



# 11<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AIMSA'2004 2 - 4 September 2004 St. St. Constantine and Helena Resort Varna, Bulgaria

GENERAL INFORMATION

## MEETING VENUE

The AIMSA'2004 Conference will be held at Frederic Joliot Curie International Home of Scientists (IHS). The IHS is situated in the center of the St. Constantine Resort, 10 km north of the city of Varna. As a traditional congress center, the IHS offers comfortable halls and conference rooms and comprehensive facilities.

## LANGUAGES

English is the official language of the AIMSA'2004 Conference. All paper presentations and discussions will be in English. No simultaneous translation will be provided.

## OFFICIAL AGENT

The perfect organization of the event will be ensured by the co-operation between the Institute of Information Technologies and the Company for International Meetings (CIM) Ltd. – the official agent of the meeting.

*COMPANY for  
INTERNATIONAL  
MEETINGS Ltd.*



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## REGISTRATION

All participants are requested to pre-register by sending a completed Registration form (by 30 June) with the respective fee (by 1 August) to the address of CIM Ltd. Forms received without the appropriate remittance will not be considered for valid registration.

The AIMSA'2004 Registration fees include attendance to AIMSA'2004 technical sessions, a copy of the AIMSA'2004 proceedings, the Welcome reception and the Conference dinner.

\* Authors of accepted papers should pay the registration fee **not later than 28 June 2004**.

\*\* ECCAI members and full time students are required to enclose a copy of a certificate.

## AIMSA 2004 REGISTRATION DESK

The AIMSA 2004 Registration Desk will be located next to the working halls. It will operate from Wednesday, 1 September and will stay open till the end of the Conference. Participants can address the CIM representatives for information on hotel accommodation, transportation, working and tourist programme, social events.

## COFFEE/ TEA/ REFRESHMENTS

Coffee, tea and refreshments will be available during the AIMSA'2004 Conference from Thursday until Saturday.

## LETTER OF INVITATION

Upon request the Organizing Committee will issue an Official Letter of invitation for participation in the AIMSA'2004 Conference. It should be understood that the invitation is only meant to facilitate participants to find financial support if it is necessary or to be presented at the Bulgarian consular offices for obtaining an entry visa. Such a letter does not commit the Organizing Committee to cover any expenses of the delegates.

## ACCOMMODATION

Hotel rooms in several categories have been reserved for the AIMSAs'2004 participants at the St. Constantine Resort. All hotels are located within short walking distance (not more than 10 minutes) from the International Home of Scientists. Participants can make their choice of hotel accommodation by filling in the Hotel & Tours Reservation Form and sending it to CIM address. All bookings and inquiries should be addressed directly to CIM Ltd.

**A deposit for one night is required** in confirmation of hotel reservation. The deposit will be deducted from the total hotel bill. The balance due should be settled upon arrival at the Registration Desk in the IHS.

**Important note:** There is a pressure for accommodation at the beginning of September at the Bulgarian Black Sea coast and participants are advised to book at their earliest convenience by sending the form with the required first-night deposit (preferably before 30 June). The reservation will be confirmed on a first-come first-served basis. CIM Ltd. reserves the right to change the requested hotels to such of similar category if they are unable to confirm the first choice indicated in the Hotel Form.

- The 3-star Rossitsa Hotel is located among a luxurious park. The rooms have SAT-TV, mini bar, telephone and balcony. Hotel facilities include lobby bar, restaurant, coffee shop, barbecue, souvenir shop, rent-a-car, medical services.
- The comfortable Koral Hotel is located just 250 meters from the centre of the resort. Most of the hotel was recently renovated and guests will be pleasantly surprised by the range of newly added facilities including a restaurant, dance and entertainment bar, amusement area with games and sports facilities, lobby bar, swimming pool with pool bar. Rooms have balcony, telephone, fridge and TV.
- Chaika Hotel is located in the central part of the resort and 10 min. walking from the meeting venue. The tastefully furnished rooms and suites are equipped with mini bar and satellite TV.
- Gloria Hotel is located in a natural park of broad-leafed and coniferous vegetation. The hotel offers excellent opportunities for calm and comfortable relaxation, entertainment and recreation. Gloria is divided into basically furnished 2 star accommodation and renovated 3 star rooms which are completely renovated with telephone, refrigerator and TV-set with cable television.

Check-in time is 2:00 p.m. Checkout time is 12:00 p.m.

**SOCIAL EVENTS** (incl. in the registration fee)

<b>Welcome Reception</b>	2 September
<b>Official Dinner</b>	3 September

## TOURIST PROGRAMME (optional)

**Bulgarian Folklore Evening** 4 September

An enjoyable evening at a folk-style restaurant where you will have the opportunity to try the cuisine and wines of Bulgaria and to enjoy typical Bulgarian folk dances and songs.

**Excursion to the town of Nessebur** 5 September

Nessebur, a museum town and a World Heritage site, is situated on a scenic isthmus and harbours the best of the 19<sup>th</sup> century wooden architecture, as well as a unique collection of medieval churches. You will enjoy the masterpieces of a great Orthodox culture and the romantic atmosphere of the Pearl of the Black Sea Coast.

A minimum of 10 persons is required for both events.

## PAYMENTS

**Advance payments** of registration fee, hotel accommodation and tours should be arranged to CIM bank account indicated on the registration and reservation forms or by credit card not later than 1 August 2004.

**On site payments** should be settled upon arrival at the CIM Registration Desk at the IHS in cash, travelers' cheques and credit cards.

**Important note:** All currency exchange charges, bank and credit card surcharges are to be covered by the participant.

## **CONFIRMATION LETTER**

A letter of confirmation will be sent to participants on receipt of reservation form and the respective payment. Participants are kindly requested to present the letter at the CIM Desk.

## **WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW**

### **BULGARIA**

Bulgaria is a part of the Balkan Peninsula in South Eastern Europe. The state of Bulgaria was first founded in 681 AD and has a long and varied history. After 45 years of communist rule, today Bulgaria is a parliamentary democracy with both a President and a Prime Minister. Bulgaria has declared its intention to join both NATO and the EU, and its foreign policy is orientated towards persuading these institutions to accept it. Bulgaria now is an associated member of the European Council and in December 1999 the country was invited for negotiations for membership in the European Union.

### **VARNA**

This is Bulgaria's third largest city, a large port, and an important cultural, trade and industrial center. Founded in the 6th century BC, the city boasts lots of remains from Roman and Byzantine times. Varna is rightly known as the "capital city" of the Bulgarian Black Sea coast.

### **ST. CONSTANTINE RESORT**

St. Constantine is the oldest resort on the Bulgarian Black Sea coast. It is located in a large park of oaks, beeches, lindens, pines and cypresses, curative mineral springs. It is 15 km north of the center of Varna and 25 km from Varna Airport. Regular bus routes link the resort with the city center, Varna Airport and Railway Station.

### **HOW TO REACH VARNA**

**By air** Bulgarian and foreign airline companies directly link the capital of Bulgaria, Sofia, to all major European cities. Regular flights operate between Sofia and Varna two times daily. Direct flights from major European cities to Varna are also available. Detailed schedule of Sofia-Varna-Sofia flights can be obtained from CIM upon request and also a reservation could be made.

**By train** Bulgaria is linked to almost all capitals and big cities in Europe by train.

**By bus** CIM could make reservations for the regular bus lines between Sofia and Varna if required. The price of the ticket is 15 Euro.

**By car** Varna is accessible from the main border checkpoints via national and international roads.

### **PASSPORTS & VISAS**

Only valid passports are required from all the EC countries. Entry visas from other foreigners are required when entering Bulgaria. The entry visas can be obtained from the Bulgarian Embassies or consulate offices. Please check at the nearest Bulgarian Embassy all the documents required for your country. You can also check on [www.mfa.government.bg/index\\_en.html](http://www.mfa.government.bg/index_en.html).

### **MONETARY SYSTEM**

The national currency is the Bulgarian Lev. Bank notes of the following denominations are in circulation: 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50, 100 Levs. 1 Euro = 1,96 Levs.

### **CLIMATE**

Moderate climate: mild spring and autumn, hot summer, cold snowy winters. The weather at the beginning of September is warm and sunny. Daily temperatures range from 25 to 30° C.

### **TIME**

Winter time: GMT + 2 hrs. (October through March)

Summer time: GMT + 3 hrs. (April through September)

**ELECTRICITY** 220 Volts, 50 Hz