

**United Nations / Mexico**  
**Symposium on Basic Space Technology**  
**“Making Space Technology Accessible and Affordable”**

**General Information**

June, 2014

The United Nations/México Symposium on Basic Space Technology “Making Space Technology Accessible and Affordable” will take place in Ensenada, Baja California, México on the days of October 20<sup>th</sup> to the 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014, hosted by the Center for Scientific Research and Higher Education (CICESE).

**Airports.-** Ensenada is located in the extreme Northwest corner of Mexico, just 110 km south of the US/Mexico border. You can reach the city by car or bus. The nearest airports are in Tijuana, B. C. (115 km from Ensenada) and San Diego, California, USA (139 km).

**Weather.-** Weather in Ensenada tends to be very comfortable in October. The average temperature during the day is between 20° to 26 ° C and between 8 to 11° C at night, although during 2013 we had a couple of weeks of extreme heat. The rainy season starts in November.

**Communications.-** The international code for Mexico is 52, and 646 is the area code for Ensenada. The official language is Spanish, but English is spoken by many citizens.

**Currency.-** The Mexican currency is the peso (\$1 USD = \$13.30 pesos, \$1 Euro = \$18.00 pesos).

**Electricity.-** Voltage is 120 VCA to 50Hz.

**Emergencies.-** For emergencies such as medical or police assistance and ambulance, please dial 066. The hotel staff may also help you in a situation like this.

**Visas.-** Participants must contact their nearest Mexican Embassy or Consulate to find out if they require a visa for entering Mexico. If flying through the United States, a US visa will be required for entering/leaving the country.

**About CICESE ([www.cicese.edu.mx](http://www.cicese.edu.mx))**

With more than 550 employees, CICESE is the largest of the 27 research centers coordinated by Mexico's National Council of Science and Technology. Research is being conducted in areas such as marine biotechnology, microbiology, seismology, geology, optics, computer science, physical oceanography and marine ecology, among others.

**About Ensenada**

Ensenada is a coastal city with more than 400,00 inhabitants. The scientific community is very large. Besides CICESE, the city is host to Ensenada campus of the University of Baja California, the Institute of Astronomy, the Center for Nanosciences and Nanotechnologies and the Center for Nanobiotechnology of the National University of Mexico and several private universities.

Citizens from as many as 45 countries have made Ensenada their home, which gives the city a peculiar and interesting personality. 90% of Mexico's wine production originates from Ensenada, with 150 labels represented in the area.