



## INFORMATION NOTE

THE ARAB-AFRICA SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION  
CONFERENCE UNDER THE TITLE

**“THE ARAB-AFRICA SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, POLICY & PRIVATE SECTOR NEXUS  
FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION”**

● Towards a Resilient Future ●

● From 02 to 3 October 2023 ● Tunis ● Tunisia ●

### General Introduction

The Arab-Africa Science and Technology for Disaster Risk Reduction Conference is hosted by the Government of Tunisia under the auspices of H.E. Ahmed al-Hachani, the Prime Minister of Tunisia, in collaboration with UNDRR.

The two-day conference will bring together multi-stakeholder contributors, including experts and practitioners from governments, the private sector, science and academic institutions, the UN and its specialized organizations, and regional and international organizations to share experiences and knowledge among the countries in the Africa and Arab regions and showcase the latest innovations, technical know-how, tools and techniques for disaster risk reduction from the private sector and academia.

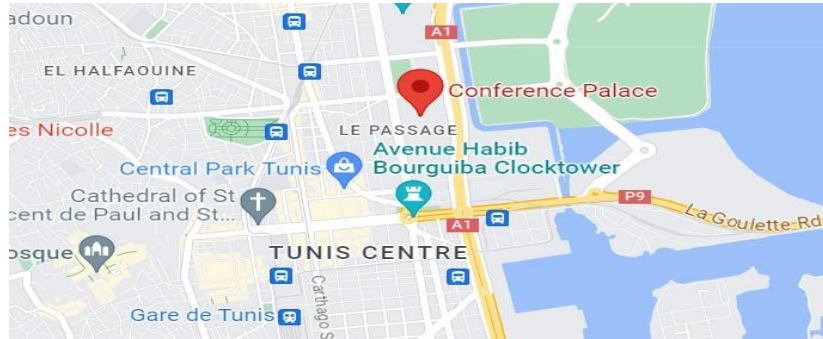
### Venue

The Arab-Africa Science and Technology for Disaster Risk Reduction Conference will be held at the Conference Palace in Tunis on 2 and 3 October 2023.

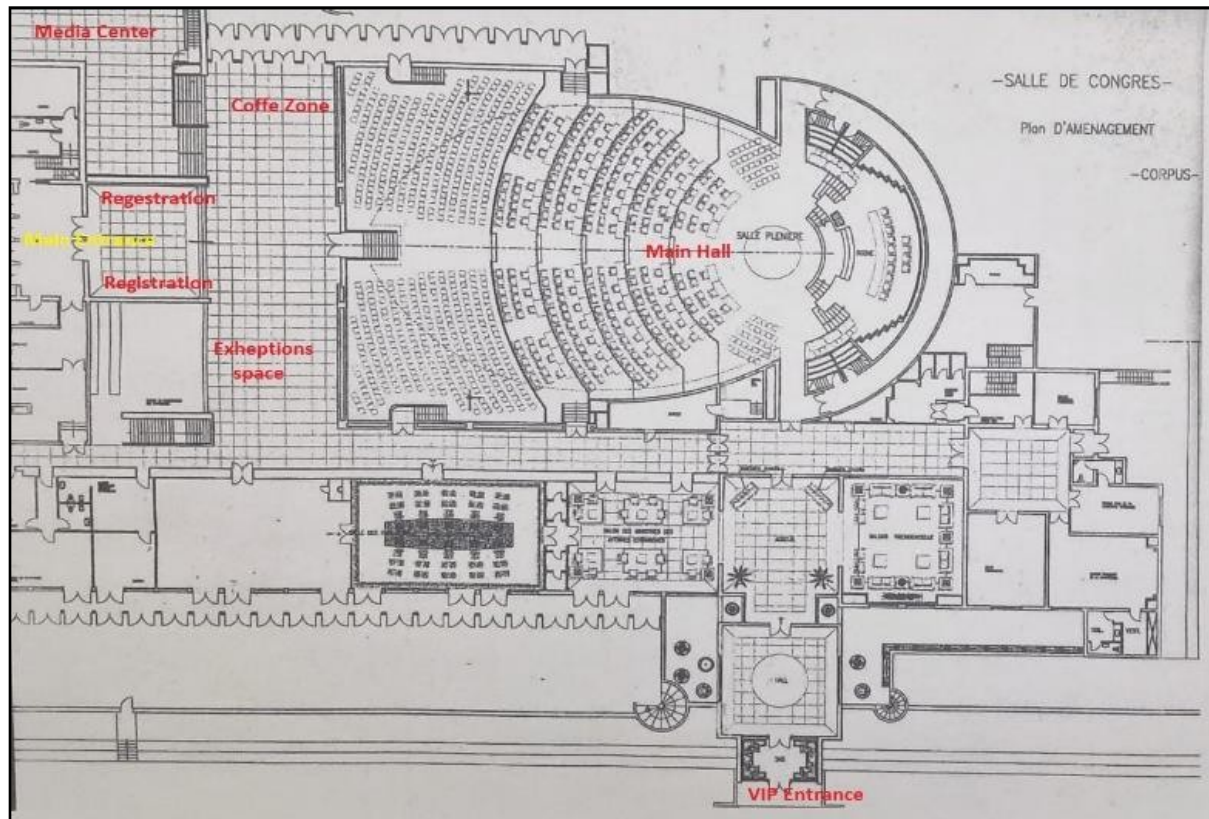


## Palais des Congrès Tunis

Av. Mohamed V 1001, Tunis  
TUNISIE, Tunis, Tunisia



## Conference Palace



## Conference Website

A dedicated conference website that contains all substantive and logistic information has been launched:

[Towards a resilient future: The Arab-Africa science, technology, policy & private sector nexus for disaster risk reduction | UNDRR](#)



## Registration

**All participants must register online at the conference website.**

[Towards a Resilient Future: The Arab-Africa Science, Technology, Policy & Private Sector Nexus for Disaster Risk Reduction \(2-3 October 2023\): Registration · Indico.UN](#)

The applicant is requested to follow the registration guidelines on the above website.

### Issuance of Delegate Passes

A registration desk will be set up at the Entrance of the Conference Palace, Tunis. Conference badges will be issued per the following schedules:

- Sun, 1 October : 15:00 – 19:00
- Mon, 2 October : 08:00 – 17:00
- Tue, 3 October : 08:00 – 17:00

## Media Facilitation

There will be a media centre organized by UNDRR and Ministry of Environment of Tunisia within the conference facilities.

## Accommodation

All participants are required to make accommodation arrangements at their own cost. As per an agreement between the organizers and the hotels, all participants will be given a discounted rate. UNDRR ROAS has fixed special rates for the participants. Participants should reach out to the hotels to make their own reservations. When booking at the above-mentioned hotels, participants should indicate the “Arab-Africa Science and Technology for Disaster Risk Reduction Conference” in the subject line of their email to benefit from the special rate provided to the conference participants.

Organizers and hotels have an agreement on the following rates:

### Hotel Maison Blanche (1.9 KM to conference palace)

- Type of Room: Junior Suite with King Size Bed
- Single Room Rate: 70 Euros per night, including breakfast (Per Person)
- City Taxes: 1 Euro per night, per person
- 45 Ave Mohamed V, Tunis 1002, Tunisia.
- [maison.blanche@planet.tn](mailto:maison.blanche@planet.tn)
- Tel : +216 71 905 000
- Mobile: + 216 98 703 385

### Novotel Tunis (1.1 KM to conference palace)

- Rate: 320 Tunisian Dinars (TND) per night
- Type of Room: Single Room
- City Taxes: 1 Euro per night, per person
- Ave Mohamed V, Tunis 1002, Tunisia
- Phone: +216 71 230 500
- Email: [h6145-re@accor.com](mailto:h6145-re@accor.com)



### Ibis Hotel (2.2 KM to conference palace)

- Rate: 220 TND per night
- Type of Room: Single Room
- City Taxes: 1 Euro per night, per person
- Address: Rue de Syrie, Tunis 1002, Tunisia
- Phone: +216 71 830 300
- Email: [h6144-re@accor.com](mailto:h6144-re@accor.com)

### Hotel Campanile El Mechtel (3.8 KM to conference palace)

- Rate: 200 TND per night
- Type of Room: Single Room
- City Taxes: 1 Euro per night, per person
- Avenue Ouled Haffouz El omrane, 1005 Tunis, Tunisia
- Booking: +33 1 73 21 98 00
- Call the hotel: +216 71 783008
- E-mail address: [dc@goldentulipmechtel.com](mailto:dc@goldentulipmechtel.com)

### Golden Tulip El Mechtel (3.8 KM to conference palace)

- Rate: 255 TND per night
- Type of Room: Single Room
- City Taxes: 1 Euro per night, per person
- AVENUE OULED HAFFOUZ EL OMRANE, 1005 TUNIS, Tunisia
- Booking: (+33) 1 70 98 61 18
- Call the hotel: +216 71 783200
- E-mail address: [dc@goldentulipmechtel.com](mailto:dc@goldentulipmechtel.com)

**Important Note:** Please note that October is a peak tourism season. Hence, all participants are requested to make accommodation bookings at their earliest.

Below is a list of additional hotels in Tunis to choose from; however, UNDRR does not have special fixed rates in these hotels:

Name of hotel	Stars	Address and Distance from Venue	Tel/Fax	Email
<b>Hôtel les Ambassadeurs</b>	3.9	75 Avenue Taieb M'Hiri, Tunis 1002 <b>2 Km</b>	+216 71 846 000 +216 71 780 040	<a href="mailto:embassadeurs@topnet.tn">embassadeurs@topnet.tn</a>
<b>Business Hôtel</b>	3.8	04 Rue Ibn Ennadim Tunis 1073 <b>1.7 Km</b>	+216 71 900 555	<a href="mailto:resa@businesshoteltunis.com">resa@businesshoteltunis.com</a>
<b>Hôtel El Mouradi Africa</b>	4	50 Avenue Habib Bourguiba, Tunis 1001 <b>1.2 km</b>	+216 71 347 477	<a href="mailto:reservation@elmouradi.com">reservation@elmouradi.com</a> <a href="mailto:commercial@elmouradi.com">commercial@elmouradi.com</a>
<b>Sheraton Tunis Hotel</b>	5	Avenue de la Ligue Arabe, B.P. 345, Tunis 1080 <b>4.9 Km</b>	+216 71 782 100	<a href="mailto:Amel.hadhbaoui@sheraton.com">Amel.hadhbaoui@sheraton.com</a>



## Food and Catering

During the conference days (2-3 October 2023), the Government of Tunisia will provide tea/coffee breaks to all conference participants.

## Security and Liaison

As per United Nations security classification, Tunis has been categorised as Security Level 2 (Low). The security situation in Tunisia is good and the Police are present, ready to provide support or help. Registered taxis are available at airport and other places.

## Arrival in Tunis

A help desk will be available at the airport to support participants upon arrival; one at the arrival point before the customs office and the other after the customs office. Liaison officers will also be available to provide special treatment to VIPs.

### **Free Airport Shuttle Service**

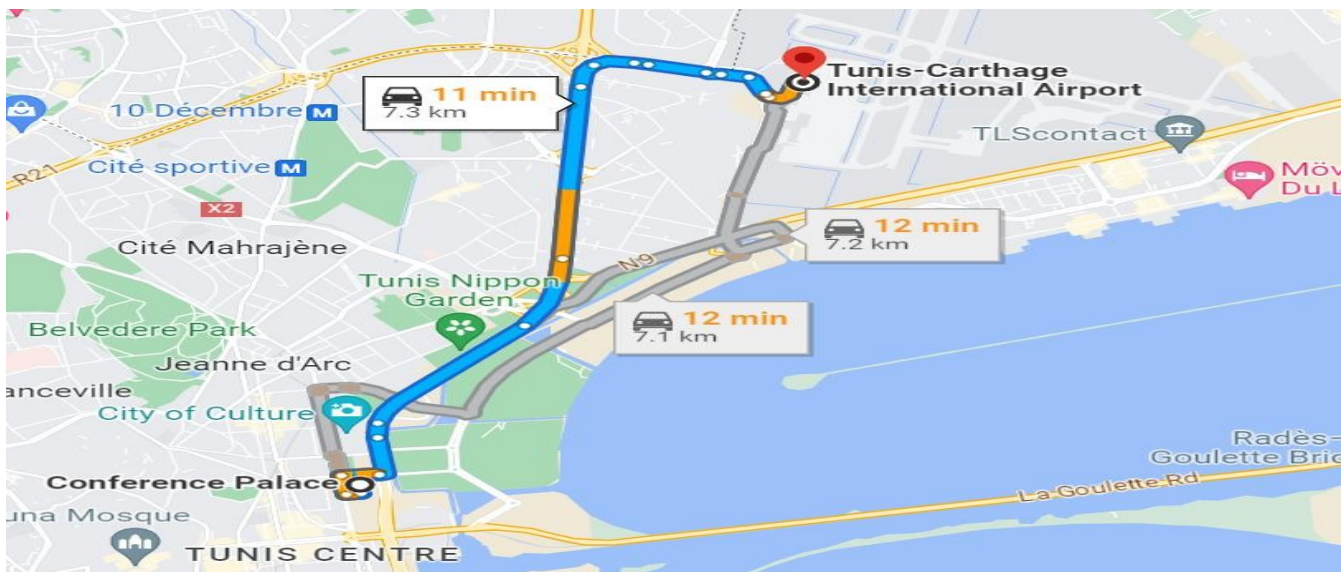
The Government of Tunisia will provide free of charge shuttle buses with the conference logo from “Tunis Carthage Airport” to the “Conference Palace”.

Should participants’ flights arrive outside these hours, participants are invited to use local taxis per below details.



From/to (one way)	Contact & Trip fare	Duration
Airport-----> Hotel	Taxi upon arrival (from the upper floor of the airport) or call Allo Taxi on +216 71 840 840 Fees: ±10 US\$	Duration: 15 to 20 minutes approximately (depending on place of accommodation and traffic)

### Location on Map: Airport To Conference Palace



### Internet Availability

Free Wi-Fi internet access is available in the conference venue.

### Financial Entitlements (for sponsored participants only)

For approved, sponsored participants, UNDRR will pay a daily subsistence allowance (DSA) equals to USD 151 per night, in addition to terminal allowances equal to USD 126.

### Very Important Note:

- It's a **must** to keep the boarding passes for both Inbound and outbound trips and submit them to UNDRR after the event is done.
- Failure to keep and submit boarding passes or **loss** of boarding passes may cause delays and complications with your entitlements.



## Visa Requirements

**Option 1:** Participants from some countries require a visa for Tunisia and are strongly advised to contact the nearest Tunisian diplomatic or consulate mission as soon as possible in order to secure the required entry visa in a timely manner, prior to departure.



**Please note that participants are responsible to obtain all visas to destination including the transit points if necessary, before departure, and airlines may not allow boarding without a valid visa.**

In order to facilitate the issuance of visas, the Tunisian government may issue, upon request, invitation letters to be attached to the visa applications.

**Or**

**Option 2:** For Participants of countries that do not have a Tunisian diplomatic or consulate mission, they can get their visa upon arrival at Tunis Carthage Airport, according to the procedure identified in this concept note. Participants must send a copy of their passports (valid for at least 6 months) latest by **21 September 2023 to the below contact persons:**

**Mr. Mohammed BEN SAID:** [mohamed.bensaid@mineat.gov.tn](mailto:mohamed.bensaid@mineat.gov.tn)

**Mr. Hedi SHILI:** [hedi.shili@mineat.gov.tn](mailto:hedi.shili@mineat.gov.tn)

Please consult the below lists of diplomatic missions and their accredited coverage:

Diplomatic Representation	Accredited Coverage
Burkina Faso (Ouagadougou)	Niger
Cameroon (Yaounde)	Gabon-Equatorial Guinea- São Tomé and Príncipe-Tchad
Democratic Republic of the Congo (Kinshasa)	Congo-Brazzaville- Angola- Zambia- Central African Republic
Ethiopia (Addis Ababa)	Comoro Islands- Madagascar – Seychelles-Djibouti
Ivory Coast (Abidjan)	Liberia- Togo
Kenya (Nairobi) (New Embassy)	Uganda- Tanzania- Burundi- Rwanda-Malawi
Khartoum	Eritrea
Republic of Mali (Bamako)	Republic of Guinea Conakry
Nigeria (Abuja)	Ghana- Sierra Leone- Benin
Senegal (Dakar)	Cape Verde-The Gambia- Guinea Bissau
South Africa (Pretoria)	Botswana- Lesotho- Mauritius- Mozambique- Namibia- Swaziland- Zimbabwe



**Below is a list of Countries that do not have a Tunisian Diplomatic Representation:**

N/O	Name of country	N/O	Name of country
01	Angola	20	Malawi
02	Benin	21	Mauritius
03	Botswana	22	Mozambique
04	Brazzaville	23	Namibia
05	Burundi	24	Niger
06	Cape Verde	25	Republic of Guinea Conakry
07	Central African Republic	26	Rwanda
08	Comoro Islands	27	São Tomé and Príncipe
09	Congo	28	Seychelles
10	Djibouti	29	Sierra Leone
11	Equatorial Guinea	30	Somalia
12	Eritrea	31	Swaziland
13	Gabon	32	Tanzania
14	The Gambia	33	Tchad
15	Ghana	34	Togo
16	Guinea Bissau	35	Yemen
17	Lesotho	36	Zambia
18	Liberia	37	Zimbabwe
19	Madagascar	38	Uganda





## Working Language and Interpretation

The official working language of the conference is English. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided for plenary sessions in Arabic, French and Portuguese. Conference documentation will be available in English, French and Arabic.

## Medical Facilities

Medical facilities with qualified medical and nursing staff as well as ambulance support will be available at the Conference Palace daily during the official programme.

Delegates are requested to avail of health insurance before undertaking the journey to Tunisia.

## Mobile Connection

Mobile telephone providers in Tunisia are: Tunisie telecom, Orange and Ooredoo. Participants can obtain SIM cards upon arrival at the airport.

## Emergency Hotline

In case of emergency situations, when delegates are outside of the Conference venues, they are requested to directly call at the following local numbers:

**Ambulance: (CAMU) +216 71 341807**

**Police: 197**

**Civil protection: 198**

## Weather in Tunis

### Temperature

Days in Tunis are still warm in October by northern European standards. The average temperature during the day lingers around 21 degrees Celsius. This average is compiled based on a potential low of 16 degrees Celsius and a high of up to 26 degrees.

### Average Sunshine Hours

However, there will still be around nine hours of sunshine on any given day.

### Rain

The rainfall starts to grow to winter levels in October with 60 milliliters of precipitation throughout the month.

### Time Zone

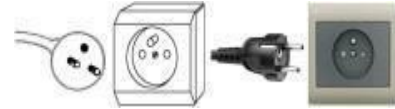
UTC +1:00 (TUN)



## Electricity:

- Voltage: 220-240 Volts
- Primary Socket Type: [Euro plug](#), [Schuko](#)
- Multi-voltage Appliance (laptops, etc.): Plug adapter
- 110-120 V electronics: Plug adapter + step- down transformer
- Hair dryers, curling irons, etc. Plug adapter +voltage Converter

In Tunisia, the French /Belgian plugs (*Type E*) are widely used. Although in principle, they are compatible with most other European plugs, there is a pitfall. Tunisian plug and socket with grounding pin (*Type E*)



## Currency:

The Tunisian Dinar (TND) is the currency of Tunisia.

### Currency Exchange:

You can exchange foreign currency at the Airport, banks, hotels and post offices. Exchange rate are fixed by the government. Bring your passport along as it may be required if you want to exchange money.

### Credit Cards:

Credit and debit cards using the Visa or Master Card network are accepted as payment in larger tourist orientated stores, and many mid-range and luxury hotels, as well as at most car hire agencies and established travel agencies.

### ATM:

ATMs are widely available in tourist resorts and in most towns. Most ATMs are linked to the Visa network though a few, such as ATMs connected to the Bank of Tunisia, also accept Maestro. It is important to always have a small emergency cash fund at hand while travelling in Tunisia for the times when the ATM rejects your card, or simply doesn't work, which can be a quite frequent occurrence, especially once you're away from the coastal resort areas. The most commonly accepted currencies are the US dollar and the Euro.

### Banking Hours:

Mon-Thu: 8 am-12pm and 2pm-4pm, Fri: 8am-12pm and 1pm-4pm.

Please note that ***it is illegal to take ANY Tunisian currency out of the country***. You must change back ALL currency\*\*, including coins, when you leave. You can still make purchases at the airside shops and cafes, since they take arrange of non-Tunisian currencies, notably Euro, GBP and USD.

\*\*The Tunisian authorities have the right to search your baggage and spot-searches are common. They really do mean it – NO currency is to be exported.



## Official Language in Tunisia

The Modern Standard Arabic, or literary Arabic, is the official language of Tunisia. However, they also use French and local Tunisian dialect (known locally as Darja). Arabic is the language that all literate speakers of Tunisia understand and can speak. Some English can be spoken and understood by most of Tunisian.

## Documentation:

Documents will be provided during the Conference.

All documentation related to the conference will be uploaded on the conference website:

[Towards a resilient future: The Arab-Africa science, technology, policy & private sector nexus for disaster risk reduction | UNDRR](#)

## DISCOVER TUNISIA

You are invited to discover Tunisia: <http://www.discovertunisia.com/>

## DISCLAIMER

The Tunisian Government disclaims all responsibilities for medical, accident and travel insurances, for compensation for death or disability compensation, for loss of or damage to personal property and for any other losses that may be incurred during travel time or the period of participation.

In this context, it is strongly recommended that participants will secure international medical, accident and travel insurances for the period of participation prior to departure.

## Travel Insurance

Participants are strongly recommended to buy Travel Insurance before travelling.

### Secretariat of The Arab-Africa Science and Technology for Disaster Risk Reduction

#### UNDRR Regional Office for Arab States:

**Fadi Jannan**  
Deputy Chief  
UNDRR Regional Office for Arab States  
Cairo – Egypt  
E-mail: [jannan@un.org](mailto:jannan@un.org)  
Mob: +201000410497

**Mahmoud SHERIEF**  
Staff Assistant  
UNDRR Regional Office for Arab States  
Cairo – Egypt  
Email: [Mahmoud.ahmed1@un.org](mailto:Mahmoud.ahmed1@un.org)  
Mob: +201030474447

#### UNDRR Regional Office for Africa:

**Huw Beynon**  
Deputy Chief  
UNDRR Regional Office for Africa  
Nairobi - Kenya  
E-mail: [beynon@un.org](mailto:beynon@un.org)  
Mob: +19173679802

**Mike Indangasi**  
Budgets & Finance Assistant  
E-mail: [mike.indangasi@un.org](mailto:mike.indangasi@un.org)  
Phone: +254 738 303 071, +254 722 348 100



### **African Union Commission:**

#### **Gatkuoth Kai**

Technical Coordinator  
Disaster Risk Reduction  
Email: KaiG@africa-union.org  
Mob: +251909537884

#### **Diane Aboubakar**

Senior Policy Officer  
Disaster Risk Reduction  
Email: DianeA@africa-union.org  
Mob: +251909527866

### **Government of Tunisia:**

#### **Mr. Hedi SHILI**

Tel:(+216)58874065  
Email:hedi.shili@mineat.gov.tn

#### **Mr. Mohammed BEN SAID**

Tel:(+216)97304487  
Email: mohamed.bensaid@mineat.gov.tn

## **Welcome to Tunisia**

