



Society of
International
Economic
Law



UNIVERSITY OF THE
WITWATERSRAND,
JOHANNESBURG

**SIEL Biennial Conference
Johannesburg
7- 9 July 2016**

Dear SIEL 2016 participants

Greetings from Johannesburg! In three weeks you will be arriving in one of the most vibrant cities on the planet – Johannesburg, aka Joburg or Jozi or eGoli.

Kindly take time to read this information sheet as it will assist you in your preparations to travel. We are here to help you at all times should you require any further information or assistance.

CONTACT DETAILS OF THE SECRETARIAT

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WITS
SCHOOL OF LAW

MANDELA INSTITUTE

ACCOMMODATION

Participants are recommended to stay at the Garden Court Milpark Hotel on the corner of Empire Road and Owl Street, Auckland Park, which is a short distance from the campus.

Telephone: +27 10 219 1000

<https://www.tsogosun.com/garden-court-milpark>

Alternatively at the Sunnyside Park Hotel, corner of Princess of Wales Terrace and Carse O’Gowrie Road, Parktown.

Telephone: +27 11 640 0400

<http://www.legacyhotels.co.za/en/hotels/sunnyside>

A shuttle service will operate from both hotels to the campus, once in the morning to bring delegates to the campus and a return trip at the end of the conference programme each day.

If you are booked into other accommodation, for example a local b&b, you will need to make your own independent arrangement with the b&b to travel to and from the campus. Transport with a b&b will normally incur an additional cost. Please check transport arrangements direct with the b&b. Uber is probably the cheapest option.

ALTITUDE

Johannesburg is located on the Eastern Plateau area of South Africa known as the Highveld, at an elevation of 1,753 metres (5,551 ft.). A little headache after arrival does not mean you are getting sick.

ARRIVING IN JOHANNESBURG

OR Tambo International Airport is well sign posted and there is an information centre in the Arrivals Hall should you need to ask for assistance. Tourist brochures are available. Airport Link provides an excellent airport shuttle service direct to your accommodation. You will need to pre-book by contacting <http://www.airportlink.co.za> Please ask the security personnel for directions to accredited taxis. Uber operates in Johannesburg.

There is a Gautrain station in the airport. The Gautrain is a very modern, clean, efficient and secure train service. Please check the link at <http://www.gautrain.co.za/>

CASH

You will need some cash throughout your stay in South Africa. The currency is South African Rands (ZAR). Please ensure that you either convert currency into South African Rands in

your home country OR alternatively at the OR Tambo International Airport when you arrive. There will be no convenient facility to change money once you have left the airport. There is no facility on campus to change foreign currency. The banks on campus do not carry any cash, but there are ATM machines. Banks with foreign exchange facilities are not located close by the campus. Visa cards and MasterCard are widely accepted in South Africa. Diners Club cards are not generally accepted.

DRESS CODE

Smart casual

ENTRY TO THE WITS CAMPUS

All entry points to Wits University have boom gates for cars and turnstiles for pedestrians. Campus security has been advised about visitors to the campus.

FOOD/MEALS

Please inform the organisers of any special dietary requirements by completing the form in the following link: <https://goo.gl/1BXsZT>

The conference will be providing tea/coffee at 17h00 on 7 July just prior to the official opening, and then morning and afternoon tea and lunch on both 8 and 9 July. A cocktail party will be held on the evening of 7 July and a dinner at Moyo's restaurant on 8 July.

There are three cafes on campus close by to the conference venue. They are Zesti Lemonz, Café Fino and the Wits Club. Sizzlers provides take-away food.

PASSPORT, VISAS AND TRAVEL INSURANCE

We trust that all participants have secured all their necessary travel documents, including visas and travel insurance.

Please ensure that you have TWO free pages in your passport. While it is necessary to travel with the original documents, it is recommended that you carry certified copies of your ID, passport and visa pages of your passport while in Johannesburg. This reduces the risk of loss and the complications and difficulties that may arise.

Please email visa.siel@wits.ac.za to request a letter of invitation for a visa if you need one.

ELECTRICITY

Throughout South Africa, the plugs are three round pin plugs. Electricity runs on 220/230V. A universal plug will not suffice as the size of the plugs is unique. Please bring adaptors for your mobile phone chargers and laptops. The organisers are not able to supply adaptors to conference participants.



You can buy plugs at the airport in the Arrivals Hall, and at the Pick 'n Pay supermarket next to the Milpark Hotel.

FLIGHT DELAYS OR CANCELLATIONS

If your flight is delayed or cancelled, please email or phone the Conference Co-ordinator as soon as possible with the new arrival details in Johannesburg.

HEALTH/MEDICAL ISSUES

There is a clinic on the campus with trained health professionals and the Milpark Hospital is close by in case of a medical emergency. Please note that the organizers cannot accept responsibility for any medical costs in Johannesburg. All costs in this regard are to be borne by the participants.

LANGUAGE

South Africa has eleven official languages, but English is the language of business.

LOCAL AREA

Wits University is situated in Braamfontein, an area of Johannesburg that is undergoing major renewal with the addition of cafes, The Orbit Jazz Club, boutique hotels and the development of much needed student accommodation.

7th Street in Melville, a close-by suburb, has a range of restaurants, bars and cafes, and 44 Stanley Avenue, next door to the Garden Court Milpark Hotel, is conveniently located for cafes and specialist shopping.

OPENING DAY ARRANGEMENTS – THURSDAY 7 JULY

The programme will commence with conference registration from 12noon, followed by network meetings from 13h00 – 17h00.

Tea/coffee will be available from 17h00, just prior to the official conference opening. Prior to that please visit the cafes on campus for refreshments.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

We would like to assure all SIEL participants that the organizers are conscious and diligent about your safety and security during your stay in Johannesburg. Notwithstanding we would like to appeal to all participants to be aware of your surroundings at all times and to limit activities outside the SIEL programme. It is preferable to stay in a group. Walking at night is not recommended.

SPEAKING NOTES

Kindly remember to put your speaking notes/presentations in your hand luggage. Do not put your speaking notes in your check-in luggage.

TOURISM INFORMATION

If you arrive a day or two early in Johannesburg we recommend that you visit the Constitutional Court at Constitution Hill <http://www.constitutionalcourt.org.za> or the Apartheid Museum <http://www.apartheidmuseum.org> to gain insight into South Africa's history.

TRANSPORT TO AND FROM ACCOMMODATION AND WITS UNIVERSITY

A shuttle service will be transporting people between the Garden Court Milpark Hotel and Sunnyside Park Hotel and the University once in the morning. The buses will take delegates back to each hotel at the end of the conference programme on Thursday 7 July. The buses will transport delegates to Moyo's restaurant and back to the hotels following dinner on Friday 8 July. If other transport is required it will need to be self-organised and self-funded. Uber is recommended.

WATER

The water in South Africa is safe to drink and cook with when taken from taps in urban areas. You will be supplied with tap water at the conference.

WEATHER

It is generally sunny in Johannesburg during winter, but it can be very cold first thing in the morning and once the sun goes down, and it is very dry. It is best to wear layers so that you can add/take off jumpers/jackets/scarves throughout the day. Seven day weather forecasts can be accessed at <http://www.weathersa.co.za> or <http://weather.news24.com/>

WI-FI

Wi-fi is available on the campus. Wits subscribes to Eduroam so if your institution provides access to Eduroam you should be able to use it at Wits as well. Otherwise the University has strict access protocols and will only allocate wi-fi access based on your name being provided on a list by the conference organisers.

WITS UNIVERSITY

If you would like to get to know the University of the Witwatersrand prior to your arrival please check out <https://www.wits.ac.za/about-wits/visitor-information/>

Please do not hesitate to contact the organizers if you have any questions. We look forward to welcoming you to Johannesburg soon.

Some of South Africa's commonly used words and phrases

[ag](#) (agh) – generally used at the beginning of a sentence, to express resignation or irritation, as in: “Ag no, man! What did you do that for?”

[baba](#) – term of endearment for a baby, as in, “What a cute baba you have!”

[bakkie](#) (buck-ee) – utility truck, pick-up truck

[billtong](#) (bill-tong) – dried meat, similar to beef jerky

[biscuit](#) – cookie

[boerewors](#) (boor-uh-vors) – spicy sausage, a favorite at braais

[braai](#) (br-eye) – an outdoor barbecue, where meat such as steak, chicken and boerewors are cooked

[bru](#) (brew) – a term of affection meaning “brother;” for example, “Hey, my bru, howzit?”

[colddrink, cooldrink, fizzy drink](#) – common terms for soda, such as Coca-Cola

howzit – traditional greeting that translates roughly as, “How are you?”, “How are things?” or simply, “Hello” (literally “How is it?”)

is it (as one word: izit) – expression frequently used in conversation and equivalent to “Is that so?” or “Really??”

Jozi (jo-zee) – the city of Johannesburg, South Africa’s largest city, also known as Joburg or Joeys

just now – very soon, eventually, or sometimes never. If someone says he will do something “just now” it could be in 10 minutes or tomorrow, or maybe he won’t do it at all. For example, “I’ll wash the dishes just now.”

lekker (lekk-irr with a rolling r) – nice, good, great, cool or tasty, as in, “The chocolate cake is lekker.”

now-now – shortly, in a bit, as in, “I’ll be there now-now.”

oke – guy, chap, bloke

robot – traffic light

rubbish bin (or dustbin) – garbage can

shame – broadly denotes sympathetic feeling, such as, “Shame, that’s really sad;” or someone admiring a baby or puppy might say, “Ag, shame!” to emphasize its cuteness

sharp – often doubled up for effect as “sharp-sharp!”; used as a greeting, a farewell, for agreement or just to express enthusiasm

sho – an emphatic expression equivalent to “wow,” “sure,” or “really?”; as in, “Sho, it’s hot today!”

SMS – send a text message, as in, “I’ll SMS you directions to my house.”