



*International Civil Aviation Organization*

**ICAO Blockchain Aviation Summit & Exhibition  
(BC2019)**

*(Abu Dhabi, UAE, 2-4 April 2019)*

---

**GENERAL INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS**

**1. VENUE**

1.1 The ICAO Blockchain Aviation Summit & Exhibition (BC2019) will be held at the Ritz-Carlton Abu Dhabi, Grand Canal, Al Maqta Area, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (UAE) from 2 to 4 April 2019.

<http://www.ritzcarlton.com/en/hotels/uae/abu-dhabi#Hotel>

**2. SCHEDULE OF THE MEETING**

2.1 The event is scheduled to commence with a Workshop on Tuesday, 2 April 2019 starting at 09:00hrs.

2.2 The opening session of the Summit is scheduled to commence at 09:30hrs on Wednesday, 3 April 2019.

2.3 The meeting will be conducted in English.

2.4 A gala networking dinner is being planned for the evening of Wednesday, 3 April 2019. Confirmation of the date and further details will be provided.

2.5 Please check the ICAO events webpage at <https://www.icao.int/meetings/BLOCK2019/Pages/default.aspx> for most up-to-date schedule of events.

**3. REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS**

3.1 Participants should register online the ICAO events webpage at <https://www.icao.int/meetings/BLOCK2019/Pages/default.aspx>.

**4. DOCUMENTATION**

4.1 Please note that no documentation will be available in hard copy format. Details regarding the event and upload of presentations after the event will be available on <https://www.icao.int/meetings/BLOCK2019/Pages/default.aspx>.

## **5. HOTEL RESERVATIONS/RETURN AIRLINE BOOKINGS**

5.1 Participants are requested to ensure that their return airline booking is confirmed. Details of the hotel, where the event will be held, along with other hotels within the vicinity providing preferential/corporate rates is available under the Accommodations page of the event website. Participants are responsible for their own hotel and travel reservations.

## **6. TRANSPORTATION**

6.1 Participants are requested to make their own arrangements for transportation from the airport to the city and return. Some hotels offer airport transfers.

### **6.2 Transportation from Abu Dhabi Airport**

6.2.2 Abu Dhabi Airport taxis are available 24 hours a day and the taxi ranks can be found directly outside each of the terminal building arrival areas. The drivers all have a good knowledge of the tourist attractions, hotels and other major locations in Abu Dhabi. The taxis are all metered cabs and are calculated according to the distance recorded.

The meter from Abu Dhabi Airport Terminal starts at AED 25.00 and kilometer is calculated at AED 1.6 from 1 km up to 50 km (from 06:00hrs to 22:00hrs) or AED 1.69 from 1 km up to 50 km (from 22:00hrs to 06:00hrs). Over 50 Km are charged at AED .09, and every minute of waiting time (first 5 minutes are free) is AED .50.

Transport Abu Dhabi Call Centre 600 535 353.

The meter public taxi outside the airport starts at AED 5 during the day (from 06:00hrs to 22:00hrs) and from AED 5.50 at all other times. The charge per kilometer is AED 1.82 for both day and night trips, while the waiting fee is AED .50 per minute.

<https://itc.abudhabi.ae/en/default.aspx>

### **6.3 Transportation from Dubai Airport**

6.3.1 Airport Taxi Services operate from Dubai International Airport. Dubai Taxi Corporation manages the official government run taxis at Dubai International Airport.

6.3.2 Dubai Airport taxis are available 24 hours a day and the taxi ranks can be found directly outside each of the terminal building arrival areas. The drivers all have a good knowledge of the tourist attractions, hotels and other major locations in Dubai. All airport taxi drivers also command more than one language. The taxis at Dubai Airport are all metered cabs and are calculated according to the distance recorded.

The meter from Dubai Airport starts at AED 25 and the kilometer is calculated at AED 1.96.

The meter public taxi outside the airport starts at AED 5 from 06:00hrs to 22:00hrs. The meter starts from AED 5.50 from 22:00hrs to 06:00hrs. Additional charge of AED 10 - AED 12 applies in case of booking and distribution.

Dubai Taxi Customer Care and Booking Center +971 4 208 0808.

[www.dubaitaxi.ae](http://www.dubaitaxi.ae)

## **7. INSURANCE**

7.1 Participants are advised to have insurance coverage for any unexpected contingency including transport hazards (taxi, buses, rented cars, etc.) and Medical Coverage.

## **8. SOME USEFUL TRAVEL INFORMATION**

### **PASSPORT**

8.1 All foreign nationals entering the United Arab Emirates must possess valid passports for six months with visa for travel.

### **VISA**

8.2 All person entering the United Arab Emirates with the exception of the following nationals require an entry visa that needs to be arranged prior to arrival: United States of America, Australia, New Zealand, United Kingdom, Monaco, Singapore, Malaysia, Brunei, San Marino, Canada, Japan, Korea, Vatican, Andorra, Hong Kong, China as well as citizens or holders of passports issued by European Union states of Sweden, Austria, Malta, Poland, Netherlands, Portugal, Norway, Lithuania, Germany, Switzerland, Hungary, Latvia, Italy, France, Denmark, Slovakia, Spain, Greece, Estonia, Croatia, Luxembourg, Belgium, Finland, Iceland, Slovenia, Romania, Bulgari, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Liechtenstein. Citizens of the above countries (including all 28 EU member states from 22 March 2014) are eligible for a free-of-charge visit visa at all UAE airports or other points of entry.

8.3 The list of eligible countries may vary from time to time and it is therefore necessary to check with your local UAE Embassy/Consulate or the airline that you are using to fly to the UAE prior to departure.

8.4 Visas when needed should be obtained from the original country.

8.5 The Summit

Focal Points identified at the end of the letter may assist in arranging invitation letters for visa purposes if needed. If required please e-mail them with the following information:

- Scanned clear copy of valid passport
- Name
- Employer/Organisation
- Job Title
- Nationality
- Purpose of Visit
- City of Departure (in order to submit the letter of support to the appropriate UAE Embassy/Consulate)

8.6 Participants should obtain updated information on entry requirements by accessing the UAE Government web page: <https://www.mofa.gov.ae/EN/ConsularServices/Pages/Visa-Information.aspx>

## **CUSTOMS**

### **8.7 Drugs and medication**

8.7.1 The UAE has a zero-tolerance drugs policy. Possession of even tiny amounts of illegal drugs has resulted in imprisonment for travelers entering or transiting the UAE.

8.7.2 A doctor's prescription should be carried along with any medication that is brought into the country. Some drugs and medications that may be purchased over-the-counter in other countries are classified as controlled substances in the UAE and are illegal to possess. A person may be arrested and prosecuted if in possession of prescribed or over-the-counter medicines containing, for example, codeine or similar ingredients.

8.7.3 Please contact your nearest UAE Embassy or Consulate for advice if you need to bring medications or other drugs into the country.

8.7.4 Controlled substances such as cannabis, opium etc. are banned and the penalties for handling these drugs are severe.

### **8.8 Duty Free**

**Dubai Airport** - The following items are exempted from customs duties and shall be allowed entry:

- a) Gifts whose value does not exceed AED 3000.
- b) A total number of 400 cigarettes, or 50 cigars, or 500 grams of tobacco (minced or pressed for pipes) or minced/pressed tobacco for smoking, tumbâk (pure tobacco) or water pipe tobacco.
- c) The amount of alcoholic beverage shall not exceed 4 litres or 2 cartons of beer, each consisting of 24 cans not exceeding 355 ml for each can.

<https://www.dubaicustoms.gov.ae/en/eServices/ServicesForIndividuals/Pages/default.aspx>

**Abu Dhabi Airport** - Each traveler is permitted to bring the following with them:

- a) 4 litres of alcohol or one carton / 24 cans of beer
- b) AED 2,000 worth of cigarettes or 400 sticks of cigarettes
- c) AED 3,000 worth of cigars
- d) 2 kilograms of tobacco
- e) AED 3,000 worth of gifts, including perfume

<http://www.abudhabiairport.ae/english/airport-information/check-in-and-passport-control/customs.aspx>

8.8.1 Entry of the following personal effects with the passengers shall be allowed and exempted from customs duty:

- a) Passenger's personal belongings are permitted entry and shall be exempted from customs fees.
- b) Still and moving image video cameras with their appropriate tapes, films and accessories.
- c) Cash money, currencies and travelers cheques altogether less than AED 40,000 and the passenger's age shall not be less than 18 years old.
- d) Radio systems, combined broadcasting apparatus, CD and DVD players with agreeable quantities.
- e) Agreeable quantities of projectors for displaying slides and films including accessories.
- f) Telescopes.

- g) Mobile telephone.
- h) Portable TV sets.
- i) Computers including laptops.
- j) Baby strollers.
- k) Portable music equipment.
- l) Sports equipment.
- m) Portable typing sets.
- n) Portable calculators.
- o) Disabled wheelchairs and cars.

8.8.2 The following conditions shall be in force for the duty exemption for the above:

- a) Baggage and gifts must be of a personal nature and not in commercial quantities.
- b) The passenger should not be a frequent traveler with goods on a regular basis, or a member of the respective conveyance crew.
- c) Passengers must be above 18 years of age for carrying allowable cigarettes or alcoholic beverages into the country.
- d) The aforementioned conditions apply to whoever accompanies the passenger.

8.8.3 Banned Items include:

- a) All kinds of Narcotic drugs (Hashish, Cocaine, Heroin, Poppy Seeds, Hallucination Pills, etc.).
- b) Goods intended to be imported from boycotted countries.
- c) Goods from Israeli origin or bearing Israeli trademarks or logos.
- d) Crude Ivory and Rhinoceros horn.
- e) Gambling tools and machineries.
- f) Three layers fishing nets.
- g) Original engravings, prints, lithographs, sculpture and statues in any material.
- h) Used, reconditioned and inlaid tires.
- i) Radiation polluted substances.
- j) Printed publications, oil paintings, photographs, pictures, cards, books, magazines stony sculptures and mannequins which contradict Islamic teachings, decencies, or deliberately implying immorality or turmoil.
- k) Any other goods, the importation of which is prohibited under the authority of UAE customs laws or any other laws in the country.
- l) Forged and duplicate currency.
- m) Cooked and home-made foods.

Participants should obtain updated information on all custom requirements by accessing the UAE Government web page: [www.fca.gov.ae/en/Home/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.fca.gov.ae/en/Home/Pages/default.aspx)

## **9. CURRENCY, CREDIT CARDS AND BANKING SERVICES**

9.1 The unit of currency in UAE is Dirhams (AED) with notes of 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200, 500 and 1000 and coins of Fils 1, 5, 25, 50 and 1 Dirham. The current rate of exchange for USD is approximately USD 1 = AED 3.67.

[www.xe.com](http://www.xe.com)

9.2 **Cash Amounts Declaration:**

9.2.1 All passengers arriving in the country must disclose cash, travellers' cheques, jewellery and precious metals in their possession that exceed in value AED 100,000 or its equivalent in other currencies; by filling the disclosure form designed for this purpose pursuant to the disclosure system applicable in the country. Passengers below 18 years of age shall not be permitted to bring in money exceeding the said limit and the amount in his/her possession shall be added to his/ her guardian`s permitted limit if accompanied by one.

[www.government.ae/en/information-and-services/finance-and-investment/clearing-the-customs-and-paying-customs-duty](http://www.government.ae/en/information-and-services/finance-and-investment/clearing-the-customs-and-paying-customs-duty)

[www.dubaicustoms.gov.ae/en/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.dubaicustoms.gov.ae/en/Pages/default.aspx)

9.3 International Credit Cards, such as American Express, Visa, Master Charge, etc, are usually accepted at most hotels, department stores and restaurants.

9.4 Foreign currency exchanges and ATMs are readily accessible at the airport and major shopping destinations.

9.5 All commercial banks exchange major foreign currencies and are open from 09:00 to 15:00hrs Sundays through Thursdays.

**10. OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION**

**SHOPPING**

10.1 Shopping malls and shopping areas are available in Abu Dhabi and Dubai.

**TAP WATER**

10.2 It is recommended that all visitors drink only bottled water/beverages.

**TELEPHONE AND INTERNET CARDS**

10.3 Cards are readily available at the Dubai Airport or local shops for international calls, and internet connection.

**11. WEATHER CONDITIONS**

11.1 The mean daily minimum and maximum temperatures for the month of April are 27°C and 33°C.

## 12. OTHER ASSISTANCE

12.1 The General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA) will be glad to assist the participants to the event with any advice they may require.

12.2 The Focal Points from the GCAA are as follow:

Request for Invitation for Visa:

Mrs. Asma Mohammed Al Suwaidi  
Senior Admin Executive  
Phone: +971 4 211 1523  
Fax: +971 4 211 1536  
[asma.al-suwaidi@gcaa.gov.ae](mailto:asma.al-suwaidi@gcaa.gov.ae)

Other Enquiries:

- [blockchain2019@gcaa.gov.ae](mailto:blockchain2019@gcaa.gov.ae)
- Mr. Mohamed Ahmed Younis  
Auditing Inspector  
Phone: +971 4 211 1616  
Mobile: +971 50 551 1060  
Fax: +971 4 211 1536  
[mohdabbas@gcaa.gov.ae](mailto:mohdabbas@gcaa.gov.ae)
- Mrs. Michelle Soliman  
Aerodrome Operations Senior Inspector  
Phone: +971 2 405 4213  
Mobile: +971 50 486 1232  
[msoliman@gcaa.gov.ae](mailto:msoliman@gcaa.gov.ae)

12.3 In case of emergency in the UAE, please contact the above Focal Points.

— END —