PBF's partners visit to Central African Republic
16 to 21 March 2025 Bangui, Bambari

LOGISTICAL NOTE

Visa process

A VIP welcome has been arranged, and each delegation member will be greeted upon arrival in the airport lounge. Holders of diplomatic passports or UNLPs may enter the country without a visa. MINUSCA will issue a **note verbale** with an attached list of all delegation members, including their relevant travel details, to facilitate their entry into the country. MINUSCA's protocol team will be present at the airport to facilitate entry formalities. For any issues upon arrival, please contact **Anatole N'Doma at +236 75 50 75 95.**

Health and vaccinations

Yellow fever vaccination is mandatory and the proof will be checked upon entry. The UN does not cover hospitalization costs for non-UN staff. All participants are strongly encouraged to have health or travel insurance. Although basic medications (e.g., for headaches, fever, flu, diarrhea) are available in Bangui, but it is recommended to bring your own. Routine vaccinations should be up to date. gene

Travel to/from CAR

The visit will start on Sunday, and we kindly remind the delegation to ensure their arrival in Bangui by then. Ethiopian Airlines is scheduled to land in Bangui at **11:40 AM on Sunday**. Since we have now received all flight details, we will confirm shortly whether a **UN minivan or car** will be arranged for airport pickup upon arrival in Bangui. For any last-minute updates regarding your itinerary, please contact sara.lo@un.org.

Welcome delegation

The Delegation, arriving on Sunday at 11:40 AM, will be met at the airport in Bangui by the DSRSG/RC/HC Mohamed Ag Ayoya and the protocol services of the GoCAR.

Accommodation and meals

Rooms were booked at **Hotel Ledger** in Bangui. The nightly rate is **US$ 170** (including breakfast and taxes), and payment by credit card is accepted. An ATM machine is available in the hotel, as well as at the MINUSCA HQ and the UNDP premises. Participants should settle accommodation costs upon check-out. Check-in is on **16 March**, and check-out is on **21 March**. Personal expenses such as laundry, room service, and the minibar are to be covered by delegation members.

The PBF Secretariat will cover all meals, excluding dinner on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Participants with dietary restrictions should inform the organizers. Given limited supplies in the field, bringing additional personal snacks is advisable.

Transport

Road transport: All transportation has been organized for the delegation (from airports to hotel and between meetings). Travel during the field visit to Bambari will be ensured by the MINUSCA.

MINUSCA Flights: Reservations for MINUSCA flights are organized by the RCO/PBF Secretariat. For the visit to Bambari, departure from Bangui is scheduled for Wednesday 19 March at 7:00 am. Boarding passes will be distributed to the delegation. Please do not forget to bring your passport and boarding pass on Wednesday. The RCO will facilitate a UN minivan and car to bring delegates to the airport.

Security

A **security briefing** covering both Bangui and the field location (Bambari) will be conducted upon each delegation's arrival on **Sunday, March 16, at 3:00 PM**. Security measures are divided into two aspects: **(i) provision or protective services will be managed by UNDSS and (ii) convoy escorts will be handled by MINUSCA Force and Police.** The delegation will be asked to sign two waivers upon arrival, including one for the aircraft and the other for MINUSCA transport.

There are currently no major security concerns. The UN Security Level in CAR is **4 (Substantial)**. A restriction of movements to UNSMS staffs is in effect in Bangui from **22:00 to 05:00**. The general situation is calm in Bangui and in Bambari, with occasional incidents of crime. Additional security documents can be requested via **minusca-security-soc@un.org** **tph +236 75 99 62 62**.

Working languages

RCO/PBF secretariat will provide **interpretation for all meetings**. Meetings with the Central African authorities, civil society organizations and UN country team, will be conducted **in French**, with interpretation as needed. Meetings with the communities will be conducted in **Central African languages** with interpretation. Any engagement with media will be in French.

Practical information

Currency: Central African CFA Franc (exchange rate: US $ 1= +/- 600 XAF) is the currency. US dollars and credit cards are accepted as payment for some accommodation in Bangui, but cash in national currency is **the preferred payment** method for many suppliers. Outside Bangui, payment is in cash in XAF for local facilities and in USD for the UN facilities. RCO/PBF secretariat will advise participants on where to exchange USD to XAF. **It is recommended that you bring US dollars with you, approximately $ 2,000 in cash will be more than sufficient. Facilities are strict about the type of US dollar notes that are accepted – only notes that are from 2013 to date, with no marks, stamps or damage of any type will be accepted.** There are ATMs in Bangui,

however, the transaction fees are very high. Some banks' ATMs are not compatible with cards from other banks and thus, are often not accessible.

Weather: Tropical climate. In March, average daytime temperatures in Bangui usually reach 40° C.

Time zone: UTC+1

Electricity: 220 V and 50 Hz – compatible with most European plugs.

Dress-code: Professional attire will be expected in Bangui, particularly for meetings with the Government. For field visits, cotton clothes or clothes with long sleeves and long pants are recommended to protect against sun and mosquito exposure.

Mosquito protection: It is recommended to wear insect repellent day and night to protect against malaria (mosquitoes at dusk, dawn and overnight). Malaria is endemic in CAR and participants are strongly recommended to take malaria prophylaxis during their stay.

Telecommunications: Mobile phone networks experience frequent perturbations and internet is usually slow. MINUSCA will provide each participant with a SIM card preloaded with a call and internet package. To call another person within CAR with a local number simply dial 7* ** ** ** **.

Useful local phrases and cultural note English

English	French	Sango	Fulani (Fulfulde)
Good morning	Bonjour	Barala	Diam Kodé
Thank you	Merci (beaucoup)	Singila (mingi)	Yesseko
Goodbye	Au revoir	Ala Gué Njoni	Orti

Composition of the delegation

Representative	Name	Title
Norway	Ms. Meena Syed	UN Director, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
Ireland	Mr. Matthew Cogan	Deputy Director, Peace & Stability Unit, Department of Foreign Affairs of Ireland.
Italia	Mr. Andrea Palamidessi	Head of Western and Central Africa Desk at the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
Japan	Mr. Takuma Sakaguchi	Director of the United Nations Policy Division at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan.
Denmark	Mr. Jens Ole Bach Hansen	Ambassador of Denmark to Nigeria, also accredited to Cameroon, Gabon, CAR, Congo & E. Guinea
Estonia	Mr. Rasmus Lumi	Director General of the Department of International Organisations and Human Rights at the Estonian Minister of Foreign Affairs.
Germany	Mr. Florian Laudi	Director for the United Nations and Counterterrorism, Federal Foreign Office, Government of Germany.
PBC Chair Morocco	Mr. Youssef El Mezouaghi	Counselor at the Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Morocco to the United Nations.
PBF Advisory Group	Ms. Natalie Kohli	Ambassador of Switzerland in the Republic of Cameroon, the Central African Republic, and the Republic of Equatorial Guinea
PBSO	Ms. Elizabeth Spehar	UN Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support
PBSO	Mr. Brian J Williams	Chief of the Peacebuilding Funds
DSRSG/RC/HC	Mohamed Ag Ayoya	Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Resident Coordinator, Humanitarian Coordinator

Contacts

Topics	Name	Contacts
Leadership	Mr. Mohamed Ag Ayoya, Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General / Resident Coordinator / Humanitarian Coordinator	mayoya@un.org
Programme	Anatole NDOMA M&E Specialiste/ CAR PBF secretariat	ndomaa@un.org +236 75 50 75 95
Security	Minusca-security-soc@un.org	+236 75 99 62 62
Logistics	Pamphile Bema-Bakary, Administrative assistant/ CAR RCO Benjamain MAYAN, chauffeur /secretariat BPF	bema-bakary@un.org . +236 75 98 11 02/ 74 34 02 65 benjamin.mayan@un.org +236 72 90 76 04
Bambari	NIANG Oumou chef of office IOM /Bambari	oniang@iom.int
Medical service and vaccines	UNOE Level 1 Clinic	+236 75994208
Useful numbers	Clarisse Zihindula, Communication & reporting analyst/Car PBF secretariat	Clarisse.zihindula1@un.org +236 74 40 81 81