



AU CESA
ECED CLUSTER



Southern Africa Regional Conference on Early Childhood Development

28th – 30th March 2023 | Lusaka Zambia

GENERAL INFORMATION

Delegates to the **Southern Africa Regional Conference on Early Childhood Development** are advised to take note of the following information compiled to ensure your safe and comfortable travel to our conference destination.

About Zambia

Situated in Southern Africa, Zambia is a landlocked country with a surface of 752,614 square kilometers. Zambia shares her borders with eight neighboring countries, which include: Angola, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Tanzania, Malawi, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Botswana and Namibia. The capital city of Zambia is Lusaka, a city of over Three (3) million people. Zambia is on average 1,200 meters above sea level, with a population of approximately 19.4 million people with 98% of the country's inhabitants are of African origin. The main ethnic groups are Bemba, Tonga, Chewa and Lozi.

Climate

Zambia is subtropical, with three distinct seasons. May to August is cool and dry (winter season), September to October is hot and dry (dry or summer season) and November to April is warm and wet (rainy season). Delegates will be traveling to Zambia in the rainy season, so visitors are advised to bring clothing suitable for this type of weather.

Visas

Check on the following site on whether you are eligible to apply, pay or exempted to pay Visa fees upon entry into Zambia as the categories are stated in the link provided:
<https://www.zambiaimmigration.gov.zm/for-visitors/>

Time

Zambia is two hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT).

The Conference Venue

The Southern Africa Regional Conference on Early Childhood Development will be held at the Five Star Hotel, Taj Pamodzi Hotel, which is the undisputed choice for business and leisure travelers to the sparkling Zambian capital. The hotel is 22 kms away from the Kenneth Kaunda International Airport, the hotel is set amidst tropical gardens in Lusaka's central business district, with 192 contemporary rooms and suites ushering you into the good life. Pamodzi Hotel has all amenities including free high speed, wireless internet and complimentary access to the Gym

For more information on the hotel you can browse their website and if you wish to book using the conference discounted rate, use the code: AECNTP: <https://www.tajhotels.com/en-in/taj/taj-pamodzi-lusaka/>





Apart from the Taj Pamodzi Hotel, delegates are invited to choose accommodation from a number of leading hospitality facilities. The Intercontinental Hotel/ Holiday INN, Radisson Blu Hotel and Southern Sun Hotels provide alternative accommodation.

We invite you to read up on some of the information on the various facilities before making your room reservation.

Intercontinental Hotel - <https://www.ihg.com/intercontinental/hotels/us/en/lusaka/lunha/hoteldetail>

Holiday Inn - <https://www.ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/us/en/lusaka/lunlu/hoteldetail>

Southern Sun Ridgeway Hotel - <https://www.southernsun.com/southern-sun-ridgeway-lusaka>

Radisson Blu Hotel - <https://www.radissonhotels.com/en-us/hotels/radisson-blu-lusaka>

Stay Easy Hotel - <https://www.southernsun.com/stayeasy-lusaka>

Making Your Bookings

Hotel reservations should be made directly with the preferred hotel. We urge all delegates to make an effort to advise which hotel they have made the reservation with.

Conference Registration

All registration shall be done on the conference web page: <https://afecn.org/sar-conference-2023> and the deadline for closing registration is **17 March 2023**.

Verification of Delegates and Name Badges

Open: Tuesday March 28th, 2023 at 07.30hrs

Name Badges

Name badges will be issued as delegates verify their names before entering the conference room. We request that these are worn at all conference proceedings and social functions.

The Taj Pamodzi Hotel Meeting Rooms

The Conference will be hosted in the Baobab room and the Conference organizers will be readily available to assist with directions to other meeting rooms for the breakaway sessions and provide information on the various sessions that will be held.

Language

The official language for the meetings is English.

General Help Desk & Notices

Assistance and general information is available at the welcome desk that will be situated at the entrance to the function room. The Ushers will be readily available to assist with any enquiries or to give out information.

Transportation Arrangements

There are airport bus services and taxis are readily available at the airport. However, shuttle services can be arranged on request through your registration form. The airport has banking services with bureau de changes available and it is good to note that airport exchange rates are generally competitive and the service is efficient. Delegates arriving by air will likely find this a good place to change money or from any leading Bank.



Airport Transfers

Airport transfers are normally provided for guests at a cost. The Taj Pamodzi Hotel airport transfers cost at approximately \$17 per delegate. Alternatively, delegates can download ULENDU and YANGO apps for affordable taxi rides in Lusaka.

Catering

Breakfast

Included in your daily hotel rate.

Refreshment Breaks

There will be a half hour tea break every day in the morning at 10h00 or 10h30 and the afternoon at 15h00 or 15h30

Lunch

Buffet lunch will be provided as per Conference programme.

Dinner

Dinner is for your own account except where an event has been organized by the conference. Delegates are welcome to eat at the hotel, and information on alternative restaurants in the area will be provided at the information/registration desk

Restaurants

There are a number of Shopping malls with various restaurants and eating places that are within a 10km radius from Pamodzi Hotel where delegates are free to have their meals at their own cost. Below are the names of the shopping malls:

1. Manda Hill Shopping Mall - <https://www.shopmandahill.com/>
2. East Park Mall - <https://www.napoliproperty.com/eastpark-directory>
3. Levy Shopping Mall - https://www.facebook.com/levyshoppingmall/?_rdc=2&_rdp
4. Centro Shopping Mall - <https://centrokabulonga.co.zm/>

City and Site Tours

Delegates with extra time in Lusaka are encouraged to go on a guided city tour during the period of the workshop.

Covid Guidelines

Persons who are FULLY VACCINATED

- Fully vaccinated travelers do not require any form of negative COVID test results but shall be required to provide proof of a full vaccination status. "Fully Vaccinated" means complete doses of a vaccine for example first and second dose of a two-dose COVID-19 vaccines

Persons NOT FULLY VACCINATED

- International travelers who are not fully vaccinated MUST show proof of a COVID-19 PCR test for a sample collected within 72 hours before departure from the country of origin.
- Re – testing at own cost will be applied for travelers who do not meet the above stipulation.
- In case of a positive result, self-quarantine at owner's cost will be mandatory, following local Zambian protocols.

Medical Emergencies

Please contact the hotel reception of the facility you will be accommodated at in case of a medical emergency. All medical expenses will be on your own account so medical insurance is strongly advised.

Below are the health centres that are near the conference venue:

1. Fairview Hospital - <https://www.facebook.com/FairviewHospitalZM/>
2. CFB Medical Centre - info@cfbmedic.com.zm
3. Forest Park Hospital - <https://forestparkhospital.co.zm/>
4. Med land Hospital - <https://www.medlandhospital.com/>
5. University Teaching Hospital (UTH) - <http://www.uth.gov.zm/>

General Health Information

- Precautions: Disease precautions include malaria and it is strongly advised that you consult with your medical doctor for anti malaria medication during the period you are in Zambia.
- Drinking water: Hotel drinking water is safe. However, delegates may wish to drink bottled (mineral) water, which is readily available at the hotel and all supermarkets.

Smoking

Smoking is NOT permitted inside the meeting venues. Smoking is permitted in the designated areas only.

Foreign Exchange

Delegates are advised to be aware of fluctuations in the Zambian currency against other major currencies as delegates may find that the exchange rate adversely affects their purchasing arrangements for goods and services. Visitors to Zambia are advised to check for the exchange rates and travel with sufficient money to cover expenses.

General Information

- Dialing Code: Direct dialing to Zambia +260 followed by area code (211) for Lusaka
- Currency: The local currency is Zambia Kwacha (ZMW).
- Rate of Exchange as at March 1, 2023
 - **US Dollar** **US\$1 – ZMW20.09**
 - **British Pound** **BPS1 – ZMW 24.20**
 - **Euro** **Euro1 – ZMW 21.28**
 - **South African Rand** **Rand1– ZMW 1.09**

Delegates are advised to change foreign exchange at the Bank or at a Bureau De Change. US dollars are the most easily accepted currency for exchange.

- Credit Cards: Most hotels, restaurants, travel agencies and leading stores accept VISA, MasterCard, American Express etc
- Business Hours:
 - **Weekdays 08h00 – 17h00**
 - **Saturdays 08h00 – 13h00**
 - **Most Banks open from 08:30hrs – 14.30hrs on weekdays and 09:00hrs – 12.00hrs on Saturdays**



CONTACT DETAILS

We would like to make your stay in Zambia a truly wonderful experience. For that reason, our \ team leaders are available throughout the conference to assist with any information or clarification you may need.

CONTACT	DETAILS
Mrs. Given Daka Local Organising Committee Member	Email: conference@afecn.org

