J*

For more information on voltage converters and transformers, dual voltage rated appliance and single voltage rated appliances, please visit this website: <https://www.electricalsafetyfirst.org.uk/guidance/advice-for-you/when-travelling/travel-adaptor-for-rwanda/>

## **CURRENCY**

- The main currency is the Rwandan Franc (Frw).
- Expect to pay for local services in cash, in Rwandan francs. A growing number of places accept credit and debit cards, with Visa being more widely accepted than Mastercard.
- ATMs can be found in Kigali and nearly all major hotels, including at the Kigali Convention Center.
- Major foreign currencies – particularly USD -and EUROS are accepted and are convertible at banks and bureaux des changes in the main towns and tourist areas.
- Cash can be exchanged at banks and private forex bureaux (bureau de change). Both are closed on Sundays and public holidays.
- It may be impossible to exchange traveller's cheques away from the capital. Western Union facilities are common.

## VISA

- From Jan 1, 2018, Nationals of all countries receive visa on arrival at Kigali International Airport and all land borders.
- Citizens of countries members to the following international organizations; **African Union, Commonwealth** and **La Francophonie** get visa upon arrival and are waived visa fees for a visit of 30 days.
- A citizen of **East African Community** Member States shall be issued a pass/entry visa free of charge upon arrival to stay for the period of six (6) months.
- The following countries to be granted 90 days valid **visa free of charge** upon arrival: Angola, Benin, Central African Republic, Chad, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, The Federation of Saint Christopher and Nevis, Ghana, Guinea, Indonesia, Haiti, Mauritius, Philippines, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Sao Tome and Principe, Singapore and the state Qatar.
- Citizens of all countries that are not visa exempt, have also option to submit application online ([https://irembo.gov.rw/user/citizen/service/dgie/request\\_a\\_visa](https://irembo.gov.rw/user/citizen/service/dgie/request_a_visa)) or at the Rwanda Diplomatic Missions of the country of residence before departure. Those applying online have option to pay online or upon arrival.
- Application for **visa extension** is submitted at Directorate General of Immigration and Emigration offices. Detailed requirements are set out in the Information for applicants for each class of visa.
- Extension of a visa should be applied for whilst initial visas remain valid.
- Visitors who wish to visit simultaneously the three countries (Rwanda, Kenya and Uganda) for tourism may apply for the **East Africa Tourist Visa (EATV)** online at <https://irembo.gov.rw/rolportal/web/dgie/east-africa-tourist-visa>, upon arrival or from Rwanda Diplomatic missions abroad. If acquiring the EATV visa before travel, your first entry point must be the country through which you applied for the visa. The East Africa Tourist Visa costs US\$100, is valid for 90 days and is multiple entry (if staying within the three countries).



## VISITORS VISA - REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICATION

- Eligible Person: This visa is issued to a foreigner who intends to enter Rwanda for conference, meeting, workshop or any other related activity.
- Where Application Is Made: This visa is issued upon arrival at the border post, online, at the Directorate General, at the office of a diplomatic mission of Rwanda in the applicant's country of residence or at any other place as may be determined by the Directorate General.
- Travel Document: Any genuine acceptable travel document valid not less than 6 months.
- Visa Fees: 50 USD and free of charge for nationals of countries with which Rwanda has a visa waiver arrangement including African Union, Commonwealth and La Francophonie.
- Single or Multiple Entries: Single entry
- Work: Work is not permitted
- Change of Status: Allowed
- Visa Validity: Valid for thirty (30) days.

## HEALTH

- The latest information from Rwanda on Yellow Fever and an update on Covid-19 regulations can be found on this link: <https://www.rbc.gov.rw/index.php?id=745>. A certificate of Yellow Fever vaccination is required upon entry to Rwanda for delegates traveling from these countries but is not required for travellers coming from Yellow Fever non-endemic countries or countries without an active transmission outbreak.
- Malaria is not a major concern in Rwanda as it lies at a high elevation, but the disease is present and prophylactic drugs are recommended. Travelers should seek professional medical advice on taking anti-malarial medicines and take precautions to avoid mosquito bites, especially between dawn and dusk.

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For any queries on any of the above, please contact us on

Email: [info@aawconference.org](mailto:info@aawconference.org)

Mobile Phone: +254 – (0) 798 452 625

**MURAKAZA NEZA!**