

Media Handbook

19th OSCE

Ministerial Council

Dublin, 6-7 December 2012



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IRELAND

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 **Dublin Bus**


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Contents

Programme	01
General Information	04
Transport	10
General information about Ireland	11
Useful websites	15
Hotels	16
Shuttle Service Timetables	18
Maps	20

Programme

Thursday 6 December 2012

- 08.00 Arrivals (cameras only)
- 09.20 Family photo (cameras only)
- 09.30 **Opening session (cameras only)**
- Formal opening and adoption of the agenda
 - Address by the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office
 - Address by the President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly
 - Report by the OSCE Secretary General
- First plenary session (cameras only)**
- Statements by heads of delegations
- 13.00 Working luncheon for Foreign Ministers /Heads of Delegation
Preparatory Committee/PC Hall
- 15.00-18.00 **Second plenary session (cameras only)**
- Statements by Heads of Delegations

Thursday 6 December 2012 (contd.)

- 19.00 Reception for Foreign Ministers
/Heads of Delegation (closed)
*Portrait Gallery,
Dublin Castle*
- 19.30 Official dinner for Foreign
Ministers /Heads of Delegation
(closed)
*St Patrick's Hall,
Dublin Castle*
- 19.30 Reception for delegates and the
press (open)
Guinness Storehouse
- 21.45 Reception for Foreign Ministers
/Heads of Delegation (closed)
*The Gravity Bar,
Guinness Storehouse*

Friday 7 December

09.30 Third plenary session (cameras only for statements)

- Statements by Heads of Delegation
- Adoption of Ministerial Council decisions and documents
- Any other business

Closing session (cameras only)

- Formal closure (statements by the current and incoming Chairpersons-in-Office)

13.30 Press conference of the OSCE Chair-in-Office



General Information

Venue

The 19th OSCE Ministerial Council takes place in Dublin at the Royal Dublin Society (RDS) Simmonscourt Complex, located at Simmonscourt Road, Dublin 4, approximately 3.5km from the city centre. The official website of the RDS is www.rds.ie

Media Centre

A fully-equipped Media Centre is attached to the venue. The centre will have two press conference rooms (with interpretation for the final press conference), 150 work-spaces with 50 fixed desktop computers with internet access. A small number of booths suitable for broadcasters will be available in the centre. Advance reservation of these booths can be made by e-mail to karl.boyle@dfa.ie. There will be access to printers, faxes, scanners and photocopiers. A high-capacity wireless based Local Area Network will be available. Screens in the centre will transmit internal proceedings from the Plenary Hall. Sound feed of the proceedings will be available on wireless headsets which can be obtained from the media information desk. Proceedings will also be streamed on www.OSCE.org. Food and beverages will be available. All accredited journalists will be provided with a Press Pack which will include briefing material on the Meeting and background information on Ireland.

Twitter feed will be available on @dfatirl and @OSCE

Hashtag #OSCE #DUBLIN

Media Centre opening hours

The Media Centre will be open as follows:

Wednesday 5 December 10.00-18.00

Thursday 6 December 07.00-22.00

Friday 7 December 07.00-22.00

For security reasons access will be restricted during the VIP arrivals on Thursday 6 December between 8.00am-9.15am. Media wishing to cover the arrivals and family photo need to be at the Media Centre before 8.00am.

Accreditation

The Accreditation Office for media is located in the Sandymount building, opposite the entrance to the RDS on Simonscourt Road (gate N). Media may be requested to present proof of identity (passport or identity card).

Tel: 237 6199

Email: oscedublin2012@gmail.com

The accreditation office will be open as follows:

Wednesday 5 December 08.00-20.00

Thursday 6 December 06.30-18.00

Friday 7 December 08.00-13.00

Lost accreditation badges:

Loss of an accreditation badge should be reported immediately to the accreditation office either in person or at the phone number above.

Access

Access to the venue for media is via the entrance (Gate N) on Simmonscourt Road (see map for details). Access will only be permitted to media in possession of their accreditation badge. Media are requested to cooperate with security check points and to follow the directions of An Garda Síochána (Irish Police Force), security and protocol staff at all times. Security staff will not allow media to access the Delegates' area without accompaniment from a Conference official.

Media should be aware that the use of airport-style x-ray screening will be used at the venue.

Information Desk & Contacts:

Information desks will be available in the Media Centre to provide additional information and assistance including general venue information, transport, wi-fi assistance, host broadcaster and pooling. The contact number for the Information Desk is 234 9949,
Email: oscedublin2012@gmail.com

Media Information Desk

Tel: +353 1 237 6188
Email: oscedublin2012@gmail.com

OSCE Press and Public Information Section

Tel: +353 1 234 9927
Email: press@osce.org

Accreditation – Karl Boyle

Tel: +353 87 639 6333
Email: karl.boyle@dfa.ie

Interview Requests – Bobby Smyth

Tel: +353 87 980 2050
Email: bobby.smyth@dfa.ie

Document distribution

Documents including statements and press releases will be made available at the information desk or online on the OSCE website: www.osce.org/event/mc_2012

Wireless

A wireless based Local Area Network is available throughout the media centre.

Telephones and international calls to and from Ireland

Telephones provided in the media centre can be used to make national calls within Ireland or to contact other offices in the venue.

To make a call within Ireland you should first dial "9" before the number to reach an outside line.

To dial another office in the venue please use the last four digits of the office number. For example if the number is 234 9927, you can call that office by dialling 9927.

Telephones provided in the venue cannot be used to make international calls. However, they can receive calls from abroad.

The international dialling code for Ireland is +353. Calls to Dublin are +353 1

First Aid

There are three First Aid rooms; please see the venue map for location of these areas
Tel: 237 6183 and 237 6182

Smoking

Smoking is not permitted in the media centre. A designated smoking area is located nearby. Please see the venue map for the location of this area.

Liability

The organisers are not liable for personal accidents or for the loss of or damage to the personal property of attendees at the Meeting. Attendees should make their own arrangements with respect to personal insurance.

Transport

Dublin Airport

There will be OSCE Meeting Information Desks in the arrival halls of both terminals for media arriving and departing through Dublin Airport. The airport is located 10km from the city centre and 13.5km from the RDS. Taxi fare to the city centre is approx. €25 and approx. €30 to the RDS. There are a number of bus services operating between the Airport and the City Centre – the fare is around €8. Buses and taxis leave from the arrivals level outside both terminals. More information is available at www.dublinairport.com .

Shuttle services

A free shuttle bus service for the media will operate between the Burlington Hotel and the venue. Please see the enclosed time-table.

Public transportation

Bus routes 4 & 7 both operate between the venue and the city centre. The nearest rail station is at Sandymount, around a 10-15 minute walk. More information is available at www.dublinbus.ie & www.irishrail.ie.

General information about Ireland

Population: 4,581,269

Total area: 84, 421 km²

(Ireland 70,282 km² ; Northern Ireland 14,139 km²)

The geographical island of Ireland consists of the sovereign independent state of Ireland comprising 26 counties, and Northern Ireland, which is governed by a power-sharing Executive and Assembly as established under the Good Friday Agreement.

Capital: Dublin

Government

Ireland is a parliamentary democracy. Its law is based on Common Law and legislation enacted by the Oireachtas (Irish Parliament) under the Constitution. In addition, regulations and directives enacted by the European Union have the force of law in Ireland.

The President is the Head of State, and is elected by direct vote. On 11 November 2011, Michael D. Higgins was inaugurated as the ninth President of Ireland.

The Head of the Government is the Taoiseach (Prime Minister) while the Tánaiste is the Deputy Prime Minister. Enda Kenny, T.D. was elected as Taoiseach on 9 March 2011. Eamon Gilmore was appointed as Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade on the 9th March 2011. There are fifteen Government Departments, each headed by a Minister. The Ministers collectively form the Government. Executive power is exercised by or on the authority of the Government, which is responsible to the Dáil (House of Representatives).

There are two Houses of Parliament known as Dáil Éireann (House of Representatives) and Seanad Éireann (Senate). The Dáil has 166 members known as Teachtaí Dála (TD). They are elected on a system of proportional representation by universal suffrage. Elections take place at least once every five years. After the 2011 general election, the main political parties represented in the Dáil were Fine Gael, the Labour Party, Fianna Fáil and Sinn Féin.

The Seanad has 60 members, 11 of whom are nominated by the Taoiseach while the rest are elected from a number of vocational panels and by graduates of universities.

Climate

For weather forecasts, see www.met.ie

Local time

Western European Time (GMT+0)

Currency

The euro is the currency of Ireland. Notes are €5, €10, €20, €50, €100, €200 and €500. Coins are 1c, 2c, 5c, 10c, 20c, 50c, €1 and €2. Any credit cards that bear the Visa, MasterCard or American Express symbol will be widely accepted in Ireland. Visitors with other cards should ask in advance or check if that card is on display where they wish to use it.

Banks

Banking hours are generally 10.00 to 16.30 Monday through Friday. Some banks are open on Saturday. ATM (cash) machines are located at most banks and accept most credit and debit cards.

Smoking

A blanket ban on smoking in all places of work is in place since March 2004, including all bars, nightclubs and restaurants.

Although hotel bedrooms may be exempt from the ban, it is applied to all other areas within hotels.

Electric appliances

The electrical supply in Ireland is 230v (50hz). The plugs and sockets are different from the USA and continental Europe.

A limited supply of electrical adaptors are available from the I.T. helpdesk in the delegates' arrival area.

Emergency telephone number for police, fire or ambulance:

Tel: 112 or 999

These numbers are free of charge but should only be used in cases of genuine emergency.

On answer, state which service you require, wait to be connected to that service, then clearly state the location of where the assistance is required.

Medical treatment

If you are travelling to Ireland from another Member State of the European Economic Area or Switzerland, you must carry a European Health Insurance Card or a provisional replacement certificate. Find out more about the European Health Insurance Card at <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=509&langId=en>

Visitors travelling from outside the EU Member States are advised to take out personal travel insurance.

Useful websites

Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

www.osce.org

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

www.dfat.ie

For further information on Ireland and Dublin:

www.discoverireland.ie

www.visitdublin.com

www.dublincastle.ie

Royal Dublin Society

www.rds.ie

Dublin Bus

www.dublinbus.ie

Guinness Storehouse

www.guinness-storehouse.com

Hospital

St Vincent's University Hospital

Elm Park

Dublin 4

Tel: +353 1 2214000

www.stvincents.ie

Hotels

The Burlington Hotel

Leeson Street, Dublin 2
www.burlingtonhotel.ie
Tel: + 353 1 618 5600

The Conrad

Earsfort Terrace, Dublin 2
www.conradhilton.com
Tel: + 353 1 602 8900

Four Seasons

Simmons Court Road, Dublin 4
www.fourseasons.com/dublin
Tel: + 353 1 665 4000

The Merrion Hotel

Upper Merrion Street
Dublin 2
www.merrionhotel.com
Tel: + 353 1 603 0600

Radisson Blu St Helen's

Stillorgan Road
Blackrock, Co. Dublin
www.radissonblu.ie/dublin
Tel: + 353 1 218 6000

The Shelbourne

27 St Stephen's Green
Dublin 2
www.marriott.com
Tel: + 353 1 663 4500

Clyde Court Hotel

Landsdowne Road
Ballsbridge, Dublin 4
www.clydecourthotel.com
Tel: + 353 1 2382 700

Herbert Park Hotel

Shelbourne Road
Dublin 4
www.herbertparkhotel.ie
Tel: + 353 1 667 2200

Ballsbridge Hotel

Pembroke Road
Ballsbridge, Dublin 4
www.ballsbridgehotel.com
Tel: + 353 1 637 9300

Bewley's Hotel

Merrion Road
Ballsbridge, Dublin 4
www.bewleyshotels.com/ballsbridge
Tel: + 353 1 668 1111

Shuttle Service Timetables

BUS NO. 4	SHUTTLE BUS SERVICE DAILY DEPARTURE TIMES	
BURLINGTON HOTEL > RDS		
WEDS 5th DEC	THURS 6th DEC	FRI 7th DEC
07.30	06.30	07.35
08.00	07.00	08.05
12.00	07.30	12.25
14.30	9.20	13.25
16.30	13.30	14.25
17.30	16.30	15.25
19.30	18.40	16.25
21.30	20.40 TBC	17.25
23.30	22.40 TBC	
23.40 TBC		

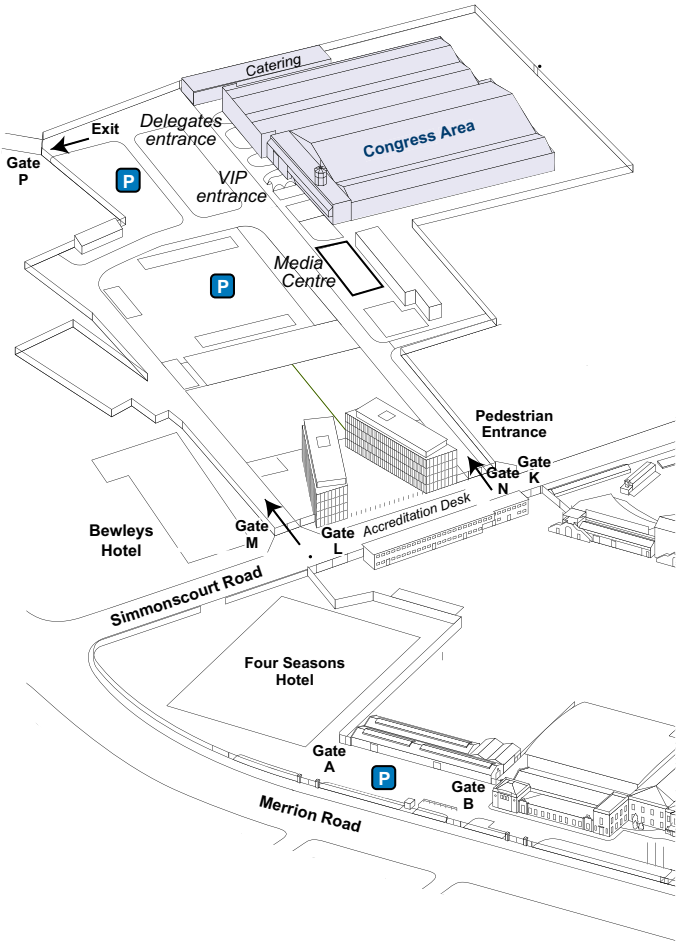
All departures from Burlington Hotel

BUS NO. 4	SHUTTLE BUS SERVICE DAILY DEPARTURE TIMES	
RDS > BURLINGTON HOTEL		
WEDS 5th DEC	THURS 6th DEC	FRI 7th DEC
07.45	06.45	07.50
08.15	07.15	08.20
12.15	07.45	12.40
14.45	10.00	13.40
16.45	13.45	14.40
17.45	16.45	15.40
19.45	18.55	16.40
21.45	20.50 TBC	17.40
23.45	22.50 TBC	

All departures from RDS

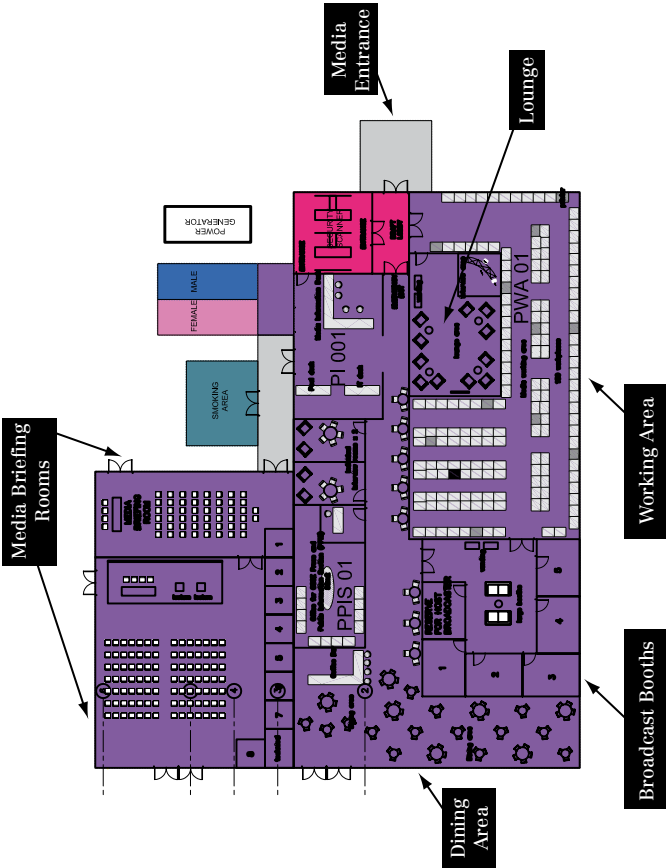
Maps

RDS



Media Centre

WIFI Password : osce2012



Notes





