



GENERAL INFORMATION

Bank/post office

Currency exchange banks are located at Schiphol airport and large train stations. All banks and major post offices exchange foreign currency. Most banks and post offices are open from Tuesday to Friday between 09:00 - 16.00 hours. On Monday businesses hours start mainly at 13.00 hours. On Saturdays and Sundays banks are closed.

Climate

October means autumn in The Netherlands. The weather can be fairly pleasant, but it is recommended to bring a raincoat and /or umbrella. The average temperature in October in Amsterdam is 11°C.

Congress Venue

Congress Venue

KIT Amsterdam (Royal Tropical Insitute)

Mauritskade 63

1092 AD Amsterdam

The Netherlands

Built in 1926, the Royal Tropical Institute has been one of the most notable landmarks of Amsterdam East for the past 75 years. KIT's history goes further back than that, however. In 1864 the Colonial Museum was opened in Haarlem. Its collection initially consisted of all sorts of exotic objects brought back by Dutch people from the East. The collection was partly intended for scientific research and partly for the 'education and relaxation' of the Dutch public. Around the turn of the century the size of the collection, the research coupled to it and the growth in visitor numbers demanded more space so the museum moved to Amsterdam.

Dress code

The dress code during the conference, including the social events, is informal.

Electric current

The electric current in The Netherlands is 220 volts. Wall sockets are the round two-pin European type.

GMT

Amsterdam is one hour ahead of GMT (Greenwich Mean Time); daylight saving time is applied during summer until October 30, 2006.

Identity card

It is obliged to carry an identity card.



Insurance and liability

It is highly recommended that all participants carry an adequate travel and health insurance, as HRD 2006 and/or its agents cannot accept liability for accidents, illnesses or injuries that may occur at or during the meeting or its social events.

Language

The conference language will be English. No interpretation is provided.

Parking facilities

Close to the conference venue KIT there will be paid public parking facilities in the Linnaeusstraat or Mauritskade.

Registration desk

Badges can be picked up onsite in the congress venue.

Pre-paid desk: please turn to this desk if your confirmation letter shows a zero or minus balance.

Non-paid desk: please turn to this desk if you have registered but on your confirmation letter it shows a balance is still due.

Information desk: provides you with general information on the city, conference and social programme

Safety tips

As in all major cities, people should take care of their personal belongings. It is advised not to wear your badge outside congress activities.

Shopping

Shops are generally open during the week from Monday to Saturday from 09:00-18:00. Shops in the city centre are open on Sunday from 12:00-17:00. Late night shopping is on Thursday until 21:00.

Taxis

Amsterdam taxi phone: +31 (0)20 777 7777

Telephone

There are no public telephones available in the KIT. There will be a public phone in the nearby NH Tropen hotel or Hotel Arena.

Tips

A general guideline for tips is 10% of the bill, depending on the quality of the service.



Travel

From the airport to Amsterdam City Centre

By Train

Schiphol train station is situated directly below the airport. Tickets can be purchased at the yellow, automatic vending machines. Trains depart to Amsterdam Central Station every 10 minutes and will take approximately 15 minutes.

Taxi

There are plenty of taxis in front of the airport. The costs to the city centre is approximately € 40.-.

To the KIT (congress venue)

By car:

Leave the ring road A10 via the exit Watergraafsmeer/Diemen (S113): follow the Middenweg (direction Centrum/ Watergraafsmeer), which turns into the Linnaeusstraat. KIT is at the corner of the Linnaeusstraat and the Mauritskade. There are paid parking facilities in the vicinity.

By public transport:

From Amsterdam Central Station: tram 9, bus 22

From Amsterdam Muiderpoort Station: tram 3 of 7

From Dam square: tram 9 or 14

From Leidseplein: tram 7 or 10

From Museumplein: tram 3

Congress venue stop is called "eerste van swindenstraat" or "alexanderplein".

Question?

Should you have a question, please visit the website www.hrdconference2006.nl or contact us at hrd2006@congrex.nl.

Useful telephone numbers

Emergency :	112
Central medical service/ doctor:	+31 (0)20 592 3434
Royal Tropical Institute (KIT):	+31 (0)20 568 8698