



Convention on Biological Diversity

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GTI SUBREGIONAL CAPACITY-BUILDING WORKSHOP TO ADDRESS
INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES AND TO ACHIEVE AICHI BIODIVERSITY
TARGETS IN EAST AND SOUTH EAST ASIA
Bangkok, Thailand, 30 July - 1 August 2012

Information Note for Participants

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1. Opening and registration

The GTI Sub-regional Capacity-Building Workshop to Address Invasive Alien Species and to Achieve Aichi Biodiversity Targets in East and South East Asia will be held from Monday, 30 July to Wednesday, 1 August 2012, Bangkok, Thailand.

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

On Wednesday, 1 August 2012, participants will be shuttled from the hotel for training activities at Khao Yai National Park (approximately 2 hours drive). Registration begins at 6 a.m. and the shuttles depart at 6:30 a.m. Please wear appropriate clothing for outdoor activities, including raingear.

2. Venue

The Workshop will be held at:

The Imperial Queen's Park Hotel in Bangkok

199 Sukhumvit Soi 22

Bangkok 10110, Thailand

Tel: +66 (0) 2261 9000

Fax: +66 (0) 2261 9530-4

E-mail: reservation@imperialhotels.com;

Web site: <http://www.imperialhotels.com/imperialqueenspark/>

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. Documents will be emailed to participants and made available on the Secretariat's web site at:



<http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=CBWGTI-ESEASI-01>

5. General information on access to Bangkok, Thailand



Bangkok is serviced by the Suvarnabhumi Airport - New Bangkok International Airport (BKK) (the airport is about 25 km outside of the city centre of Bangkok).

We recommend that you take a taxi from the airport directly to the hotel. Please take the taxi from the passenger building, first floor only, and pay by the meter. The fee will be around THB 300 (toll fee excluded). The fare will be charged according to the distance plus a fee of THB 50 for the driver. Please note that to get to the hotel from the airport, it is faster to take the Motorway (toll fee THB 75) rather than taking the Bang Na expressway (toll fee THB 105).

The Airport Express bus will not stop in the Sukhumvit area (where the hotel is located), so please avoid taking it.

Another way to get from the airport to the hotel is to take the airport rail link that connects to the skytrain. The fee from the airport rail link to Phayathai station (which connects to the skytrain) will be THB 45 (the fare for rapid train will be THB 150). From Phayathai Station, take the skytrain directly to Prompong Station, the fare will be around THB 40. The Prompong Skytrain Station is located just near the hotel: take Gate 2, exit 6, and take a taxi from the Station to the hotel. It will take ten minutes from the station to the hotel and the fare will be around THB 50.

Please note that Prompong Skytrain Station is adjacent to the high-end Emporium Department store.

6. Visa information



Thailand requires that your passport be valid for 6 months following the date of your arrival in Thailand. Even if you do not require visa to enter Thailand, you are advised to bring along with you the invitation letter in order to avoid any difficulties getting through the immigration at the airport.

Except for ASEAN Members, all foreign visitors entering Thailand must be in possession of a valid visa. Visa on arrival is applicable to certain countries. If you plan to apply for visa on arrival, kindly check the official website of the Royal Embassy of Thailand of your country and see if your country is listed under the countries eligible for visa on arrival. Visa on arrival is available in the Immigration Section of the Suvarnabhumi Airport (Bangkok). **Please make sure that you have two passport photos and the required documents as listed by the Royal Thai Embassy.** The visa fee on arrival is THB 1,900 which is equivalent to approximately US \$64. However, kindly note that the rate can change without prior notice.

Please follow the link below to access detailed information on the visa requirements: <http://www.mfa.go.th/main/en/services/123>.

7. Health Information

A yellow fever vaccination certificate is required from travellers arriving from or through countries with risk of yellow fever transmission. Details of requirements are available on the web site of the World Health Organization at: <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

A block booking has been made on behalf of all participants at The Imperial Queen's Park Hotel in Bangkok. Participants planning to arrive earlier for personal reasons should contact the hotel directly.

The hotel booking includes a single room, breakfast, lunch and free internet access. More information on the hotel is listed below:

The Imperial Queen's Park Hotel in Bangkok:

199 Sukhumvit Soi 22

Bangkok 10110, Thailand

Tel: +66 (0) 2261 9000

Fax: +66 (0) 2261 9530-4

E-mail: reservation@imperialhotels.com

Web site: <http://www.imperialhotels.com/imperialqueenspark/>

Information on Bangkok may be found on the web site of the Tourism Authority of Thailand at the following link: <http://www.tourismthailand.org/>

9. Payment of the Daily Subsistence Allowances (DSA)

Sponsored participants will receive a portion of their DSA on the first day of the workshop.

10. Official languages in Bangkok, Thailand

The official language in the Thailand is Thai. English is spoken in hotels and restaurants.

11. Weather and time zone information



In July and August, temperatures in Bangkok usually range between a maximum of 33°C in the daytime and a minimum of 25°C at night. It is currently the rainy season in Thailand and you can expect rain during the workshop. You are advised to bring rain clothes / umbrella. Current weather conditions can be found at: <http://www.worldweather.org/089/c00233.htm>.

The standard time zone will be UTC/GMT + 7 hours.

12. Electricity

The electrical currents in use are 220 volts, 50 Hertz. There are two types of plugs in use and are shown below. It is possible to purchase adaptors locally.



13. Currency



The currency of Thailand is the Baht. The exchange rate is US \$1.00 = 31.7950 THB (as of 12 July 2012). Since the exchange rate fluctuates daily, participants should check the latest rate on this web site: www.xe.com/ucc/. There are exchange facilities at the airport, opposite the international arrival lounge. There are also ATMs and foreign currency exchange near the hotel.

14. Contact information

In case of need, below please find the contact information for the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity and for the CBD Secretariat.

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15. 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.

16. Security and Safety Issues

All participants are advised to take care of their personal belongings when walking or travelling in the city. Please inform the organizers when leaving the training venue. It is also important that participants keep their travel documents in a safe place at all times when inside and outside the workshop venue.
