



The Hague, 25 September 2012

Conference Circular 3

As you know, the 13th Conference of Staff Associations of International Organisations (CSAIO13) will be hosted this year by the Staff Union of the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (UNSU-ICTY).

Venue:
ICTY
Churchillplein 1
The Hague, Netherlands
(Room M396)

Conference dates:
Thursday 4 October (afternoon) and
Friday 5 October 2012

*Since 2011, an informal session takes place on Thursday morning. It gives the participants the opportunity to follow up on the issues discussed the previous year.
(see programme in annex 1)*

This third Circular provides final details about the contents and organisation of the Conference. Should you have any last-minute questions, please do not hesitate to contact the UNSU-ICTY, preferably by e-mail at staffunion@un.org or by telephone (+31705128119).

Information pertaining to the 13th Conference, as well as the proceedings of previous Conferences, can be found on <http://csaio.web.cern.ch/>

Registration

Registration is now closed; no further registrations can be accepted.

This year's topics

Each year, the Scientific Organising Committee (SOC)¹ selects topics of wide interest for the staff representatives of international organisations for the annual Conference, in consultation with the Local Organising Committee (LOC)², on the basis of suggestions made during the previous Conference. For this year's Conference, three topics have been selected:

¹ Scientific Committee: Anya DEMARLE (OECD) and Joel LAHAYE (CERN)

² Office of the UNSU-ICTY: Rick Cottam, Fabrice Georgelin, H el ene Quiniou et Tricia Royes de Jong

1. The dispute settlement system (pre-litigation and litigation)

There are several mechanisms within international organisations to help employees enforce the provisions of their contracts and the staff rules enacted by the Organisation. The presentation should focus, in particular, on the benefits and drawbacks of the various dispute settlement systems and their recent developments through the following stages:

- Amicable settlement (mediation, conciliation, informal procedures, etc.)
- Administrative remedies (internal appeals, general consultative bodies, specialised consultative bodies, etc.)
- Judicial remedies (features of the competent tribunal and any existing appeal body)

2. Medical and social protection

International organisations provide their staff with a system of social protection including cover for health care, sick and maternity leave, benefits in the event of illness, accident, invalidity or death during an official's appointment. What are the features of these systems and what level of cover do they provide? Are there different protection schemes depending on the official's job category? Is the representative staff body involved in administering the medical and social protection system? Have medical prevention programmes been launched? Has the issue of elderly dependants been addressed? Are international accounting rules applied with a view to covering the Organisation's long-term liabilities as far as post-employment health care is concerned?

3. Family allowances

These allowances aim to provide partial compensation for expenses incurred for the subsistence and education of children, but for other members of the family as well, such as the spouse or parents. Most international organisations do not contribute to national family benefits systems and provide their own systems instead. There is a wide range of allowances: household allowance or supplementary family allowance, allowance for dependant child/parent, allowance on the birth of a child, benefits for a handicapped child, education allowance, rent allowance, etc. What are these allowances and what are the conditions of eligibility? Is an international civil servant entitled to receive family benefits provided by the country of posting and, if so, on what conditions? Are these benefits under threat?

Proceedings

The conference proceedings will be published after the conference on the basis of the texts produced by the speakers (brief summary of your presentation and the slides used) and the minutes taken during the discussions. Summaries will be published in the languages used by the speakers.

Languages

Simultaneous interpretation both in English and French will be provided throughout the conference. Presentations can therefore be made in English or French.

Conference dinner and lunch

The conference dinner will take place on the Thursday evening at The Penthouse, Rijswijkseplein, 2516 LX The Hague. As you know, each participant is asked to cover the cost of his/her own meal (50€). In order to simplify matters in the evening, we will collect payments upon registration on Thursday and provide you with a receipt and invitation to the dinner. **Please therefore have the exact sum of money available at registration.** If you

have any special dietary requirements, and if you have not already done so, please inform the organising committee at staffunion@un.org as soon as possible.

On Friday a lunch buffet will be provided by the UNSU-ICTY.

No financial contribution

As usual, there will be no registration fees.

Hotel reservations

Please see the attached list of hotels (Appendix 3). If you have not already booked accommodation, please do so as a matter of urgency.

Disclaimer: Please note that the UNSU-ICTY cannot be held responsible for any individual hotel booking made by participants. It is up to the organisation or individual participants to make the actual reservations.

Insurance

Please note that the Office of the UNSU-ICTY cannot take out insurance for the participants. It is up to the organisation or individual participants to take out insurance.

House Rules

Participants will need a valid ID to enter ICTY premises. Please respect the house rules in force. Smoking is permitted only in designated areas. Please make sure your cellphone is turned off in the Conference Room. Please label any luggage and do not leave it unattended.

Appendixes

- 1- CSAIO 13 – programme
- 2- List of hotels in The Hague
- 3- Information on The Hague

Appendix 1
CSAIO 13 – Programme

Thursday 4 October

- 09:30 – 12:00** **Follow-up previous conference** (informal session)
Update from last year’s participants
Possible presentations from other international organisations
Discussion
- 13:30 – 14:00** **Conference registration**
At the main entrance prepare ID document.
Then proceed to Conference registration desk to register and pay for Conference dinner.
- 14:00 – 14:20** **Conference introduction**
14:00 Welcome
14:10 Speeches by Registrar John Hocking (ICTY)
- 14:20 – 18:00** **Session A / moderator: Sidiki Coulibaly (UNESCO)**
14:20 The dispute settlement system
 - Dalila Bundy and Patrick Vanhoudt, European Investment Bank
 - Tillman Fromhold, European Central Bank
 - Philip Bocking, European Patent Office
- 16:00 Coffee break
16:30 Discussion
17:30 End of Session A
- 19:30** Dinner at The Penthouse (The Hague)

CSAIO 13 – Programme

Friday 5 October

09:00 – 12:15	Session B / moderator: Nizar Zaher (OSCE)
09:00	Medical and social protection <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jean-Marie Stenier, European Union Court of Auditors• Joël Lahaye, CERN
10:30	Coffee break
10:45	Discussion
12:00	End of Session B
12:00 – 13:30	Lunch
14:00 – 14:30	Preparation of next Conference Venue and format Themes/topics
14:30 – 17:00	Session C / moderator: Bernard Wacquez (AAPOCAD)
14:30	Family allowances <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Anya Demarle, OECD• Philippe Defert, CERN
15:45	Discussion
16:45	End of Session C
16:45 – 17:00	Conference wrap-up

Appendix 2
List of hotels in The Hague

• **The Golden Tulip Bel Air Hotel**

Johan de Wittlaan 30
2517 JR The Hague
Phone 0031 (0)70 3525354
Fax 0031 (0)70 3525353
Internet www.belairhotel.nl
E-mail info@belairhotel.nl

Rate single room EUR 123,- per night, including breakfast (+ € 3,81 tax p.p./night).
Rate double room EUR 143,50,- per night, including breakfast (+ € 3,81 tax p.p./night).

• **Dorint Den Haag**

Johan de Wittlaan 42-44
2517 JR The Hague
Phone 0031 (0)70 4169111
Fax 0031 (0)70 4169100
Internet www.dorint.nl

Rate single room EUR 131,- per night, including breakfast.
Rate double room EUR 146,- per night, including breakfast.

• **Crowne Plaza Den Haag Promenade**

Van Stolkweg 1
2585 JL The Hague
Phone 0031 (0)70 3525161
Fax 0031 (0)70 3541046
Internet www.crowneplazapromenade.nl
E-mail info@crowneplazapromenade.nl

Rate single room EUR 139,- per night, including breakfast.
Rate double room EUR 154,- per night, including breakfast.

• **Hotel Excelsior**

Statenlaan 45
2582 GC The Hague
Phone 0031 (0)70 3541234

Rate single room EUR 90,- per night, including breakfast.
Rate double room EUR 110,- per night, including breakfast.

Reservations can be made directly with the hotels and have to be guaranteed by credit card.
To obtain these rates, you will need to mention your visit to the ICTY.
Please note that the cancellation policy is different for each hotel.



Appendix 3 General information on The Hague

HOW TO GET THERE

- **By plane**

Rotterdam The Hague Airport

www.rotterdamthehagueairport.nl

Amsterdam Schiphol Airport

www.schiphol.nl

Both airports are situated at about 30 minutes by train.

- **By car**

GPS

52°05'39,46'' N

4°17'02,01'' W

Address

UN ICTY

Churchillplein 1, 2517 JW The Hague

- **By train**

The Netherlands has an extensive network of railways. Travelling by train has many advantages: trains in the Netherlands are most often on schedule, they are very comfortable and clean and most of the staff speaks English. The NS operates a [night train](#), which stops at the Hollands Spoor station. Den Haag Centraal, the other international station, is also situated in the city centre.

For more information www.ns.nl/en/travellers/home

- **Taxi**

Taxis can be found outside the stations and the airports. Taxi from Schiphol Amsterdam costs between € 60 and € 75, from Rotterdam The Hague Airport € 33.

- **Public transportation in The Hague**

Bus and tram.

For more information on The Hague, please check the link below:

<http://en.denhaag.nl/en.htm>