**CONVENTION FOR THE SAFEGUARDING OF THE**  
**INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE**

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR THE**  
**SAFEGUARDING OF THE INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE**

**Nineteenth session**

**Asunción, Republic of Paraguay**

**2 to 7 December 2024**

**General Information**

*The information presented in this document is provided by the host country, unless otherwise stated.*

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# NINETEENTH SESSION

Hosted by the Republic of Paraguay, the nineteenth session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage will be held in Asunción, at the Conmebol Convention Center and Gran Bourbon Hotel, **from 2 to 7 December 2024**.

Address: 110917, Av. Sudamericana, Luque 110917 Paraguay

Phone: +55 11 3181-5188

Website: <https://www.bourbon.com.br/hotel/bourbon-conmebol-assuncao-convention-hotel>

For all relevant information, click on the following webpage maintained by the Secretariat: <https://ich.unesco.org/en/19com>

The Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage is composed of twenty-four representatives of the States Parties to the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, elected by the General Assembly of the States Parties to the Convention.

**The current composition of the Committee is:**

* Electoral Group I (North America and Western Europe): France, Germany, Spain.
* Electoral Group II (Eastern Europe): Slovakia, Ukraine, Uzbekistan.
* Electoral Group III (Latin America and the Caribbean): Barbados, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Paraguay.
* Electoral Group IV (Asia and the Pacific): Bangladesh, China, India, Malaysia, Viet Nam.
* Electoral Group V(a) (Africa): Angola, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Uganda, Zambia.
* Electoral Group V(b) (Arab States): Algeria, Mauritania, United Arab Emirates.

**The current composition of the Bureau of the Committee is:**

Chairperson  
**H.E. Ms Nancy Ovelar de Gorostiaga**

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Delegate of Republic of Paraguay to UNESCO, Paraguay

Vice-Chairpersons

**Germany, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Angola and Mauritania**

Rapporteur

**Ms Ľubica Voľanská,** Slovakia

# HOST COUNTRY CONTACTS

In addition to the webpage about the nineteenth session maintained by the Secretariat, a separate website dedicated to the practical organization of the session is made available by the host country, in order for participants to upload information regarding flights and accommodation. It also presents recommended places and activities, restaurants, or possibilities of tours in Paraguay:

<https://www.19comparaguay.com/>

In addition, an exclusive call centre is made available from 12 September 2024 to answer questions and assist participants (contact details indicated below).

**General inquiries (except for visa issues)**

All general inquiries should be directed to:

* Ms María Teresita Silvero S., Director, Directorate for National and International Cooperation, National Secretariat of Culture

Email: [19.com.unesco@cultura.gov.py](mailto:19.com.unesco@cultura.gov.py)

Phone (Exclusive call center for the event): +595 994992299

Address: Calle Estados Unidos 284, Asunción, Paraguay

**Visa issues**

* Consular Services Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Paraguay

Email: [visas@mre.gov.py](mailto:visas@mre.gov.py)

Phone: +595 214148771

Address: Eduardo Victor Haedo 386 c/ Alberdi (2nd floor), Asunción, Paraguay

* Permanent Delegation of the Republic of Paraguay to UNESCO

Email: [dl.Paraguay@unesco-delegations.org](mailto:dl.Paraguay@unesco-delegations.org)

Phone: +33145682851 / 82849

# REGISTRATION

The main participants are the twenty-four States members of the Committee. All participants, delegates, observers, and those wishing to attend the session are invited to register as early as possible, to give the organizers time to process all information and prepare logistics before the opening of the session.

Please **register online** using the link made available through the website of the nineteenth session: <https://indico.un.org/event/1013040/>.

Upon validation of your registration, participants will be invited to provide the following information to the host country through the dedicated webpage (<https://www.19comparaguay.com/>) to facilitate the arrival and stay of participants in Asunción:

* First name and surname
* Nationality
* Flight details (arrival and departure dates with the flight number)
* Name of hotel booked in Asunción, Paraguay
* Specific information according to your needs (food allergies, specific diets)

# ACCOMMODATION

**Participants are responsible for booking their accommodation and for all expenses incurred during their stay in Paraguay.** A list of designated hotels is provided in Annex B.

Participants will have an exclusive reservation link for this event, where they will find the list of designated hotels with negotiated rates for this event. Please consult <https://www.19comparaguay.com/>

Information regarding transportation between the designated hotels and the venue is provided in Section 6.

# VISAS AND OTHER TRAVEL INFORMATION

## Temporary stay visa

For non-Paraguayan citizens coming to Paraguay for a temporary stay, entry requirements are the following:

* Presentation of a valid passport;
* Presentation of a valid visa, issued by an embassy or consulate of Paraguay (in case a visa is required to enter Paraguay).

The list of countries whose nationals are exempt from visa requirements for entry into Paraguay is provided in Annex A.

Participants are invited to contact the relevant embassies and consulates for visa requirements before their departure, including any transit visa requirements if applicable.

In case a visa is required to enter Paraguay and there is no embassy or consulate in your country of residence, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Paraguay may issue a visa on arrival at the Asunción International Airport - Silvio Pettirossi. In order to request a visa on arrival, delegates must contact the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Paraguay with a copy to the Permanent Delegation of the Republic of Paraguay to UNESCO (see contact details in Section 2) as early as possible prior to travel. Delegates must be duly registered for the event through the UNESCO registration system and that of the National Secretariat of Culture of Paraguay (indicated in Section 3).

For more information, please consult the official website of the General Directorate of Migrations of Paraguay (<https://www.migraciones.gov.py/>).

## Insurance and medical information

It is essential for visitors to Paraguay to have a comprehensive medical insurance policy, to provide coverage for the treatment of serious illness/accidents, and if required, medical evacuation. Participants are encouraged to check that their insurance policy will be accepted by service providers in Paraguay.

First aid services will be available at the venue, while hotel receptions will also be able to direct you to the nearest medical facility or practitioner.

**Vaccines and health-related measures**

International yellow fever vaccination certificate is required (in physical or digital form) in Paraguay for residents coming from the following areas:

*Plurinational State of Bolivia (Beni, Santa Cruz), Brazil (Pará, Tocantins, Minas Gerais, São Paulo, Paraná, Río Grande do Sul, Amazonia), Cameroon, Chad, Colombia (Villagarzón, Orito and Valle del Guamuez, Putumayo), Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, French Guiana (Communauté de Massara), Guinea, Niger, Nigeria, Peru (Junín, Ucayali, Ayacucho San Martín, Madre de Dios), South Sudan.*

For more information, please consult the official website of the General Directorate of Migrations of Paraguay (<https://www.migraciones.gov.py/>).

**Important contact numbers**

* 911: General emergencies
* 132: Firefighters
* 141: SEME Ambulances

# TRANSPORTATION

## Airport transfers

A free shuttle service will be provided from the Asunción International Airport - Silvio Pettirossi to the designated hotels (between 30 November and 3 December 2024) and from the designated hotels to the Asunción International Airport - Silvio Pettirossi (between 6 and 9 December 2024). A list of designated hotels is provided in Annex B. Participants are responsible for making their arrangements for airport transfers in the event of an unexpected departure from Paraguay.

Upon arrival at the airport, the information desk located after the customs can guide you towards the appropriate shuttle bus to the designated hotels. Shuttle buses will be colour-coded and follow a scheduled route through a group of hotels.

For any inquiries regarding airport transfers, please contact the exclusive call center for the event: +595 994992299.

## Dedicated local transportation

A free shuttle service will be provided between the venue and the designated hotels according to the following schedule (local time in Asunción):

* Saturday 30 November: Shuttle services will be provided from the designated hotels to the venue, leaving at 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. Each shuttle bus will then return to the designated hotels.
* Sunday 1 December: Shuttle services will be provided from the designated hotels to the venue, leaving at 8:15 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. Each shuttle bus will then return to the designated hotels.
* Shuttle bus schedule from Monday 2 to Saturday 7 December 2024:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **From designated hotels to venue** | **From venue to designated hotels** |
| 8:00 a.m. | 1:00 p.m. |
| 8:45 a.m. | 3:00 p.m. |
| 11:00 a.m. | 5:45 p.m. |
| 1:30 p.m. | 7:30 p.m. |

## Public transportation

Within the metropolitan area of Asunción, several transport options are available:

**Bus**

The most common and cheapest means of transportation in the city is the bus. A single ticket costs ₲2,300 (US$0.50). Lines 30-2 and 30-6 have a stop next to the venue.

**Taxi**

Taxis are quite cheap in Asunción: ₲5,000 is applied on any course (US$0.70) and then each kilometre costs approximately ₲4,600 (US$0.60).

**Private Hire Vehicle (PHV)**

The most common providers are Uber and Bolt.

**Car rental**

Avis, National Car, and Hertz are the main car rental companies operating in the city. The daily rate usually costs ₲160,000 (US$25.00).

# PRACTICAL INFORMATION ON THE SESSION

## Sessions of the Committee

The Committee will meet every day from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and from 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. from 2 to 7 December 2024. For further information, the provisional agenda and the working documents can be downloaded on the dedicated webpage: <https://ich.unesco.org/en/19com>

## Onsite registration and badges

All participants must register online before the start of the nineteenth session on the dedicated webpage. In addition, onsite registration desks will be available at the Conmebol Convention Center between 30 November and 7 December 2024.

Badges can be collected at the onsite registration desks located at the Conmebol Convention Center between 30 November and 7 December 2024 according to the following schedule:

* Saturday 30 November: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
* Sunday 1 December: 8:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
* Monday 2 to Saturday 7 December: 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Participants must wear their badges at all times during the session. Only participants with badges will be allowed to enter the venue for the session as well as the venue for the opening ceremony.

## Opening ceremony

All international registered participants are invited to the Opening ceremony which will be held at the Asunción Port Cultural Center (former Port of Asunción*)* on Sunday, 1 December 2024, from 7:00 p.m.

The ceremony will be organized by the Ministry of Culture of Paraguay and will welcome approximately 800 international guests. Participants will enjoy the renowned Paraguayan hospitality, while witnessing artistic performances and tasting the Paraguayan culinary art.

At 6:00 p.m., a free shuttle service will be provided from designated hotels to the Asunción Port Cultural Center (former Port of Asunción*)*, as well as from the Conmebol Convention Centre to the Asunción Port Cultural Center (former Port of Asunción*)*. After the ceremony, a free shuttle service will be ensured for participants to return to the designated hotels.

In order to enter the Opening ceremony venue, participants are required to obtain their badges from the registration desk at the nineteenth session’s venue (see section 6.2 for information concerning local transportation).

## Side events

Throughout the Committee session, a series of side events on the theme of living heritage safeguarding may be organized outside the plenary meetings, in coordination with the host country and subject to available spaces. Please consult the webpage dedicated to the nineteenth session for more information, including the calendar of events which will be regularly updated with details of approved side events.

Requests with specific requirements must be sent to the Secretariat of the 2003 Convention by sending the [side events request form](https://ich.unesco.org/en/calendar-of-events-01360), no later than 10 October 2024, to [ichmeetings@unesco.org](mailto:ichmeetings@unesco.org).

The delegation responsible for organizing a side event must take the necessary arrangements to provide any additional services it requires.

## Interpretation

Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in the following languages for the plenary sessions: English, French and Spanish.

## Internet and computer area

Free Wi-Fi will be provided at the venue. Connection information (login and password) will be provided onsite.

There will be a designated area for delegates during the session, with computers, internet access and printers. Technical staff will be present to assist them.

## Meals

A food court will be set up at the venue, where a reasonably priced lunch will be available. Refreshments will be available throughout the day. Catering is at the expense of the participants.

A dedicated area will be put at the disposal of Committee members.

## Image rights

Participants will be recorded and photographed during the event. Through their participation and registration, it is understood that participants authorize the use of their image for communication and broadcast purposes of the event.

# ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY MEASURES

**Electrical energy provision**

Paraguay is a country whose source of energy generation is almost exclusively hydroelectric. It can then be assured that all energy used for the nineteenth session and related activities will be 100% free of greenhouse gas emissions.

**Documentation**

For environmental reasons and to limit costs, hard copies will only be provided on request. All documents of the nineteenth session can be downloaded from the 19.COM webpage maintained by the Secretariat. Participants are encouraged to bring their laptops to consult the working documents. In case printing is required, recycled and/or biodegradable materials will be used.

**Waste management**

Solid waste generated at events is classified and sorted to be recycled.

**Other measures**

In catering services, disposable plastic items will be avoided to the extent possible. Water fountains will be available and participants are encouraged to bring their own reusable water bottles.

# MEDIA

**Media Centre**

A media centre will be provided for the coverage of the nineteenth session. Media will also have access to wireless internet.

**Press Conference**

A press conference is scheduled on Monday, 2 December 2024 during lunch break. Only registered media will have access.

# GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE HOST COUNTRY

**Currency and banking services**

Guaraní (₲) is the official currency of Paraguay.

US$1.00 = ₲7,581 approx.

EUR1.00 = ₲8,190 approx.

In Asunción, the exchange of currencies is relatively easy as most of the shopping centers in the metropolitan area have exchange counters, as well as at the airport. Branches of a large number of banks operating internationally, as well as national banks are available.

ATMs are widely available in Asunción and Luque. International credit cards are accepted in most establishments.

Bank opening hours vary but generally run from Monday to Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Some branches located in the main shopping centers have cashier service until 8:00 p.m., although with limited opening hours, on weekends.

**Climate**

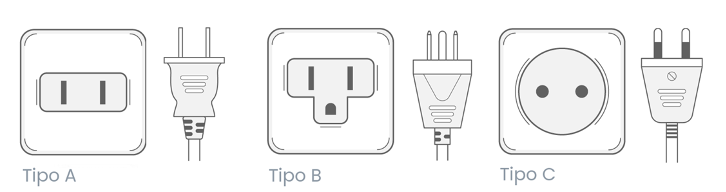
December to March is the summer season in Asunción with high temperatures averaging 35 degrees Celsius and lows around 22 degrees Celsius. At the same time, the humidity is generally high during the summer season. Participants are encouraged to wear light clothes but also to be aware that meeting rooms will be air-conditioned.

**Time zone**

Paraguay's time zone is UTC-3.

**Electricity supply**

In Paraguay, type A, B, and C plugs and sockets are used. The main voltage is 220 V / 50 Hz.



**Tourism**

For any relevant information on places to visit in Asunción and beyond, please consult <https://www.19comparaguay.com/>.

# ANNEX A: List of countries and territories which do not require a visa for entry into Paraguay for a short-term stay

1. Argentina
2. Australia
3. Austria
4. Belgium
5. Bolivia (Plurinational State of)
6. Brazil
7. Bulgaria
8. Canada
9. Chile
10. Colombia
11. Costa Rica
12. Croatia
13. Cyprus
14. Czechia
15. Denmark
16. Dominican Republic
17. Ecuador
18. El Salvador
19. Estonia
20. Finland
21. France
22. Georgia
23. Germany
24. Greece
25. Guatemala
26. Honduras
27. Hungary
28. Iceland
29. Ireland
30. Israel
31. Italy
32. Japan
33. Latvia
34. Liechtenstein
35. Lithuania
36. Luxembourg
37. Malta
38. Mexico
39. Monaco
40. Netherlands (Kingdom of the)
41. New Zealand
42. Nicaragua
43. Norway
44. Panama
45. Peru
46. Poland
47. Portugal
48. Republic of Korea
49. Romania
50. Russian Federation
51. Saint Kitts and Nevis
52. Singapore
53. Slovakia
54. Slovenia
55. South Africa
56. Spain
57. Sweden
58. Switzerland
59. Türkiye
60. Ukraine
61. United Arab Emirates
62. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
63. United States of America
64. Uruguay
65. Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

**Only for diplomatic, service or official passports holders:**

**Nationals of the following countries, who hold diplomatic, service or official passports, do not require a visa for entry into Paraguay for a short-term stay:**

1. Azerbaijan
2. Cuba
3. Egypt
4. Holy See
5. India
6. Indonesia
7. Jordan
8. Kazakhstan
9. Lebanon
10. Montenegro
11. Morocco
12. Philippines
13. Qatar
14. Serbia
15. Viet Nam

# ANNEX B: List and map of designated hotels

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Hotel** | **Category** | **Address** | **Distance to Convention center** |
| **Aloft Asunción** | ★★★★ | Av. Aviadores del Chaco 1761, Asunción | 6.9 Km |
| **Crowne Plaza Hotel** | ★★★★ | Cerro Corá 939, Asunción | 13.3 Km |
| **Dazzler by Wyndham** | ★★★ | Aviadores del Chaco y Profesor Vasconcellos, Asunción | 6.8 Km |
| **Esplendor by Wyndham** | ★★★ | Av. Aviadores del Chaco 2822, Asunción | 5.8 Km |
| **Factoría Hotel** | ★★★★ | Dr. Francisco Morra 813 esq. Tte. H. Vera, Asunción | 7.9 Km |
| **Five Hotel & Residence** | ★★★★ | Dr. Francisco Morra 295 esquina Olegario Andrade, Asunción | 8.5 Km |
| **Granados Park** | ★★★★ | 15 De Agosto Esquina, Asunción | 17.1 Km |
| **Gran Bourbon Asunción Hotel** | ★★★★ | Av. Sudamericana 3104, Asunción | 19.COM venue |
| **Holiday Inn Express** | ★★★ | Av. Aviadores del Chaco 2935/55, Asunción | 5.8 Km |
| **Hotel Guaraní** | ★★★★ | Oliva esq. Independencia Nacional, Asunción | 14.5 Km |
| **Hotel Palmaroga** | ★★★★ | Calle Palma casi Montevideo, Asunción | 15.2 Km |
| **Hotel Villa Morra Residence** | ★★★ | Av. Mariscal López 3001, Asunción | 9.3 Km |
| **Hub Hotel Asunción** | ★★★★ | Dr. Eulogio Estigarribia esquina Tte. Rodolfo Zotti, Asunción | 9 Km |
| **Paramanta Life Style Hotel** | ★★★ | Av. Aviadores del Chaco 3198, Asunción | 5.2 Km |
| **Sheraton Asunción** | ★★★★ | Av. Aviadores del Chaco 2066, Asunción | 6.4 Km |

A map with blue dots

Description automatically generated

**CONMEBOL   
Convention Centre**

