



## Convention on Biological Diversity

Distr.  
GENERAL






14 February 2013

ENGLISH ONLY

REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON REFLECTING THE GLOBAL  
STRATEGY FOR PLANT CONSERVATION IN NATIONAL  
BIODIVERSITY STRATEGIES AND ACTION PLANS  
Singapore City, Singapore, 4-8 March 2013

### Information Note for Participants

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## 1. Opening and registration

The Regional Workshop on Reflecting the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation in National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans will be held in Singapore City, Singapore from Monday, 4 March to Friday, 8 March 2013.

The workshop will start at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, 4 March 2013, and registration will take place at the venue of the meeting from 8:30 a.m. the same day.

## 2. Venue

The workshop will be held at:

**Function Hall**

**Botany Centre**

**Singapore Botanic Gardens (entrance via Tanglin Gate)**

1 Cluny Road

Singapore 259569

Tel: +65-6471-7138 /7361

Fax: (65) 6473 7983

Web-site: <http://www.sbg.org.sg>

## 3. Working language of the workshop

The workshop will be held in English.

## 4. Documents

Participants are kindly reminded to bring their own copies of the pre-session documents for the workshop as there will be no extra copies made available on site during the workshop. Pre-session documents will be available on the Secretariat's web site at:



<http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=RWGSPC-NBSAP-01>

## 5. General information on access to Singapore City, Singapore



Singapore is serviced by Changi International Airport (about 20 km from the city centre) and the journey takes about 30 minutes. Taxis are available at the designated points on the arrivals level and cost from SG\$ 18-SG\$ 38 (US\$ 15 – US\$ 30) excluding surcharges (airport fee, late night arrival). Various shuttle services are also available at the arrivals ground transport desk from the airport to the city centre at varying costs. More details are available at the following link: <http://www.changiairport.com/getting-around/to-and-from-the-airport>

## 6. Visa information



Participants from countries listed below require an entry visa for Singapore and are strongly advised to contact the nearest Singapore diplomatic or consular mission **as soon as possible** in order to secure the required entry visa in a timely manner, prior to departure. It should be noted that airline companies would not allow boarding in the absence of a valid entry visa.

Information on visa procedures, including a list of relevant Singapore diplomatic/consular missions abroad, is available on the web site of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Singapore at the following web links:

- Visa procedures:  
[http://www.mfa.gov.sg/content/mfa/consular\\_information/foreigners\\_visiting\\_singapore.html](http://www.mfa.gov.sg/content/mfa/consular_information/foreigners_visiting_singapore.html)
- Singapore diplomatic and consular missions abroad:  
[http://www.mfa.gov.sg/content/mfa/missions/singapore\\_mission/mission\\_locator.html](http://www.mfa.gov.sg/content/mfa/missions/singapore_mission/mission_locator.html)

**NATIONALS AND OTHERS HOLDING TRAVEL DOCUMENTS ISSUED BY THE FOLLOWING COUNTRIES REQUIRE A VISA TO ENTER SINGAPORE**

(According to Immigration and Checkpoint Authority of Singapore)

Afghanistan	India	Morocco	Tajikistan*
Algeria	Iran, Islamic Republic	Myanmar	Tunisia
Armenia*	Iraq	Nigeria	Turkmenistan
Azerbaijan*	Jordan	Pakistan	Ukraine
Bangladesh	Kazakhstan*	Russian Federation*	Uzbekistan*
Belarus*	Kyrgyzstan*	Saudi Arabia	Yemen
China	Lebanon	Somalia	
Egypt	Libya	Sudan	
Georgia	Moldova*	Syrian Arab Republic	

\*Commonwealth of Independent States

To facilitate the issuance of visas, the Secretariat will issue upon request invitation letters to be attached to the visa applications.

## 7. Health information

For entry into Singapore, a valid Yellow Fever Certificate is required from travellers over one year of age who, within the preceding six days, have been in or have passed through any country with risk of yellow fever transmission.

The International travel, health and vaccination requirements for travel to Singapore can be obtained from the World Health Organization (WHO) web site:  
<http://apps.who.int/tools/geoserver/www/ith/index.html>.

For more information, please consult a medical professional with regard to the vaccination requirements for your travel.

## 8. Hotel information



### Sponsored Participants

Accommodation has been reserved and prepaid for all sponsored participants at the Link Hotel. The information is as follows:

## The Metropolitan Y Hotel

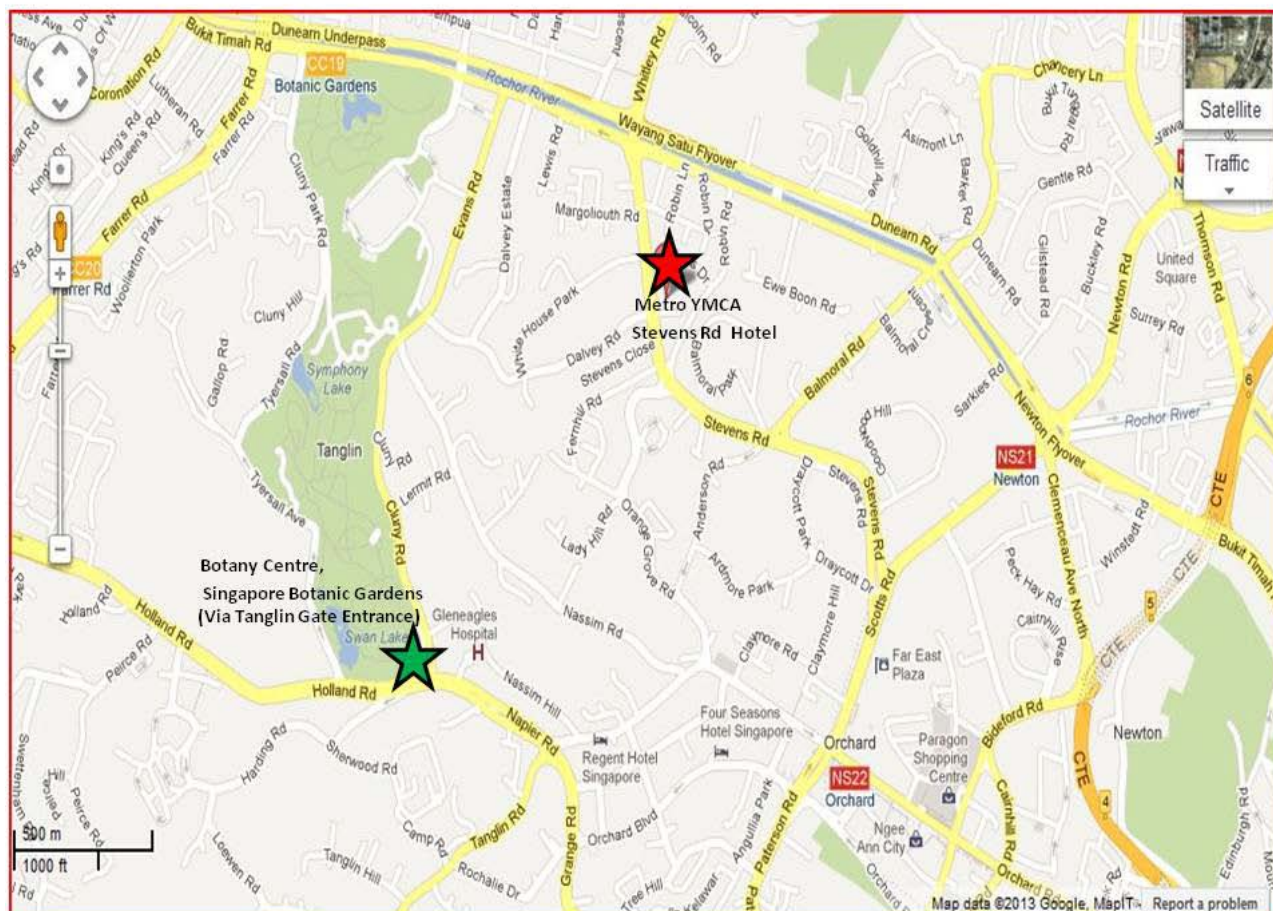
60 Stevens Road

Singapore 257854

Tel: +65-6839-8333

Fax: +65-6737-2297

Web-site: <http://www.mymca.org.sg/home/metro-y.html>



### Sponsored participants

All participants will be provided with coffee breaks and lunch during the meeting. Dinner will also be provided on the 4<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> March at the meeting venue. A block booking has been made at the The Metropolitan Y Hotel on behalf of all sponsored participants at a single occupancy rate including breakfast. Any extras, such as telephone, room upgrade, bar, laundry, e-mail, restaurant, etc. are at the expense of the sponsored participants and must be settled upon checking out.

There will be daily group transfers from hotel to venue of the meeting and field trip and vice-versa for the duration of the workshop days. **Please note the daily pick-up timings and be punctual for the pick-ups.**

### **Timing of Transport:**

#### **4 March:**

**8:15 am**

– Pick-up from Metropolitan Y Hotel Carpark to Singapore Botanic Gardens (SBG) Botany Centre

**7:45 pm**

– Pick-up from SBG Botany Centre to Metropolitan Y Hotel

**\*\* 5 March:**

- 8:00am** – Pick-up from Metropolitan Y Hotel Carpark to Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserves
- 11:30pm** – Pick-up from Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserves to SBG
- 4:00pm** – Pick-up from SBG Botany Centre to Metropolitan Y Hotel

**6 March:**

- 8:15 am** – Pick-up from Metropolitan Y Hotel Carpark to SBG
- 7:15 pm** – Pick-up from SBG Botany Centre to Metropolitan Y Hotel

**7 March:**

- 8:15 am** – Pick-up from Metropolitan Y Hotel Carpark to SBG
- 7:15 pm** – Pick-up from SBG Botany Centre to Metropolitan Y Hotel

**8 March:**

- 8:15 am** – Pick-up from Metropolitan Y Hotel Carpark to SBG
- 4:45 pm** – Pick-up from SBG Botany Centre to Metropolitan Y Hotel

**\*\* = Field trip with an early pick-up**

**Non-sponsored participants**

Non-sponsored participants may wish to avail of the booking at the hotel can contact them directly through the above mentioned web site.

For participants who wish to make their own bookings, the following web-site contains Singapore hotels and other relevant information, please visit:

<http://www.singaporetouristguide.net/singapore-hotels.php>

**9. Payment of the Daily Subsistence Allowances (DSA)**

Sponsored participants will receive the relevant DSA on the first day of the workshop.

**10. Official languages in Singapore**

There are four official languages in Singapore: Malay, Mandarin, Tamil and English. English is the language of business and administration, and is widely spoken and understood. Most Singaporeans are bilingual, and speak their mother tongue as well as English.

**11. Weather and Time Zone information**



Singapore is warm and humid all year round, with only slight variations between the average maximum of 32 degrees Celsius and minimum of 24 degrees Celsius. Rain falls throughout the year, with more consistent rain coming during the monsoon season from December to March. Current weather conditions can be found at:

<http://www.worldweather.org/081/c00234.htm>

The standard time zone is GMT + 8 hours.

## 12. Electricity

The electrical currents in Singapore are 220-240 volts, 50 Hertz. The power plugs used in Singapore are of the three-pin, square-shaped type and are shown below.



## 13. Currency



The currency in Singapore is the Singapore Dollar (SGD \$). The current exchange rate as at 6 February 2013 is US \$1.00 = SGD \$1.24 and (Euro) €1 = SGD \$1.67.

## 14. Disclaimer

The CBD Secretariat disclaims all responsibility for medical, accident and travel insurance, for compensation for death or disability compensation, for loss of or damage to personal property and for any other loss that may be incurred during travel time or the period of participation. In this context, it is strongly recommended to secure international medical insurance for the period of participation prior to departure.

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