



# 2016 Asia Regional Forum on Business and Human Rights

Doha · 19-20 April 2016



## Logistics Note (version 13.04.2016)

### Date & Place

The Forum is being held from 19 to 20 April 2016 at the  
[the Sheraton Doha Resort & Convention Hotel](#)

**Address:** Al Corniche Street, P.O. Box 6000, Doha, Qatar

**Tel:** +97 44485 4444



### Registration & Badges

- Registration is now closed (except in exceptional circumstances).
- Please email: [regionalforumbhr@ohchr.org](mailto:regionalforumbhr@ohchr.org)
- All participants will need to collect their badge in the morning on the first day of the event (19 April) at the venue.

Please note that attendance is subject to available space (approximately 400 persons) and the Working Group's policy of ensuring stakeholder, geographic and gender balance. Registration is being managed by the Working Group's Secretariat. Confirmation may take up to several days.

### Travel and Accommodation

There is no charge for attending the event, but participants are expected to cover all the costs of their flights and stay in Doha.

### Hotel suggestions

Hotel	Address	Tel	Email	Website
Sheraton	Al Corniche Street	+974 4485 4444	<a href="mailto:Khalil.Jelassi@sheraton.com">Khalil.Jelassi@sheraton.com</a>	<b>*Special rate for Forum participants*</b> <a href="https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/StarGroupsWeb/res?id=1601247364&amp;key=A46699">https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/StarGroupsWeb/res?id=1601247364&amp;key=A46699</a>
Movenpick	Corniche Road PO Box 24220	+974 44291111	<a href="mailto:hotel.doha@movenpick.com">hotel.doha@movenpick.com</a>	<b>*Special rate for Forum participants* (550 QR a night)</b> <a href="https://gc.synxis.com/rez.aspx?Hotel=19876&amp;Chain=7714&amp;group=CUNA01">https://gc.synxis.com/rez.aspx?Hotel=19876&amp;Chain=7714&amp;group=CUNA01</a> <i>NB: Rate of 550 QR includes buffet breakfast, Internet, airport transfers by shuttle bus, and transportation to/from Sheraton (upon request)</i>
MELIA Doha Hotel	No. 61, District Zone, West Bay Doha 90840	+974 664 69709	<a href="mailto:ronera.hamilton@melia.com">ronera.hamilton@melia.com</a>	<b>*Special rate for Forum participants* (550 QR a night)</b> Contact <a href="mailto:ronera.hamilton@melia.com">Ronera Hamilton</a> to make a booking & find out terms & conditions

Hilton	Diplomatic District Street, West Bay Area , PO Box 24572	+974 4423 3333	<a href="mailto:Heba.Zaid@hilton.com">Heba.Zaid@hilton.com</a>	* <b>Group offer available via:</b> <a href="http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/D/DOHDDHI-GUNHA-20160413/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG">http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/D/DOHDDHI-GUNHA-20160413/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG</a>
Marriott Marquis City Center	West Bay City Center, Omar Al Mukhtar Street , PO Box 25500 , West Bay	+974 44195000	<a href="mailto:Mhrs.dohmq.reservations@marriott.com">Mhrs.dohmq.reservations@marriott.com</a>	<a href="http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/dohmq-marriott-marquis-city-center-doha-hotel/">http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/dohmq-marriott-marquis-city-center-doha-hotel/</a>
Four Seasons	The Corniche PO Box 24665	+974 4494-8888	<a href="mailto:reservations.doh@fourseasons.com">reservations.doh@fourseasons.com</a>	<a href="http://www.fourseasons.com/doha">www.fourseasons.com/doha</a>
Kempinski Residences & Suites	West Bay PO Box 32129	+974 4405-3333	<a href="mailto:reservations.doha@kempinski.com">reservations.doha@kempinski.com</a>	<a href="http://www.kempinski.com/en/doha">www.kempinski.com/en/doha</a>
Ascott	Diplomatic Area, West Bay PO Box 207274	+974 4497- 1111	<a href="mailto:enquiry.doha@theascott.com">enquiry.doha@theascott.com</a>	<a href="http://www.the-ascott.com/qatar/doha/ascot">www.the-ascott.com/qatar/doha/ascot</a>

## VISAS

### **\*\*Important VISA update\*\***

We have been informed by Qatar's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) that, due to capacity constraints, **it will unfortunately not be able to send an e-visa in advance to participants, contrary to prior information.** We apologize sincerely for this last-minute change.

#### **Please note the latest instructions:**

- For those who have sent us a copy of your passport to obtain an e-visa, this information has been transmitted to the Qatar Embassy/Consulate in the country indicated in your passport and the Embassy/Consulate will be able to expedite the issuance of your visa free of charge. You will need to contact the relevant Qatar Consulate/Embassy ASAP to confirm the process to receive a visa. You can find the country under the heading: **"QATAR & THE WORLD"** on: <http://www.mofa.gov.qa/en/Pages/default.aspx>.
- For those who are able to get a visa upon arrival in Qatar (see list below for the 33x applicable countries), there are TWO options:

(1). You can get a visit visa upon arrival in Doha, and pay the standard visa fee at the airport. We recommend that you contact your relevant Qatar Embassy/Consulate to confirm this information.

OR

(2). If you would like to have the visa prior to departure, please contact the Qatari Embassy/Consulate in the country in which you have a passport. It will then be able to issue you the visa free of charge, provided that you have already sent us a copy of your passport. Please also check the process for this.  
*(If you have a passport from one of the 33x countries listed below and you did not send us the passport scan, we recommend that you follow Option (1).)*

If for some reason you cannot visit a Qatar Embassy/Consulate to get your visa, please let us know urgently. Similarly, if you experience any problems please contact us at: [regionalforumbhr@ohchr.org](mailto:regionalforumbhr@ohchr.org) (cc. [loubnafikry1@gmail.com](mailto:loubnafikry1@gmail.com)), indicating "VISA ISSUE" and your family name in the email subject line.

**For those participants who are applying for a visa to Qatar themselves, the process of obtaining a visa depends on your nationality:**

**(1) Participants with a passport from the following 33 countries listed below can obtain a visa on arrival to Hamad International Airport.**

- When you arrive at passport control at Hamad International Airport, you will be asked to buy a visit visa, only paid for by **credit card** which costs QR 100 (approx. US\$30) and is valid for one month.

Andorra	Greece	New Zealand
Australia	Hong Kong	Norway
Austria	Iceland	Portugal
Belgium	Ireland	San Marino
Britain (UK)	Italy	Singapore
Brunei	Japan	South Korea
Canada	Lichtenstein	Spain
Denmark	Luxembourg	Sweden
Finland	Malaysia	Switzerland
France	Monaco	United States of America
Germany	Netherlands	Vatican

**(2) For those participants whose country is not listed above, please note:**

- You need to obtain a visa before you depart to Qatar.
- Check with the Embassy what information you will need to provide to obtain a visa.
- To contact your nearest Qatari diplomatic mission, please find your country under the heading: "**QATAR & THE WORLD**" on: <http://www.mofa.gov.qa/en/Pages/default.aspx>
- Bring documentation proving your participation at the Forum to facilitate the granting of the visa – either invitation letter for speakers or a copy of the email confirming your registration.
- Visas can take up to two weeks to process and can cost between QR 100-200 (approx. US\$30-60).
- For any queries, please contact the Forum Secretariat at: [regionalforumbhr@ohchr.org](mailto:regionalforumbhr@ohchr.org) / [Loubna.fikry1@gmail.com](mailto:Loubna.fikry1@gmail.com)

**Forum Programme**

The programme can be accessed on the [Asia Regional Forum on Business and Human Rights](#) webpage.

**Languages of the Forum**

Simultaneous translation will be provided in the following UN languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, and Russian).

**Climate**

In April, the climate in Qatar is generally hot and arid with temperatures ranging between 25-33°C.

**Traffic**

Travelling by road in Doha can take a long time due to poor traffic in the city.

## Persons with disabilities

- Wheelchair access can be difficult on street pavements due to the lack of ramps and pavement debris. Poor signage can also pose challenges.
- The major hotels have rooms and facilities to ensure smooth access for persons with disabilities.
- Most shopping malls have dedicated parking for persons with disabilities, as well as lifts where appropriate.
- Hamad International Airport has ramps and chair lifts available. For a fee, Al Maha operates a meet and greet service at the airport, which can provide assistance for disabled visitors. A small number of taxis are specifically designed to take wheelchairs. These need to be requested in advance.

## Food allergies

- There's not much awareness of food allergies in Doha and labelling on food can be vague or non-existent.
- Be especially careful if you have a **nut allergy** because they are widely used in most foods.

## Working week in Qatar

- The working week is from Sunday to Thursday, with Friday the holy day for Muslims.
- Many government offices work from 07:00 to 14:00 and many private businesses run a split shift from 07:30 to 12 noon, then opening again from 16:00 to 20:00.
- Shops in the big malls are generally open all day from around 10:00 until 22:00. On Fridays, most shops open at around 16:00.

## Taxis

- Karwa (4458 8888) is the state-run bus and taxi company – the vehicles are easily spotted because they are all turquoise.
- Al-Million Taxi (8005500) and Al Ijarah (8004488) are recent additions that offer the same services as Karwa.

## Emergency / helpful numbers

- Police/Fire/Ambulance: 999
- Hamad Hospital (public): +974 4439 4444
- Al Ahli (private): +974 4489 8888
- American Hospital (private): +974 4442 1999
- Qatar Medical Centre (private): +974 4444 0606
- Doha Clinic Hospital (private): +974 4438 4333
- Dr. Sarah's Specialist Dental Centre: +974 4460 6058
- The British International Dental Centre: +974 4460 6059
- International dialling code: +974
- Hamad International Airport: + 974 4010 6666
- Directory Enquiries: 180

## Forum contacts

- The UN Working Group's Secretariat (based in Geneva) at: [regionalforumbhr@ohchr.org](mailto:regionalforumbhr@ohchr.org)
- OHCHR's Training and Documentations Centre (based in Doha): Loubna Fikry  
Tel : +974 44 93 25 44 / 44 93 57 91 ex:11  
Mob : +974 55 05 74 50  
E-mail: [Loubna.fikry1@gmail.com](mailto:Loubna.fikry1@gmail.com)