



WHO Regional Committee
for the Eastern Mediterranean Sixty-fifth session,
Khartoum, Sudan 15–18 October 2018

Information bulletin 1



Introduction



Provinces

Sudan has a federal government structure with a total of 18 states. The capital of Sudan is Khartoum.

Population

The current population of Sudan is 41 452 272, based on the latest United Nations estimates. Sudan's population is equivalent to 0.54% of the world's total population.

Neighbouring countries

Sudan is bordered by Egypt to the north, the Red Sea, Eritrea and Ethiopia to the east, South Sudan to the south, the Central African Republic to the southwest, Chad to the west and Libya to the northwest.

It is the third largest country in Africa covering 1 886 068 square kilometres (728 215 square miles). The White Nile flows through the country, emptying into Lake Nubia in the north, the largest manmade lake in the world. The River Nile divides the country into eastern and western halves.

Landscape

Sudan has a 853 km coastline bordering the Red Sea. The terrain is generally flat plains, broken by several mountain ranges. In the west, the Deriba Caldera located in the Marrah Mountains, is the highest point in Sudan at 3042 metres or 9980 feet. In the east are the Red Sea Hills. The Blue and White Nile rivers meet in Khartoum to form the River Nile, which flows northwards through Egypt to the Mediterranean Sea. The Blue Nile's course through Sudan is nearly 800 km long and is joined by the Dinder and Rahad Rivers between Sennar and Khartoum. The White Nile within Sudan has no significant tributaries. There are several dams on the Blue and White Niles. Among them are the Sennar and Roseires Dams on the Blue Nile, and the Jebel Aulia Dam on the White Nile.

Economy

Sudan is an agricultural country. Its major exports include agricultural products like cotton, peanuts, Arabic gum and sesame seeds.

Language

Arabic and English are the official working languages of the country. Other languages spoken in Sudan belong to three families of African languages: Afro-Asiatic, Nilo-Saharan, and Niger-Congo.

Culture

Sudan is culturally diverse and has diverse linguistic, ethnic, social, cultural, and religious characteristics.

Location

Khartoum is the capital and largest city of Sudan. It is located at the confluence of the White Nile, flowing north from Lake Victoria, and the Blue Nile, flowing west from Ethiopia. The location where the two rivers meet is known as "al-Mogran" (المقرن the confluence). The River Nile continues to flow north towards Egypt and the Mediterranean Sea. Divided by the two Nile rivers, Khartoum is a tripartite metropolis consisting of Khartoum proper, and linked by bridges to Khartoum North al-Kharṭūm Baḥrī and Omdurman to the west.

Things to do: sightseeing and shopping

 <p>Lake Nasser</p>	 <p>Dinder National Park</p>	 <p>The National Museum of Sudan</p>	 <p>Sanganeb Reef in Port Sudan</p>
 <p>Pyramids of Meroe</p>	 <p>Museum of the Khalifa's House</p>	 <p>Mojo Gallery Khartoum</p>	 <p>Tuti Island</p>

 <p>Marra Mountains</p>	 <p>Al Waha Mall</p>	 <p>Afraa Mall</p>
 <p>Al Housh Restaurant</p>	 <p>Corinthia Restaurant</p>	 <p>Ozone Restaurant</p>

The venue of the Sixty-fifth session of the WHO Regional Committee is Al Salam Rotana Hotel. This hotel is ideally located just a few minutes away from **Khartoum International Airport** via a stretch of Africa Road, a short drive to Downtown Khartoum, and walking distance from Afra Mall. Al Salam Rotana Khartoum is perfectly situated for both business and leisure.

Date and location

The Sixty-fifth session of the Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean is scheduled to take place in Al Salam Rotana Hotel, Nile Ballroom, Khartoum, Sudan, from Monday 15 October to Thursday 18 October 2018, inclusive.

Address

Africa Street, P.O. Box
12290, Khartoum, Sudan

Tel: +2491 8700 7777

Fax: +2491 8700 7788

Email: res.alsalam@rotana.com



Registration for Participation

To register for the Sixty-fifth session of the Regional Committee please use the following link: http://reg.unog.ch/e/RC65_Registration kindly fill out the mandatory fields and submit your registration no later than 31 August 2018, the WHO Secretariat will confirm acceptance of your registration via e-mail.

**Membership
and attendance**

The Regional Committee consists of representatives, one from each country of WHO's Eastern Mediterranean Region. The representatives may be accompanied by alternates and advisers (Rule 1 of the Rules of Procedure).

The Regional Director, in consultation with the Regional Committee, may invite States, not Members of the Committee, to participate without vote in the sessions of the Committee. The Regional Director, in consultation with the Regional Committee, may also invite nongovernmental organizations to participate in the deliberations of the Committee (Rule 2 of the Rules of Procedure).

Credentials

Member States shall communicate to the Regional Director, **not less than 15 days** before the date fixed for the opening of the session of the Committee, the name of their representatives, including all alternates and advisers. Similarly organizations and States invited to be represented at the session shall communicate the names of the persons by whom they will be represented. The credentials of representatives and names of alternates, advisers and observers should be submitted to the Regional Director if possible not less than two days before the opening of the session of the Regional Committee. Such credentials will be issued by the Head of State, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Minister of Health or any other appropriate authority (Rule 3 of the Rules of Procedure).

Working languages

The working languages of the Committee are Arabic, English and French. Statements made in any of these languages will be interpreted simultaneously into the other two languages.

**Agenda and
other documents**

Official documentation of the session will be available in Arabic, English and French on the Regional Committee website [<http://www.emro.who.int/about-who/rc65/index.html>] from early September 2018. Documents will not be dispatched by post. Furthermore, participants are kindly requested to bring all documents to the session, as only a limited number of hard copies will be available.

**Submissions
by delegations**

It would be appreciated if delegations wishing to propose draft resolutions to be distributed to the Regional Committee could hand them in to the Secretariat **at least 2 days before** the proposal is discussed, to allow time for translation, reproduction in the working languages and circulation to delegations.

Travel arrangements

Delegates/participants should make their own travel arrangements for both outward and return journeys. Travellers are strongly advised to have their return flights confirmed before departing for Sudan, as onward reservations and deviations may be difficult to obtain at short notice. The Secretariat will provide assistance with travel arrangements during the session, if needed.

Arrival in Khartoum

Upon arrival at Khartoum International Airport, transport to the hotel will be made available provided that participants have supplied their travel details on their registration form.

The journey time by car from the airport to the hotel is around 10 minutes.

Entry visa to Khartoum

Representatives and other participants should obtain a visa for Sudan prior to departure from their home countries.

Privileges and immunities

All Members officially attending the Regional Committee in Khartoum, Sudan, as well as their alternates and advisers, will enjoy the privileges and immunities granted to representatives at meetings convened by United Nations specialized agencies, which are set out in the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies.

Insurance

The Secretariat cannot accept liability for personal accidents or loss of or damage to the private property of participants and accompanying persons, either during or indirectly arising from attendance at the Sixty-fifth session of the Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean. Participants should make their own arrangements with respect to health and travel insurance.

Accommodation

The official hotel for the event is Al Salam Rotana Hotel, however, hotel accommodation is also possible at the following hotels:

1. Corinthia Hotel (5*)
Website: <https://www.corinthia.com/en/hotels/khartoum>
Email: reservations.khartoum@corinthia.com
2. Kanon Hotel (3*)
Website: <http://www.kanonhotel.com>
Email: mail@kanonhotel.com
3. Paradise Hotel (3*)
Website: <http://paradisehotels-sd.com/>
Email: info@paradisehotels-sd.com

Hotel rates are available on the following link: http://reg.unog.ch/e/RC65_Registration Participants are strongly encouraged to complete and submit the registration form not later than 31 August 2018.

Representatives and other participants are responsible for settling hotel bills directly with the hotel, noting that **credit cards are not accepted in Sudan and payment must be made in cash in US dollars.**

Cancellation policy: In event of cancellation/amendment or reduction after guarantee/confirmation of the booking, guests will be charged as follows:

100% of the room charges for the entire duration of stay will apply for cancellation of the reservation if less than 30 days before the check-in date in October, 2018.

All guaranteed guest rooms, which are not cancelled as per the timeframe mentioned above, or a no show situation, are subject to charges. Charges equivalent to the entire duration of stay for the agreed room rate will be imposed for no-show guests. Rooms for subsequent nights will be released for general sale.

Transportation

Transportation will be provided upon arrival and departure and for any official functions which are held outside the hotel, noting that transportation will only be made available to and from the official venue of the Regional Committee, namely Al Salam Rotana Hotel.

Banking facilities

The current exchange rate is Sudanese pound (SDG) 29.8 to US\$ 1, which is subject to change should there be a revision in rates. Foreign currency can be exchanged at the hotel or at any bank in Khartoum or authorized dealers. The hotel bank is open 24 hours.

Climate

In October the weather is expected to be hot during the day and warm in the evening. Temperatures during this time of the year range between a maximum of 40 °C and a minimum of 25 °C.

