

# Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

## COVID –19 Code of Conduct

The IPBES secretariat is pleased to welcome all participants to Bonn for the IPBES-9 Plenary from 3 – 9 July 2022 and for the regional consultations and a Stakeholder Day on 2 July 2022.

The Plenary has been organized with careful consideration to ensure safety during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Protecting the health and safety of participants and the local community in Bonn while enabling an effective, inclusive, and safe Plenary is of the utmost importance. Everyone participating has a vital role to play in ensuring the safety of their fellow participants.

All participants accredited by the IPBES secretariat to attend IPBES-9 Plenary must adhere to the COVID-19 requirements outlined below. These requirements are built on guidance from the host country and local authorities. Violations of the COVID-19 requirements are a risk to everyone's health and safety, and as such should be taken seriously by all participants.

The Plenary is guided by the highest ethical and professional standards, and all participants are expected to behave with integrity and respect towards all other participants.

### **Applicability**

The requirements below apply to ALL participants.

Host country restrictions are located at the following link: <https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/coronavirus/2317268#:~:text=Travellers%20are%20required%20to%20register,special%20requirements%20apply%20on%20entry>. Please review this information prior to traveling to Germany.

### **Requirements during the Plenary**

All participants must be mindful of general hygiene precautions such as regular washing and sanitizing of hands, coughing and sneezing etiquette, etc.

Participants are strongly encouraged to fully comply with and adhere to the following COVID-19 health and safety regulations:

- Full vaccination is strongly encouraged.
- All participants will be expected to perform a rapid antigen self-test daily for the duration of their participation in the Plenary. Participants will receive 7 self-tests upon registration.
- Self-testing should be done at the places of residence and not at the meeting venue.
- Access to the conference venue is not conditional on proof of vaccination or a negative antigen test, but daily testing is expected. It is the personal responsibility of each

participant to take a daily self-test and monitor their health and refrain from coming to Plenary if they test positive.

- All participants should wear masks during the Plenary. Participants will be provided with two masks upon registration.
- Physical distancing is also encouraged when possible.

### **Outside the conference venue**

Outside the conference venue, including public spaces, accommodation and on public transport, all participants must adhere to the relevant local COVID-19 measures and restrictions. Please note that masks are **mandatory** for public transport in Germany.

**It is expected that all participants follow the above requirements for both their own safety and the safety of others.**

### **What to do when you test positive for COVID-19.**

Anyone testing positive with a self-test must take a follow-up certified rapid antigen test or PCR test and self-isolate. Those testing positive with a certified rapid antigen test or PCR test are required to quarantine in accordance with local COVID-19 measures and restrictions.

If a meeting participant can't leave the Schengen-Area before the visa expiration because of testing Positive for COVID-19, the participant has to apply for a visa extension/or a special paper for border control. The following documentation will be required:

1. Copy of passport (page with personal details, Schengen-visa and entry stamp).
2. Confirmation about participation on the meeting to be provided by the IPBES secretariat.
3. Travel health insurance.
4. Positive COVID-19 test result.
5. New flight ticket.

Please report all COVID-19 cases to [mea-ipbes-covid19@un.org](mailto:mea-ipbes-covid19@un.org).

### **Breaches of the code of conduct**

Any breaches of this code of conduct will be dealt with by the IPBES secretariat. The IPBES secretariat will take adequate measures to address such breaches as soon as possible and usually within 24 hours. Such breaches may lead to a temporary suspension of the involved Participants from the Conference; serious breaches may lead to de-badging.

### **More information**

For more information about IPBES 9 please refer to information for participants page on <https://ipbes.net/ipbes9info>