



## Convention on Biological Diversity

Distr.  
GENERAL

29 January 2013






ENGLISH ONLY

ASIA-PACIFIC REGIONAL TRAINING WORKSHOP ON PUBLIC AWARENESS,  
EDUCATION AND PARTICIPATION CONCERNING THE SAFE TRANSFER, HANDLING  
AND USE OF LMOS

Hanoi, Viet Nam, 25 to 29 March 2013

### INFORMATION NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS

**QUICK LINKS** (Control + click on icons for web page, click on page number to directly access text in document)

 <b>Visa Information (page 3)</b>
 <b>Meeting Documents (page 2)</b>
 <b>Hotel Information (page 3)</b>
 <b>Weather Information (page 4)</b>
 <b>Currency Information (page 4)</b>

### INFORMATION HIGHLIGHTS

1.	OPENING AND REGISTRATION .....	2
2.	VENUE .....	2
4.	DOCUMENTS .....	2
5.	GENERAL INFORMATION ON ACCESS TO HANOI, VIET NAM .....	2
6.	VISA INFORMATION .....	3
7.	HOTEL INFORMATION .....	3
9.	OFFICIAL LANGUAGE IN VIET NAM .....	4
10.	WEATHER AND TIME ZONE INFORMATION .....	4

## 1. Opening and registration

The Asia-Pacific regional training workshop on public awareness, education and participation concerning the safe transfer, handling and use of LMOs will be held in Hanoi, Viet Nam from Monday 25<sup>th</sup>, March to Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> March 2013.

The workshop will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> March to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2013. Registration will take place at the venue of the workshop from 8:30 a.m. on the same day.

## 2. Venue

The workshop will be held at:

### **The Baoson Hanoi**

50 Nguyen Chi Thanh, Hanoi, Viet Nam

Tel: (84.4) 3 835 3536 Ext: 8110/ 8111/ 8112

Mobi: (08-4) 098 98 98 198 - Jackia Han (Mr)

Fax: (84.4) 3 835 5678

E-mail: [info@hoabinhtourist.com](mailto:info@hoabinhtourist.com)

Website: <http://www.baosonhotels.com/>

## 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 documents for the workshop as there will be no extra copies made available on site during the workshop. The documents are available on the Secretariat's web site at:



<http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=BSWSCBLMO-AP-01>

## 5. General information on access to Hanoi, Viet Nam



The city of Hanoi is serviced by the Viet Nam – Noi Bai International Airport, you can easily and safely find an airport taxi once you clear customs and immigration. Once you leave the gate you will see dozens of taxis waiting for you. You can choose Noi Bai Taxi or Airport Taxi. **The price is 350,000 VND (around 17 USD).** Give the driver the hotel address, then relax and enjoy the scenery of Hanoi suburb.

It takes about 30 to 45 minutes to get to the hotel depending on traffic (35 km from airport). During the rush hours (5-7 p.m.), the traffic from the airport to downtown is bad, it would take you an hour to go to the center of the city.

It is recommended to change money to Viet Nam Dong (VND) at the airport for the taxi fares. There are some money exchange counters at the airport. Exchange rate of USD to Viet Nam Dong (VND) is quoted on a daily basis and is about VND 20,870.00 to USD1.00

## 6. Visa information



Citizens from the following countries do not require visas for Viet Nam: Cambodia, Denmark, Finland, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Norway, Philippines, Russia, Singapore, South Korea, Sweden and Thailand. For further information on visa exemption, please access the official website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at the following link:

<http://lanhsuvietnam.gov.vn/Lists/BaiViet/B%C3%A0i%20vi%E1%BA%BFt/DispForm.aspx?List=dc7c7d75-6a32-4215-afeb-47d4bee70eee&ID=306>

For all others, visa assistance letters will be provided to funded participants to help facilitate the visa process. If you are a non-funded participant requiring a visa assistance letter please contact Paola Scarone ([paola.scarone@cbd.int](mailto:paola.scarone@cbd.int)).

For visa upon entry – one month, you should bring with you the following documents to get visa at the airport in Viet Nam:

- The visa assistance letter
- A copy of your passport
- 2 passport-size photographs
- Visa fee

**Note:** Visa fee may vary according to the nationality of the applicant.

## 7. Hotel information

The Secretariat will be making the reservations for **participants receiving financial support** at the Baoson Hotel Hanoi.

**Other participants** are advised to make their reservations directly with the hotel at the contacts below as soon as possible in order to benefit from the negotiated package rate of US\$99 per night including accommodation, breakfast, coffee breaks and lunch.

Any extras, such as telephone, room upgrade, bar, laundry, restaurant, etc. will be charged separately and will need to be covered by the participant.

Please note that this workshop is being held during peak tourism season. We therefore urge you to book your accommodation as soon as possible through email [info@hoabinhtourist.com](mailto:info@hoabinhtourist.com) but **no later than 15 March 2013**.

### **The Baoson Hanoi**

50 Nguyen Chi Thanh, Hanoi, Viet Nam

Tel: (84.4) 3 835 3536 Ext: 8110/ 8111/ 8112

Mobi: (08-4) 098 98 98 198 - Jackia Han (Mr)

Fax: (84.4) 3 835 5678

E-mail: [info@hoabinhtourist.com](mailto:info@hoabinhtourist.com)

Website: <http://www.baosonhotels.com/>

## 8. Payment of the Daily Subsistence Allowances (DSA)

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

## 9. Official language in Viet Nam

The official language in Viet Nam is Vietnamese. English is also used in the hotels, restaurants and shopping centres. However, most of taxi drivers can speak little English therefore be sure to bring with you the address of your destination.

## 10. Weather and time zone information



In March, temperatures in Hanoi usually range between a maximum of +31°C in the daytime and a minimum of +20°C at night. Current weather conditions can be found at: <http://www.timeanddate.com/weather/vietnam/hanoi>

The standard time zone is GMT/UTC +7 hours.

## 11. Electricity

The electrical currents in Viet Nam are 220 - 240 Volts, 50 Hertz a (two-pin flat and/or round).



## 12. Currency



The currency in Viet Nam is the Viet Nam Dong (VND). The current exchange rate on 29 January 2013 is US \$ 1.00 = VND20,870 and EUR = VND 27,540.

## 13. Disclaimer

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

-----