



# 40th EPRA Meeting

October 9-10, 2014

Tbilisi, Georgia

## CONTACT PERSONS FROM GEORGIAN SIDE:

Georgian National Communications Commission

Contacts:

1. Mr Ivane Makharadze  
Head of Broadcasting Regulation Department  
GNCC  
Tel: +995-32-399-338  
Mobile: +995 599-270-808  
E-mail: [imakharadze@gncc.ge](mailto:imakharadze@gncc.ge)
2. Ms Mzia Gogilashvili  
Chief Specialist/International Affairs Coordinator  
Strategy Development Department  
GNCC  
Tel: +955-32-311-669  
Mobile: +995-77-737-763  
E-mail: [mgogilashvili@gncc.ge](mailto:mgogilashvili@gncc.ge)
3. Ms Nino Nizharadze  
Chief Specialist/Legal Department  
GNCC  
Tel: +995-32-398-410  
Mobile: +995 599-539-051  
E-mail: [nnizharadze@gncc.ge](mailto:nnizharadze@gncc.ge)

## MEETING VENUE

All sessions will be held in the five stars Radisson Blu Iveria Hotel (<http://www.radissonblu.com/hotel-tbilisi>), located 2 km from the city centre.

## ACCOMMODATION

List of the Hotels:

1. **Radisson Blue Iveria Hotel (meeting venue)** - Rose Revolution Square 1 – 0108, Tbilisi, Georgia – 50 rooms (the booking form is attached)
2. **Holiday Inn Tbilisi** - <http://www.ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/de/de/tbilisi/tbsms/hoteldetail> - 1, 26 May Square, Tbilisi, Georgia - 70 standard and 30 executive rooms (the booking form is attached)

The holiday Inn is a mere 7-10 min drive away from the Radisson. Transportation to the venue will be organized. Additionally during the meeting two cars will be on duty to serve the EPRA Delegates in case of necessity.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE DEADLINE TO BOOK AT THE PREFERENTIAL RATES MENTIONED IN THE BOOKING FORMS IS 25 AUGUST**

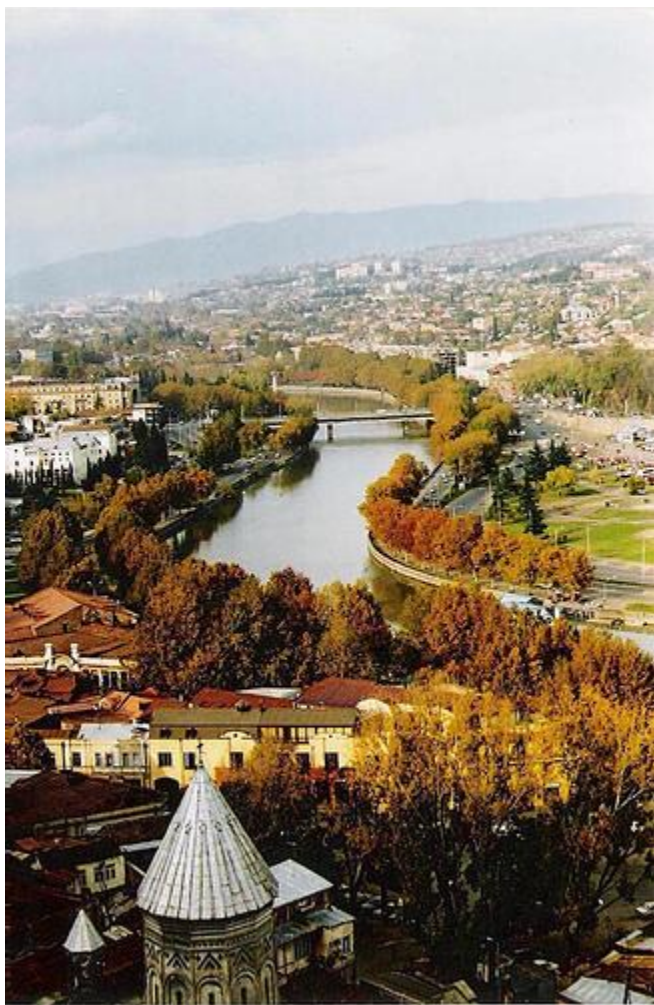
## AIRPORT TRANSFER

Transfer from/to the Tbilisi International Airport to/from the hotels will be provided for EPRA Delegates.

## FRIDAY EXCURSION

The free of charge guided excursion will be organized on **Friday, October 10, from 16:00 to 19:00**. The EPRA Delegates will have the possibility to visit old Tbilisi, as well as Mtskheta, the ancient capital of Georgia (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mtskheta> ). Travel time from Tbilisi to Mtskheta will be 20-30 min.

The excursion will be finished by a farewell dinner (free of charge) in Mtskheta. After the dinner the transportation to Radisson and Holiday Inn will be organized.



## ABOUT GEORGIA AND TBILISI

**Geography:** Georgia is in the middle of South Caucasus region of Eurasia, as a border line between Western Asia and Eastern Europe. Mountains are the essential geographic feature of the country. The Likhi Range Mountains divides the country into eastern and western parts. The Greater Caucasus Mountain Range separates Georgia from the North Caucasian Republics of Russia and the southern portion of the country is bounded by the Lesser Caucasus Mountains. The landscape within the nation's boundaries is quite varied. Western Georgia's landscape ranges from low-land forests, swamps, and temperate rain forests to eternal snows and even glaciers. Forests cover around 40% of Georgia's territory while the alpine zone accounts for only around 10% of the land.

**Tbilisi** is the capital city of the country of Georgia, lying on the banks of the Mtkvari River. The city covers an area of 726 km<sup>2</sup> (280.3 square miles) and has a population of approximately 1,345,000. Tbilisi lies in the centre of eastern Georgia, in the foothills of the Trialeti mountain range. According to Georgian legends, it was founded in the 5th century by King Vakhtang Gorgasali who, while hunting, shot a pheasant which fell into a warm spring and was either

boiled or healed. Either way, the king was inspired to found a city on the site, and the name of the city derives from the Georgian word "tbili" meaning "warm". Although the city has been destroyed and rebuilt some 29 times, the layout of the Old Town is largely intact with narrow alleys and big crooked houses built around courtyards.

**Climate:** Georgia's climate along the Black Sea coast is Mediterranean, which is characterized as having warm to hot summers and mild to cool winters. Farther inland the climate is continental, with warm summers and cold winters. The average summer temperature is about 23 C (73 F) and the average winter temperature is about -3 C (28 F). Note, the closer to mountains you get, the colder is the weather. The capital Tbilisi experiences very hot summers and long winters with an average temperature of 0 C.

**Food:** each historical province of Georgia has its own distinct culinary tradition. The Georgian cuisine offers a variety of dishes that are usually high in various herbs and spices. In addition to various meat dishes, Georgia has also got a variety of vegetarian meals to offer. The importance of traditional food and drinks in Georgian culture is best observed during feasts. Dinner can last for hours and the assortment of dishes and amounts of wine are more than impressive.

**Drink:** Georgia can be proud of its wines, as it is the oldest wine producing region of the world. Lagidze water is a popular Georgian flavored soda made with a variety of natural syrups. Some other types of mineral water produced in Georgia are: Borjomi, Nabeghlavi and Sairme.

**Health:** travel insurance is recommended for all travelers planning to visit Georgia, as the medical care in the country is limited. You should take the most important medicine you may require, from your home country, as it can be hard to obtain prescription or over-the-counter drugs in local pharmacies – the equivalent drugs may simply not be available. Travelers who are taking regular medications should carry them properly labeled and in sufficient quantity.

**Bank, currency, credit card:** On the territory of Georgia payment can only be made in Georgian Lari (GEL). One GEL equals to 100 Tetri. Foreign currency can be exchanged at special exchange shops and the banks. Payments for goods and services shall be made in local currency. Georgian banks are integrated in the systems of SWIFT and WESTERN UNION.

The exchange rate for July 21, 2014 is: 1USD = 1.7541 GEL; 1EURO = 2.3717 GEL.

**Time zones:** in winter time Georgia is three hours ahead of London (GMT); in spring and summer time – four hours ahead of GMT.

#### **VISA INFORMATION:**

Please find the visa information on: [http://mfa.gov.ge/index.php?lang\\_id=ENG&sec\\_id=95&info\\_id=17453](http://mfa.gov.ge/index.php?lang_id=ENG&sec_id=95&info_id=17453)

**Please take into consideration** that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia intends to change the visa procedures by beginning of September, 2014. The additional information concerning visa procedures will be published on the web-site of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia - [www.mfa.gov.ge](http://www.mfa.gov.ge); additionally you are kindly requested to contact the GNCC contact persons to get/approve the information on Georgia visa procedures.

### **What to See**

#### **MUSEUMS**

- G. Chitaia Ethnographical Open-Air Museum, Tortoise's pond lane. Every day, except Monday 11:00 AM-4:00 pm. 70 houses and thrift buildings characteristic for the various parts of Georgia. 8000 household devices and samples of craft are exposed in the museum Adults: 3 GEL; Students: 1.5 GEL; Guided tour: 10 GEL.
- Numismatic Museum, G. Leonidze str.N3/5 (Building of the National Bank of Georgia). Coins dating back to the IV century BC, Kolkhian Tetries, antique coins, Arabian Dirham, coins of then Georgian kings Lasha-Girgi, Rusudan, Demetre I, Giorgi III, also the Turkish coins , Persian Abaz, Austrian and Polish Thalers.
- Museum of Art, L. Gudiashvilistreet 1, ☎ (+995 32) 99 99 09. Every day, except Monday 11:00AM-4:00 pm. Adults: 3 GEL; Students: 1.5 GEL; Guided tour: 10 GEL.

- Janashia Museum, Rustaveli avenue 3. This museum houses hundreds of thousands of Georgian and Caucasian artifacts of archeology and ethnography. A permanent exposition chronologically follows the development of Georgia's material culture from the Bronze Age to the early 20th century. The most valuable exhibits include Homo Ergaster fossils discovered at Dmanisi; the Akhlagori hoard of the 5th century BC which contains unique examples of jewelry, blending Achaemenid and local inspirations; a collection of approximately 80,000 coins, chiefly of Georgian minting; medieval icons and goldsmith pieces brought here from various archeological sites in Georgia; a lapidary which includes one of the world's richest collection of Urartian inscriptions, etc. Adults: 3 GEL; Students: 1.5 GEL; Guided tour: 10 GEL.
- Puppet Museum, Shavteli N 17a, ☎ (+995 32) 99 53 37. Every day except Monday. Summer: 11:00am-18:00pm; Winter: 11:00am-17:00pm. Adults: 3 GEL; Children: 1 GEL.
- Galaktion Tabidze Museum, Marjanishvili N 4. Every day except Sunday and Monday: 11:00 a.m. till 17:00 pm. The museum of the eminent Georgian poet, Galaktion Tabidze.

### ART CENTRES & GALLERIES

- **Tiflis Avenue** is an art centre and a gallery that represents a variety of Georgian artists working in different media. The gallery is located in an old town, on King Erekle II Street, where exhibitions of art are held regularly. Tiflis Avenue also runs an online art store with the largest selection of contemporary Georgian art. Gallery open Tuesday-Sunday 12noon-9pm. Entrance free.

### RELIGIOUS ARCHITECTURE

- Mamadaviti, (south –west of Tbilisi on Mtatsminda). Constructed in 1859-1871, domed in 1879
- Sioni Church, (upper Kala)
- Sameba Cathedral/Holy Trinity Cathedral Church. Constructed in 2002, the largest church in Georgia and one of the most grandiose orthodox churches. 101 meters high
- Metekhi Church
- Anchiskhati - constructed by the king Dachi Ujarmeli in VI century
- Kvashveti - Was constructed in 1910 and it is a copy of Samtavisi church of the 11th century
- Synagogue, K. Leselidze Street. Functioning synagogue constructed in 1910. Women and men are seated separately.

### OTHER SIGHTS

- Mtatsminda Pantheon of Writers and Public Figures, (Mtatsminda Mountain, in the churchyard around St. David's Church - Mamadaviti). Many famous writers, as well as the mother of Joseph Stalin, are buried here;
- Old Tbilisi. Perhaps one of the most distinctive pleasures of walking through the Old City, with its old-style balconies, ancient churches, winding streets, and charming shops. Be prepared to see a number of eclectic sights, from the abandoned streetcar near Erekle Street to the art galleries of Chardini Street to the stunning modern art lining Sioni Street. Sub-neighborhoods include Sololaki, with its elegant restaurants and art nouveau architecture, Old Tbilisi proper - with sites ranging from churches to mosques to sulfur baths,

Betelmi - housing two of the city's oldest churches and the stunning vistas of the Narikala Fortress - and Mtsasminda, just up the mountain from Rustaveli Avenues, a more sedate, "livable" district filled with charming old houses and a number of families;

- Vake. Located around Chavchavadze and Abashidze avenues, this is one of Tbilisi's posher districts, home to many expats and nouveaux riches. While not quite as atmospheric as Old Tbilisi, Vake is home to some lovely parks, pleasant nineteenth-century architecture, and some of the city's most high-end shopping, including luxe furniture store Missioni. There are also plenty of elegant, if understated, bars and restaurants in this area...In Vake there are two buildings of Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi state university. The university is founded by Ivane Javakhishvili in 1918 and is one of the historical buildings in Tbilisi.

### **What to do**

- Sulfur Baths - The bath district is called Abanotubani and is on the south side of the Metekhi Bridge. It is easy to spot with its small domes on ground level. There are several small baths offering different levels of comfort. The baths are relatively small, and you may have to wait for a pool to become available. English service is not guaranteed. Massages are available; however, they are more like a washing, but well worth it for the experience. You should bring your own towel and beach sandals (available for a small fee). Some travelers have suggested the Royal Baths is a much better alternative to Sulfur Baths (they are next to each other). Sulfur baths tends to double the price at the end of the massage and bath in spite of your original agreed price;
- Turtle Lake (Kus Tba) - this lake is located in the hilly outskirts of Tbilisi. A popular weekend getaway for families, the lake offers pedal-boat rentals as well as swimming (deckchairs optional) for reasonable prices (swimming entry, without deckchair, is about 3 Lari). Allright for a hot summer day, and offering views of both the mountains and the city below. Snackbars, restaurants and fruit cocktail shakers are available overlooking the lake. It's about an hour's pleasant walk from the Saburtalo district along country roads, passing the Ethnographical Museum, or a ten-to-fifteen minute (5-10 lari) cab ride from the center. While the lake itself isn't particularly nice, the views from the hike up to the lake makes it a worthwhile excursion;
- Lake Lisi - Much further out than Turtle Lake (a cab will set you back about 10-15 lari each way), Lake Lisi is much larger and more remote, with long, winding mountain walks surrounding the lake. Unlike Turtle Lake, the entire Lake Lisi is opened up for swimmers. Be warned - there aren't always taxis waiting to take you back...
- Climb up to the Narikala Fortress - the crumbling ruins of this once-great fortress, standing alongside the Upper Betelmi Churches and the stunning Botanical gardens, offer panoramic views of the city below. But be warned - it's quite a steep climb - and while the lack of bureaucracy and guard-rails can be liberating for some, you may want to pay extra care to watch your step. It is also possible to get to Narikala by use of an aerial tramway. The usual metro card can be used;
- Botanical garden. National botanic garden of Georgia, lying in the Tsavkisis-Tskali Gorge near Narikala Fortres, has not only collection of plants, but is also a lovely park with with scenic waterfall which is great for a dip on a hot summers' day, although you need to avoid the guards. 1 GEL pp;
- TV antenna park (high on the hill), (Bus 124 from Rustavelli). bus until 23h. Take the bus up to the park to have fun with your kids, or to take a ride in the ferris wheel. The ride is 1.5 Lari, and you need to buy a rechargeable access card at a cashier's desk for 2 lari. Alternatively, use the funicular for 2 Lari, which has to be loaded onto the park access card (Metromani card not valid).



## HOTEL REGISTRATION FORM

Georgian National Communication Commission

Please, complete the details below, and **e-mail** the form to:

Eka Litanishvili – [eka.litanishvili@radissonblu.com](mailto:eka.litanishvili@radissonblu.com) and [machet@epra.org](mailto:machet@epra.org)

Tel.: + 995 322 402 200

Fax: + 995 322 402 201

Name of the guest:	
Address:	
Telephone number:	Fax Number:
E-mail address:	Number of Rooms:
Arrival Date/Time:	Departure Date/Time:

Room rate:

☐ **USD 165** – Single Occupancy

☐ **USD 185** - Double Occupancy

**\* The rate includes Super Buffet Breakfast. Buffet at Italian restaurant Filini and Free Wi-Fi connection exclude 18% VAT;**

**ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE GUARANTEED WITH A CREDIT CARD:**

You can use one of the following Credit Cards:

☐ American Express

☐ Visa

☐ Master Card /Euro card

Card Holder's Name:

Card Number:

Exp. Date:



#### Cancellation Clause – Rooms

- Until **August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014** - reservation may be cancelled without a cancellation fee being charged.
- Between **August 25<sup>st</sup>, 2014** and **Septeber 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014** - Any additional cancellations will be subject to a cancellation fee equal **fifty (50%)** of the contracted rate multiplied the number of cancelled room nights.
- Between **Septeber 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014** and **October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014** – Any cancellations or NO Show will be subject to a cancellation fee equal **fifty (100%)** of the contracted rate multiplied the number of cancelled room nights.

Please be kindly informed of our Check-in / Check-out Policies:

**Check-In: 15:00**

Early arrival before 09:00am

Early arrival after 09:00 am till 15:00pm:

**Check-Out: 12:00**

: 100% fee of previous day

: 50% fee of previous day

---

Date:

Signature

*The reservation is confirmed only after receiving the confirmation number from the hotel.*





## Reservation Form

Please complete the form in its entirety, including all requested documentation and send it to [reservation@hi-tbilisi.com](mailto:reservation@hi-tbilisi.com) with a copy to [machet@epra.org](mailto:machet@epra.org) to ensure safe and rapid handling of your request.

This reservation form enables participants of 40th EPRA Meeting to use special room rates:

### *Standard Room*

- ☐ 125 USD – Single Occupancy
- ☐ 140 USD – Double Occupancy

### *Executive Room*

- ☐ 170 USD – Single Occupancy
- ☐ 185 USD – Double Occupancy

**\*Proposed room rates are inclusive of a Full Buffet Breakfast and exclusive of VAT at 18%**

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_, authorize use of my credit card for full payment of Room & Tax:

Guest Name	
Company	
Address	
Telephone/Fax	
Confirmation Numbers	
Arrival Date	
Number of Nights	



Credit Card Number	
Expiration Date	
Name on Card	
Billing Address	
Cardholder Signature	

#### *Cancellation Policy*

- Room reservation using special rates is available until **August 29**;
- Room reservation can be cancelled until **September 23<sup>rd</sup>** without any fines;
- Full stay charge will apply on **September 23<sup>rd</sup>**;

**Holiday Inn Tbilisi**  
**1, 26 May Square**  
**0171, Tbilisi, Georgia**  
**Tel: (+995 32) 30 00 99**  
**Fax: (+995 32) 30 00 01**  
**Web: [www.hi-tbilisi.com](http://www.hi-tbilisi.com)**