

LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES PLATFORM & ARCTIC COUNCIL

Joint Arctic Regional Gathering

2 – 5 October 2023

Kirkenes, Norway

Information for participants

This Arctic Regional Gathering is part of the second three-year workplan of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform ([LCIPP](#)).

To ensure a seamless and engaging experience for all participants, we present this information Note. It will provide you with essential details about the LCIPP Arctic Regional Gathering in collaboration with the Arctic Council (henceforward referred to as the Arctic Regional Gathering).

In this document, you will find:

- i. Dates and venue of the Arctic Regional Gathering
- ii. Event webpage for up-to-date information
- iii. Badge collection
- iv. Interpretation
- v. Traveling to Kirkenes, Norway
- vi. Venue information & accommodation options
- vii. Attention to food allergies
- viii. Practical information about Kirkenes
- ix. Important contact numbers for immediate assistance

This note is designed to answer your queries, offer logistical support, and make your experience at the Arctic Regional Gathering as enriching and hassle-free as possible.

I. Dates and venue of the Arctic Regional Gathering

The Arctic Regional Gathering is scheduled from 2 to 5 of October 2023, at the Thon Hotel in Kirkenes, Norway.

II. Event webpage for up-to-date information

For detailed information about this regional gathering, including relevant presentation materials, please visit the event page on the LCIPP web portal (See here [LCIPP](#)). Information will be updated in due course.

III. Registration and Badge Collection

As a registrant, please collect your badge at the entrance of the Thon Hotel from 19:00 – 21:00 on 1 October, and from 2 to 4 October 2023, between 9:00 to 10:00 AM local time. Badges are required for entry to all areas of the venue, including the main meeting room, ensuring the safety and security of all participants.

Please wear your badge throughout the regional gathering, in case of loss, immediately report to Ms. Kushilani Wijesiri (KWijesiri@unfccc.int).

IV. Interpretation

The Arctic Regional Gathering will be conducted in English. Efforts are underway to provide interpretation in Northern-Sámi and Kalaallisut. To access this service online via a smartphone or computer, participants are kindly requested to bring their own headphones.

V. Traveling to Kirkenes, Norway

Visas & Entry Requirements:

Should you require a visa to enter Norway, please check with your embassy. It is each traveler's responsibility to understand and adhere to the entry regulations before traveling to Norway.

Medical Insurance & Facilities:

It is highly recommended for all participants to secure international health insurance coverage before traveling. Participants are responsible for their own medical expenses.

Travel by flight:

Kirkenes has an airport located 13 km from the city centre and connects daily to cities like Oslo and Tromsø.

Kirkenes Airport

Phone: +47 67 03 53 00

Airport shuttle bus:

Barents Buss runs a shuttle bus to and from Kirkenes airport twice a day and stops at Thon Hotel. The timetables are mainly adapted to flights to and from Oslo.

Payment can be made with credit cards, cash and Vipps (701771).

Price: NOK 150.-

Taxi
Kirkenes Taxi
Phone: +47 78 99 13 97
Email: booking@kirkenestaxi.no

Driving to Kirkenes:

For guests arriving from Sápmi, driving might be the best option for traveling to Kirkenes. Driving together is highly recommended if possible.

Some estimated driving hours from different locations in Sápmi:

Romssa: 10 hours 30 minutes
Karášjohka: 3 hours 30 minutes
Anár: 2 hours 40 minutes
Roavvenjárga: 6 hours 30 minutes
Jáhkâmáhkke: 9 hours, 20 minutes
Giron: 9 hours
Staare: 15 hours

VI. Venue Information & Accommodation Options

Thon Hotel Kirkenes is the designated venue hotel. For those considering accommodation here, the address is Johan Knudtzens gate 11, 9900 Kirkenes, Norway. You can contact the hotel directly at +4778971050 for reservations or inquiries. Learn more about the venue and accommodation on their website (see [here](#)).

Scandic Kirkenes, Kongens gate 1-3, 9900 Kirkenes, Norway
Phone: +4778995900
Website: <https://www.scandichotels.com/hotels/norway/kirkenes/scandic-kirkenes>

Barents Breakfast Hotell AS, Presteveien 3, 9900 Kirkenes, Norway
Phone: +4745013022
Website: <http://barents-frokosthotell.norwayhotel.net/en/>

For other accommodation options, please visit booking sites found on the internet.

VII. Attention to food allergies

Your well-being is our priority. If you have any food allergies or dietary restrictions, please inform us in advance by emailing ips@arctic-council.org no later than Friday 29.10.2023. This will allow us to coordinate with our catering team to ensure that your nutritional needs are met safely and conveniently throughout the meeting.

VIII. Practical information about Kirkenes

Kirkenes is a small town in the northernmost part of Norwegian Sápmi, located about 400 kilometers above the Arctic circle. For more information about Kirkenes, please see: <https://www.visitnorway.com/places-to-go/northern-norway/kirkenes/>

Where to eat in Kirkenes

Please visit the following link [here](#).

Drinking water

Tap water is safe to drink throughout Norway. You can drink water from any faucet, unless a sign clearly indicates otherwise.

Pharmacy

Vitusapotek Renen
Storgata 2, 9900 Kirkenes, Norway
Phone: +4778994950

Vitusapotek Kirkenes Handelspark
Verksveien 1, 9900 Kirkenes, Norway
Phone: +4778990036

Hospitals

Kirkenes Hospital
Skytterhusveien, 9901 Kirkenes, Norway
Phone: +4778967000
Website: <https://finnmarkssykehuset.no/avdelinger/kirkenes-sykehus>

Currency

The currency is Norwegian Krone (NOK).

Telephone

The international dialing code to call Norway from abroad or an international mobile phone is +47.

Time zone

Norway standard time is Central European Summer Time GMT +2 hours.

Power voltage

230 V, 50 Hz



Type F: This socket also works with plug C and E

Taxes & fees

All taxes are included in the marked prices in department stores, restaurants, and hotels.

Tipping

Tipping is not required in restaurants, bars, or taxis. In case of excellent service, a tip of your choice is much appreciated.

Average temperature in October

3° High / -1° Low (°C)

IX. Important contact numbers

Function	Name	Contact details
Host county focal point	Leif John Fosse or	Leif-John.Fosse@kld.dep.no +47 2224 5913
	Jon Petter Gintal	jon.petter.gintal@samediggi.no +47 9977 4848
Host country designated security focal point	Karl Edvard Balto	+47 7847 4080 karl.edvard.balto@samediggi.no
UNFCCC focal point & designated security focal point	Donna Lagdameo	dlagdameo@unfccc.int +49 228 815 1532
Programme coordinators	Gunn-Britt Retter	Gbr@saamicouncil.net
	Chad Tudenggongbu	ctudenggongbu@unfccc.int +49 162 342 9086
Logistics focal points	Susanna Israelsson	Susanna.israelsson@saamicouncil.net + 46 730463271
	Kushilani Wijesiri	kwijesiri@unfccc.int +49 228 815-10 01
Thon Hotel Kirkenes		+47 78971050
Kirkenes Police		112
Kirkenes fire department		110
Ambulance		113
General emergency service		911