



TRAVEL GUIDE

# Plan Your Trip to Kigali

Practical information to help delegates prepare for the  
ESAAMLG Annual Meeting 2026 — from weather and visas  
to getting around Kigali.

[52esaamlgconf.rw](https://52esaamlgconf.rw)

## **ESAAMLG Annual Meeting 2026**

Kigali Serena Hotel · 31 August – 6 September 2026

Hosted by the Republic of Rwanda, MINECOFIN

## WEATHER

### Weather in Kigali (late August – early September)

The meeting falls within Rwanda's long dry season, which typically runs from June to September.

#### Daytime High

27°C / 81°F  
Warm, sunny  
afternoons

#### Overnight Low

12°C / 54°F  
Cool mornings &  
evenings

#### Rainfall

Low Chance  
Occasional light  
shower

#### Sun Exposure

High  
Strong midday sun at  
altitude

## WHAT TO BRING

### Pack for the boardroom and the climate

Kigali's dry-season days are warm, but a few extras will keep you comfortable indoors and out.

#### Business & Smart-Casual Attire

For plenary sessions and receptions, in a style suited to Kigali's warm days.

#### Wear Something Warm for AC

Conference and meeting rooms are air-conditioned and can be too cold. Bring an added layer to be comfortable through long sessions.

#### Sun Protection

Sunglasses and sunscreen, according to your own sensitivity — the sun is strong at Kigali's altitude.

#### Comfortable Footwear

For walking between venues, and for standing up well to long stretches in meetings.

## POWER & PLUGS

### 230V, Types C & J

Rwanda runs on 230V at 50Hz. Bring a universal adaptor if your devices use a different plug shape.

#### Type C

Two round pins — the common European-style plug.

#### Type J

Three round pins in a triangle — the Swiss-style socket also used in Rwanda.

## CURRENCY & PAYMENTS

### Cash and cashless, always an option

Both cash and cashless payment are widely available everywhere in Kigali, from hotels to markets.

### Currency

The Rwandan Franc (RWF) is the local currency.

### ATMs, Cards & POS

Widely available at hotels, banks and larger venues.

### Mobile Money

Widely used locally for everyday payments.

### Bringing Cash?

Ensure it's USD, EUR or GBP — all easily exchangeable in all Forex Bureaus in Kigali.

## NATIONAL LANGUAGES

### What's spoken in Kigali

#### Commonly Spoken

**Kinyarwanda** is the national language, used everywhere across Kigali.

#### Business Language

**English, Kinyarwanda** and **French** are all used in business and official settings.

## TRAVEL & ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

### Visa-free for every African traveller

Citizens of all 55 African Union (AU) member states receive a free entry pass upon arrival.

#### All Visitors

Must present a valid travel document (passport) with at least six months of validity and usable space within.

#### African Union Citizens

Free 30-day visa upon arrival at all border points.

#### East African Community Citizens

Receive a free entry pass valid for up to 6 months.

#### Other Visitors

Can obtain a visa on arrival at the airport at not more than 50 USD for single entry and 70 USD for multiple entry.

## HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

### Travel healthy, travel prepared

#### Be in Good Health

Delegates should be in good health before travelling, and avoid travel if they have recently been in contact with, or in a place with, a known active spreadable infection.

#### Follow Latest Guidelines

Check current travel health guidance with your airline or a travel clinic before departure.

#### Yellow Fever Vaccination

Rwanda generally requires proof of yellow fever vaccination for travellers arriving from endemic regions.

#### Pack Your Medications

Delegates should remember to pack enough of any medication they need for the full duration of their stay.

## FLIGHT & AIRPORT

# Kigali International Airport (KGL)

You will enter Rwanda through Kigali International Airport (KGL), 30 minutes from the Kigali Serena Hotel, with modern facilities, lounges and seamless immigration processing. A professional conference team will give you a warm welcome at the airport and assist with hassle-free clearance.



Kigali International Airport



Terminal building

## AIRPORT TRANSFERS & LOCAL TRANSPORT

### Getting to the venue, and around Kigali

Pre-arranged conference shuttles will be available for registered delegates. For everything else, Kigali is easy to get around.

#### Motorbike Taxis (Motos)

Fast and affordable for short trips  
— electric options are available.

#### Taxis & Rides

Available at hotels for  
straightforward point-to-point  
trips.

#### Ride-Hailing Apps

YegoMoto, Move and GreenRide  
Africa all operate across Kigali.

#### Public Buses

Safe and affordable, though less  
convenient than other options.

#### Car Rentals

Contact the Professional  
Conference Organizer, Global  
Planners, for assistance.

## WHILE YOU'RE HERE

### Etiquette & things to do

#### Local Etiquette

Rwandans are very hospitable, often greeting with handshakes, light hugs, waves, and smiles. Modesty, calmness and respect are highly valued.

#### Extend Your Stay

From around Kigali experiences to 3 hour drives, Rwanda offers plenty for delegates arriving early or staying on. See the Tourism page on the conference website for great options.

## JUST IN CASE

### Emergency contacts

Should the need arise, Kigali is served by state-of-the-art health facilities, including CHUK, King Faisal Hospital and Rwanda Military Hospital. Ambulances will be on standby throughout the meeting, with reserved direct access to these designated health facilities.

| Service                       | Number |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| General Emergency / Police    | 112    |
| Ambulance                     | 912    |
| Fire Brigade                  | 111    |
| Traffic Accidents             | 113    |
| Gender-Based Violence Hotline | 3512   |

## A FEW WORDS

### Basic greetings in Kinyarwanda

| English             | Kinyarwanda    | When to Use                 |
|---------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| Hello               | Muraho         | Formal, respectful greeting |
| Good morning        | Mwaramutse     | Morning greeting            |
| How are you?        | Amakuru?       | General greeting            |
| I'm fine            | Ni meza        | Response to "Amakuru?"      |
| Welcome             | Murakaza neza  | Welcoming someone warmly    |
| Thank you very much | Murakoze cyane | Warm, polite thanks         |
| Please              | Nyabuneka      | Polite request              |

## CONTACT

### Questions before you travel?

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#### Professional Conference Organizer

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Full programme, registration and logistics: [52esaamlgconf.rw](https://52esaamlgconf.rw)