

9th Meeting of the European Goose Management International Working Group (EGM IWG9)

18-20 June 2024 Tromsø, Norway

INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

Meeting Dates & Venue

The 9th Meeting of the European Goose Management International Working Group will take place from Tuesday, 18 June until Thursday, 20 June 2024 in Tromsø, Norway at the kind invitation of the Norwegian Environment Agency. The meeting will be held at the Scandic Ishavshotel.

The meetings of the EGMP Task Forces will take place on 17 June 2024 at the same location. Please note that the Task Force day will be held in a hybrid mode allowing virtual participation for those who cannot travel to Tromsø.

Meeting Venue Address:

Scandic Ishavshotel Fredrik Langes gate 2 9008 Tromsø Norway

Further details, including opening times for the registration and schedule of the meetings will be provided in the EGM IWG9 provisional agenda to be uploaded on the meeting webpage.

How to get there

By bus

From Tromsø Airport (Tromsø lufthavn station), your best option is the Airport Express Bus that stops at all hotels in Tromsø, including the Scandic Ishavshotel. As an alternative, there is a direct bus service FB92 to the venue at Scandic Ishavshotel station. Alternatively, you can opt for buses 40 to Wi-To station, 42 to Killengreens gate station, or buses 420, 425, or 430 to Tromsø Prostneset station, all providing frequent service from the airport close to the venue.

By taxi

The taxi fare from the airport to the city centre is about NOK 200, with higher rates on weekends and evenings/nights. The ride takes 10-15 minutes. To book a ride, you can contact Tromsø Taxi (+47 03011) or Din Taxi (+47 02045).

Contacts

If you require any assistance or have questions, please reach out to the meeting organisers:

UNEP/AEWA Secretariat

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About Tromsø

Located well within the Arctic Circle, Tromsø, Norway, stands as a vibrant city offering a unique blend of outdoor adventure and urban culture. With a population nearing 76,000, it's known as the "Gateway to the Arctic" due to its historical role as a starting point for polar expeditions. Tromsø's landscape is marked by the dramatic backdrop of mountains, fjords, and islands, making it a scenic wonderland.

Tromsø's history is rich and varied, from its origins as a fishing village in the 13th century to its development into a major Arctic trading post. It played a significant role during the Age of Polar Exploration and has been a centre for Sami culture. The city itself is spread across the island of Tromsøya, connected to the mainland by the iconic Tromsø Bridge and Tromsøysund Tunnel.



For visitors, Tromsø offers an array of experiences: from the stunning Northern Lights that light up winter skies to the Midnight Sun of summer, providing 24 hours of daylight. The <u>Polar Museum</u> and the Arctic Cathedral are must-visit landmarks that encapsulate the spirit and history of the region. For nature enthusiasts, the nearby Lyngen Alps and the surrounding fjords offer unparalleled opportunities for hiking and wildlife spotting. Additionally, <u>Polaria</u>, an Arctic-themed visitor center, is a standout attraction in Tromsø. Designed to mimic ice floes pressed up against the land by rough seas, Polaria offers insights into Arctic wildlife through exhibits featuring seals, fish, and other marine life native to the region. Its interactive exhibits and panoramic cinema also provide educational content about the Northern Lights and the impact of climate change in the Arctic.

The city centre is compact and walkable, with a variety of shops, cafes, and restaurants. Tromsø is also known for its lively nightlife, bolstered by a student population from the Arctic University of Norway. A short trip from the city, visitors can explore the island of Kvaløya with its stunning landscapes. For a deeper dive into Arctic life, the village of Tromvik and the surrounding areas offer insights into traditional and modern ways of living in the far north.

For a stunning view, the visitors can take the cable car (<u>Fiellheisen</u>) or walk to the southern tip of the island - Telegrafbukta.

For more in-depth information and to plan your visit, the official Tromsø tourism website (https://www.visittromso.no/) provides resources on sights, activities, and practical tips for making the most of your stay.

Accommodation

Please note that our Host has secured a block booking at the Scandic Ishavshotel offering discounted room rates exclusively for our participants. To take advantage of this offer, please use the booking code BNIA150624 when reserving your room. The code is valid for stays from 15-21 June 2024 and must be used by 3 May 2024. Additionally, free cancellations are possible until the same date. After this date, rooms are available upon request and at the best available price at the time of booking. The bookings require a credit card guarantee. The room rates (including breakfast and VAT) are NOK 1792 (EUR 145) per night for a single room and NOK 2090 (EUR 183) per night for a double room. Room bookings can be made online on the https://www.scandichotels.com/hotels/norway/tromso/scandic-ishavshotel or via customer service (Tel.: +47 2315 5000), available Monday to Friday, 08:00 – 20:00.

The meeting participants are free to explore alternative accommodation options. The following hotels are situated at a convenient distance to the venue:

Thon Hotel Polar

Grønnegata 45, 9008 Tromsø Tel.: +47 7775 1700

Prices start at ca 150 EUR per night
For further information please see the hotel website: https://www.thonhotels.no/hoteller/norge/tromso/thonhotel-polar/?utm_source=google&utm_medium=infoboks&utm_campaign=GMB

Smarthotel Tromsø

Vestregata 6, 9008 Tromsø, Norway

Prices range from 76 EUR for a single room
For further information please see the hotel website:
https://smarthotel.no/en/tromso

Apartment Hotel Skaret by

Vander

Storgata 25, 9008 Tromsø

Tel.: +47 21 38 01 88

Prices start at ca. 73 EUR per night

For further information please see the hotel website: https://vanderapartments.com/

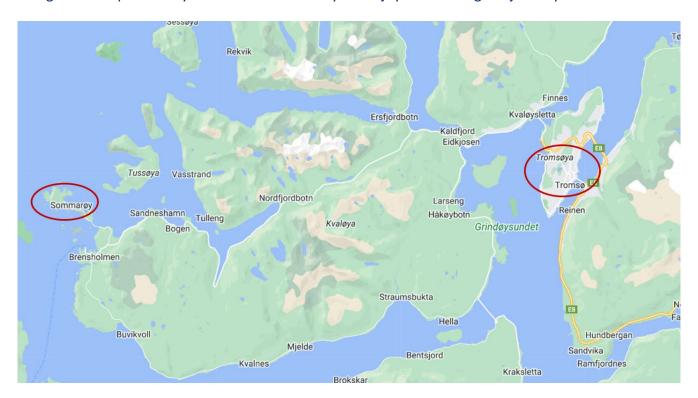
Meeting Arrangements

Meals

Coffee, tea and snacks will be served during the coffee breaks and a supply of water will be provided throughout the meeting. In addition, lunch meals will be offered by the Host at no cost for the participants.

Field trip

For this field trip graciously offered by our Host, we will head to Sommarøy island. The trip is scheduled for the evening of 18 June, from 18:00-22:00. Transportation to the island will be provided by NEA, along with complimentary snacks and drinks for your enjoyment during the journey.



Weather

At the end of June, Tromsø generally experiences mild summer weather, with average temperatures ranging from 8°C to 15°C. Although it is summer, the weather can be quite variable, and it is wise to prepare for cooler conditions, especially in the evenings or when participating in outdoor activities. We therefore recommend that all participants bring warm and functional clothing to ensure comfort during their stay.

Useful numbers

Country dialling code: +47

Fire: 110 Police: 112

Ambulance: 113

Disclaimer

The UNEP/AEWA Secretariat disclaims all responsibility for medical, accident and travel insurance, compensation for death or disability compensation, loss of or damage to personal property and any other loss that may be incurred during travel time or the duration of the meetings. In this context, it is strongly recommended that all meeting participants secure international medical and travel insurance for the period of travel and the duration of the meeting, prior to their departure.