

Working Party on Neritic Tuna

14–16 November 2011

GRT Grand Chennai, India

1. MEETING DATES AND VENUE

The Working Party on Neritic Tunas is scheduled from the **14th to the 16th November 2011** and will meet from 9 am to 5 pm daily (special sessions in the evenings may be scheduled).

The venue of the meeting will be

GRT Grand Chennai
120, Sir Thyagaraya Road, T. Nagar
Chennai-600 017
Tel:+91 44 28150500, Fax:+91 44 2815 0778
Web: www.grtgrand.com

2. CONTACTS

The contacts for this meeting at the Secretariat are:

Administrative: Claudia Marie: claudia.marie@iotc.org
Science-based: Julien Million: julien.million@iotc.org

The contact for this meeting in India is:

Sijo Varghese: varghesefsi@gmail.com

3. REGISTRATION

Please pre-register online at www.iotc.org/registration/ no later than Friday, 28 October 2011.

The Registration desk will operate at the GRT Grand, from 0800 to 1000hrs on Monday 14 November 2011.

4. TRAVEL ARRANGEMENT AND ACCOMMODATION

Participants are requested to make their own travel and accommodation arrangements and fund the expenses incurred.

GRT Grand Chennai

Rates	Contact	Notes
Superior single : Rs.5000 + tax	reservations@grtgrand.com Ref: IOTC meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Superior single : Rs.5000 + tax • Superior Double : Rs.6000 + tax <p>Note: 12.5% tax is applicable on the published tariff and 5.15 % tax on the offered rate. The above rate will include buffet breakfast and wifi.</p>
Superior Double : Rs.6000 + tax		

In addition to this list, there is a wide range of Hotels and Guest Houses in Chennai. For locations of hotels and other places you may visit <http://www.tamilnadutourism.org/Hotels/HotelsMain.aspx>

5. TRANSPORTATION

Chennai International Airport is well connected to almost all major cities in the world.

The GRT Grand is about 14 km away from the Airport. In moderate traffic it may take about 45 minutes to one hour. Pre-paid taxis are available at the Airport. The approximate charge for AC taxi would be INR.450-500/-.

6. HEALTH PRECAUTIONS

Delegates are advised to be vaccinated for yellow fever and to carry their yellow fever vaccination certificate. Other vaccinations are recommended for hepatitis A and B, typhoid in addition to the routine vaccinations against polio and tuberculosis. In addition, note that mosquito-borne diseases, such as malaria, dengue and chikungunya affect most of India.

7. ARRIVAL AND ENTRY FORMALITIES

Foreign Nationals desirous of coming into India are required to possess a valid passport of their country and a valid Indian Visa. The Consular Passport and Visa (CPV) Division of the Ministry of External Affairs is responsible for issuance of Indian visas to the foreign nationals for their visit for various purposes. This facility is granted through various Indian missions abroad.

There is no provision of 'Visa on Arrival' in India and no fee is charged for immigration facilities at the airports. Foreign passengers should ensure that they are in possession of valid Indian Visa before they start their journey to India.

Gratis (Free) visa is issued many to the nationals of many countries including Burundi, Cape Verde, Haiti, Mauritius, Jamaica, Maldives, Mongolia *etc...*

Participants are requested to make their own visa arrangements with Indian missions abroad (http://india.gov.in/overseas/embassy_detail.php?type=IE).

More information and visa application forms can be find on:
http://india.gov.in/overseas/passport/indian_visas.php.

8. DRESS CODE

The dress code for the meeting is Smart Casual

9. DELEGATES KIT

Documents for the working parties (in pdf format) will be accessible through a local network during the meeting. However, it is advised for the participants to download all the documents available from the IOTC website prior to arriving.

10. GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT INDIA

India is set apart from the rest of Asia by the Himalayas, the highest, youngest and still evolving mountain chain on the planet. The subcontinent as it is rightly called, touches three large water bodies and is immediately recognizable on any world map. This thick, roughly triangular peninsula defines the Bay of Bengal to the east, the Arabian sea to the west, and the India Ocean to the south.

Chennai is the largest city and capital of Tamil Nadu, one of the 28 states of India. It is the eleventh largest state in India by area and has a long coastline that stretches nearly 1000km along the Bay of Bengal. Tamil Nadu is also the most urbanised state in India.

Tamil Nadu is the land of the Tamils and it has a history that dates back to several thousand years. It is a land where traditions and culture blend and continue to live in harmony. The state abounds in monuments and temples that are ancient and each has its own story of religious, artistic and cultural accomplishment and specialty waiting to be heard.

Chennai has a tropical climate and the city gets most of its seasonal rainfall from the north-east monsoon, from mid-October to mid-December. With 351mm in average, November is one of the months with the maximum rainfall in Chennai. Temperatures range from 23°C to 29°C.

The currency in India is the Indian rupees (INR). The current exchange (26/08/11) rate is 1USD = 46.1284INR. All major currencies are exchangeable at banks and US dollars are accepted at all hotels. Major credit cards are accepted in hotels.

11. ELECTRICITY

India has standardised on a type D plug which was originally defined in British Standard 546 (the standard in the United Kingdom before 1962).



12. TELEPHONE SERVICE

International dialling code

The International dialling code for India is +91

Mobile services:

Several operators (Airtel, Aircel, Hutch, Tata, Vodafone, Reliance...) are offering SIM cards and prepaid recharge for mobile phones in Chennai.

13. INTERNET

Wi-Fi and Internet facilities will be available in the meeting room during the meeting hours. Internet service outside the meeting will be at participant's own expense.

14. TOURISM

Information on tourism in Chennai and Tamil Nadu and other information is available at <http://www.tamilnadutourism.org/>