



The IFE26 Technical Observer Visit will provide an opportunity for technical experts from CTBT States Signatories, the Host Country (Namibia), and relevant international organizations, scientific and research institutions to observe the conduct of the exercise and gain first-hand insight into the technical and operational capabilities, methodologies and processes of the on-site inspection.

Duration: 7 days including travel days (3 to 9 November 2026)

Location: Swakopmund, Namibia

Participants

States Signatories are invited to nominate up to 2 representatives from Permanent Missions, Ministries, or other relevant national technical or scientific institutions.

Scope

The scope of the visit will encompass interactions with exercise participants, tour of Base of Operations and an opportunity to observe selected field activities at the beginning of the exercised Continuation Period of an OSI.

The programme will be subject to the actual pace of exercise/inspection activities. Notwithstanding the free-play nature of the exercise, the observation of inspection techniques and technologies employed by field teams in the context of the Continuation Period of an on-site inspection is envisaged, including deployment of a range of seismic and non-seismic geophysical techniques as well as subsurface sampling for noble gases and sample analysis. The application of these techniques in an integrated field environment is intended to provide a valuable insight into the use of advanced OSI verification methodologies in a realistic operational context.

The programme of the visit may be adjusted in order to allow to observe evolving developments in the exercise, as appropriate, and if logistically feasible. Nonetheless, the visit shall have limited flexibility in order not to disrupt the flow of the exercise.

Option of participating in short overflights over the inspection/exercise area may be explored and determined at a later stage.



Deadline for Nominations

Nominations should be sent to the Secretariat via official Note Verbale from the accredited Permanent Mission together with the completed attached Registration Form **by no later than June 19, 2026**.

Costs of Participation

The Secretariat shall arrange ground transportation in Namibia for all participants. Meals will be covered as indicated in the programme. All other costs associated with participation, including international travel to Namibia, daily subsistence, insurance, transportation, other meals, and accommodation shall be borne by the participant or nominating State Signatory/institution.

Expected costs to be borne by each participant covering hotel accommodation and meals (other than those provided) are estimated at approximately 200USD per day.

Accommodation options

A limited number of rooms are being made available at preferential rates (standard single-occupancy room, inclusive breakfast) at the below designated hotel in Swakopmund (exercise location).

Hotel	Rate (in NAD)/night	Indicative Rate (in USD*)
Swakopmund (3 – 9 November 2026)		
Seaside Hotel Swakopmund	1,665 N\$	100\$

**The USD equivalent is indicative, using the exchange rate of 0.061N\$ to 1USD (as of May 2026) as a basis.*

Further to the receipt of nominations, the Secretariat will communicate directly with the nominated participants regarding pre-payment modalities and deadlines. Please note that the Secretariat will incur financial costs in the event of cancellations or no-shows, therefore confirmations for which payment is not received by the specified deadline may be released.

Arrival and Departure

On arrival the Secretariat will arrange for organized transfers from Walvis Bay International Airport in Walvis Bay to the above-mentioned accommodation in Swakopmund on 3 November 2026. On departure, the Secretariat will arrange transfers from the above-mentioned accommodation in Swakopmund to Walvis Bay International Airport on 9 November 2026.



CTBTO
PREPARATORY COMMISSION



IFE26 TECHNICAL OBSERVER VISIT

PRACTICAL ADMINISTRATIVE AND LOGISTICAL INFORMATION

Visa arrangements

As part of the Host Country's contribution to IFE26, the Republic of Namibia has waived visa fees for all participants. Visas, including entry and exit authorizations as applicable, will be issued upon arrival.

Participants requiring PTS support to obtain visas shall liaise with the Administrative Points of Contact for further assistance. Each representative is responsible for ensuring that their passport is valid until at least six months after their departure.

Insurance and Medical

Each participant is responsible for having suitable travel and medical insurance and recommended vaccinations, as required.