Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development 2017
Bangkok, 29-31 March 2017

Information for Participants*

I. General

1. The Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development 2017 is scheduled to be held at the United Nations Conference Centre (UNCC), in Bangkok, from 29 to 31 March 2017.

2. The opening of the session will take place at 0900 hours on Wednesday, 29 March 2017 in Conference Room 2, 2nd floor of UNCC. All subsequent meetings will be held from 0900 to 1200 hours and 1400 to 1700 hours.

II. Registration and identification badges

3. In order to enable more effective access control and speed up the screening by security personnel, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) uses photo badges for meeting participants, who are requested to register and obtain meeting badges with photo at the registration counter, located on the ground floor, UNCC, from 0800 to 0900 hours on the opening day of the event. Participants who are not able to register during the time indicated above are requested to do so upon their arrival at UNCC before going to the conference room. Only the names of duly-registered participants will be included in the list of participants.

Online registration

4. Participants are requested to register online at http://meetings.unescap.org/events/apfsd2017/ well in advance, but no later than 24 March 2017, to facilitate smooth coordination of the issuance of photo badges and compilation of the list of participants. Participants are encouraged to submit their photo in advance in order to speed up the registration process. Furthermore, please note that prior online registration is mandatory in line with the standard United Nations security procedures to facilitate security clearance.

5. For identification and security reasons, all participants are requested to wear their meeting badges at all times during meetings, social functions

* This document is being issued without formal editing.
and while in the United Nations complex. The loss of a meeting badge should be communicated to the Conference Management Unit located on the ground floor of UNCC behind the registration counter, so that a new one can be issued immediately.

III. Related events

6. The Forum will be preceded by related events for which separate registration and application will be required. Please consult the meeting website and separately issued information notes, for information regarding these events, ensure that you are properly registered for those of interest, and also that your travel itinerary and conditions for participation are clear. These events include a the Asia-Pacific Civil Society Forum on Sustainable Development, 26-28 March 2017, venue to be determined, Bangkok. For details, please see www.unescap.org/events/apcsfsd4.

- Pavilion of Partnerships for Sustainable Development  The objective of this year’s Pavilion is to provide additional informal space for member states, including those preparing voluntary national reviews, civil society, UN agencies and other stakeholders to share good practices for integrated and inclusive approaches for implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including with a focus on the cluster of SDGs (1,2,3,5,9,14 and 17) to be reviewed in-depth at the 2017 high-level political forum on sustainable development. For more details, please see http://www.unescap.org/events/apfsd4.

IV. Visa requirements

7. Please see the annex for lists of countries and territories entitled for visa exemption and visa on arrival. For those countries which are not entitled to visa exemption or visa on arrival, please contact the Thai Embassy/Consulate responsible for consular affairs for your country.

V. Weather

8. The weather in Bangkok is usually warm and humid. Light tropical clothing would be appropriate. The conference rooms where the meetings are to be held are air-conditioned and the temperature is maintained in the range of 23-24 degrees Celsius (73-75 degrees Fahrenheit).

VI. Electric Plug and Socket

9. The electric power in Thailand is 220V running at 50Hz and the plug types used are either type A, type B, or type C. A hybrid socket is almost universally found, which accepts a combination of the above plug types. Delegates are strongly encouraged to carry their own adapters for use with laptops and other electrical appliances as the secretariat will not be able to provide these. In case of need, adapters can be purchased from shops in the city dealing in electronic and electrical items.

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VII. Health and vaccination

10. Upon arrival at the port of entry in Thailand, participants who are nationals of or have traveled from/through countries listed below which have been declared yellow fever infected areas must provide an International Health Certificate proving that they have received a valid yellow fever vaccination at the Health Control Office upon arrival before proceeding to immigration. A valid vaccination certificate means that the vaccine was administered at least 10 days prior to travel to the affected country. The International Health Certificate must also be submitted together with the visa application form.

11. The countries/areas listed below have been declared yellow fever infected areas:

1. Angola
2. Argentina
3. Benin
4. Bolivia
5. Brazil
6. Burkina Faso
7. Burundi
8. Cameroon
9. Central African Republic
10. Chad
11. Colombia
12. Congo
13. Cote d’Ivoire
14. Democratic Republic of the Congo
15. Ecuador
16. Equatorial Guinea
17. Ethiopia
18. French Guiana
19. Gabon
20. Gambia
21. Ghana
22. Guinea
23. Guinea-Bissau
24. Guyana
25. Kenya
26. Liberia
27. Mali
28. Mauritania
29. Niger
30. Nigeria
31. Panama
32. Paraguay
33. Peru
34. Rwanda
35. Sao Tome and Principe
36. Senegal
37. Sierra Leone
38. Somalia
39. Sudan
40. Suriname
41. Tanzania
42. Togo
43. Trinidad and Tobago
44. Uganda
45. Venezuela

12. Thailand is currently experiencing ongoing transmission of the mosquito-borne Zika virus. All travelers are advised to protect themselves from mosquito bites while in Thailand. Given possible transmission of the
disease to unborn babies, pregnant women or women seeking pregnancy should consider postponing travel to Thailand or talk to their doctor about the implications of traveling to Thailand during this time.

13. In addition to above, Medical Services Division at Headquarters advises that pregnant United Nations Personnel should not undertake duty travel or be relocated to countries/areas where local transmission of Zika virus is known to occur. Women who are seeking pregnancy should obtain individual advice from their medical practitioner on risk management regarding their plans to travel into a Zika-affected area.

14. First-aid and emergency medical service is available during weekdays at the Medical Centre, which is located on the ground floor of UNCC. The ESCAP Medical Officer and Nurse are available from 0730 to 1545 hours, with the exception of lunch time from 1200 to 1245 hours. Appointments may be made through extensions 1352 or 1761.

15. Delegates are strongly encouraged to subscribe to a travel or health insurance which is valid in Thailand, in order to cover any medical bills or hospitalization fees.

16. The United Nations buildings are smoke-free areas. Smoking is permitted only in the designated areas outside of the buildings.

VIII. Accessibility support for persons with disabilities

17. In order to enhance accessibility to UNCC for persons with diverse disabilities, whether visual, physical, cognitive brain lesions, hearing or speech impairments, a set of assistive devices will be available upon request in a designated area at the Accessibility Centre, 1st floor, UNCC. For more information, please contact the secretariat in advance at email escap-conference-management@un.org or call +66.2.2881601.

IX. Foreign currency declaration

18. Any person who brings or takes an aggregate amount of foreign currency exceeding US$ 20,000 or its equivalent into or out of Thailand shall declare such amount of foreign currency to a customs official. Failure to make such a declaration or making any false declaration to a customs official is a criminal offence.

19. Currency exchange facilities are available at hotels and all over Bangkok. Such services are also available at the Siam Commercial Bank, United Nations Branch, which is located on the 1st floor of the Service Building (telephone extension 2168). The Bank is open from 0830 to 1530 hours, with no lunch break, from Monday to Friday.

X. Hotel accommodation

20. The following hotels, located relatively close to ESCAP, have been designated as recommended hotels for which the room rates indicated below are inclusive of service charge and value added tax.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name and address</th>
<th>Driving distance to UNCC (min.)</th>
<th>Located near BTS or MRT line</th>
<th>Shuttle service to and from ESCAP</th>
<th>Hotel Airport Pick Up Service Available</th>
<th>Room type</th>
<th>Daily room rates (Baht)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>**Amari Watergate *******</td>
<td>20-35</td>
<td>15 min. walk to Ratchathewi BTS Station</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Deluxe</td>
<td>3,000&lt;sup&gt;a/b/c&lt;/sup&gt; 3,200&lt;sup&gt;a/b/c&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>847 Petchburi Road, Ratchathewi, Bangkok 10400 Tel: +66.2.6539000 ext. 5107 Fax: +66.2.6539045 E-mail: <a href="mailto:nannaphat.j@amari.com">nannaphat.j@amari.com</a> Website: <a href="http://www.amari.com/watergate/">http://www.amari.com/watergate/</a> Contact person: Ms. Nannaphat Jiemrugeekul</td>
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<tr>
<td>**Hotel Dé Moc *****</td>
<td>5-10</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Standard</td>
<td>1,400&lt;sup&gt;a/c&lt;/sup&gt; 1,600&lt;sup&gt;a/c&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>78 Pratitipatai Road, Bangkok Tel: +66.2. 6292100-4 Fax: +66.2.2801299 E-mail: <a href="mailto:rsvn@buddyhotelsresorts.com">rsvn@buddyhotelsresorts.com</a> Website: <a href="http://www.hoteldemoc.com">http://www.hoteldemoc.com</a> Contact person: Mr. Sonthi Saiklai</td>
<td></td>
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<td>**Nouvo City Hotel ******</td>
<td>5-10</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Superior</td>
<td>1,600&lt;sup&gt;a/c&lt;/sup&gt; 1,800&lt;sup&gt;a/c&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Samsen 2, Samsen Road, Banglumphu, Pranakorn, Bangkok 10200 Tel: +66.2.2827500 ext. 0110 Fax: +66.2.2821243 E-mail: <a href="mailto:adan@nouvocityhotel.com">adan@nouvocityhotel.com</a> Website: <a href="http://www.nouvocityhotel.com">http://www.nouvocityhotel.com</a> Contact person: Mr. Adam Phadungsilp</td>
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<tr>
<td>**Novotel Fenix Ploenchit *******</td>
<td>30-45</td>
<td>2 min. walk to Phloenchit BTS Station</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Superior</td>
<td>2,900&lt;sup&gt;a&lt;/sup&gt; 2,900&lt;sup&gt;a&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>566 Ploenchit Road, Lumpini, Pathum Wan, Bangkok 10330 Tel: +66.2.3056000 Fax: +66.2.3056020 E-mail: <a href="mailto:H7176-sl7@accor.com">H7176-sl7@accor.com</a> Website: <a href="http://www.accorhotels.com">http://www.accorhotels.com</a> Contact person: Ms. Nalinthicha Waraphut</td>
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<tr>
<td>**Pullman Bangkok Kingpower *******</td>
<td>20-35</td>
<td>5 min. walk to Victory Monument BTS Station</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Superior</td>
<td>3,055&lt;sup&gt;a/c&lt;/sup&gt; 3,269&lt;sup&gt;a/c&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Rangnam Road, Kweang Thanon-Phayathai, Ratchathewi, Bangkok Tel: +66.2.6809813 Fax: +66.2.6809998 E-mail: <a href="mailto:ssm@pullmanbangkokkingpower.com">ssm@pullmanbangkokkingpower.com</a> Website: <a href="http://www.pullmanbangkokkingpower.com">http://www.pullmanbangkokkingpower.com</a></td>
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<td>Hotel Airport Pick Up Service Available</td>
<td>Room type</td>
<td>Daily room rates (Baht)</td>
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<td>4,072 a/c</td>
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<td>4,537 a/c</td>
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<td>Fax: +66.2.6335050</td>
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<td>E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@rivasuryabangkok.com">info@rivasuryabangkok.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms. Darunee Khongkhakdee</td>
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<tr>
<td>**Royal Princess Larn Luang Hotel ******</td>
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<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Superior</td>
<td>2,800 a/b/c</td>
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<td>E-mail: <a href="mailto:rsvn@royalprincesslarnluang.com">rsvn@royalprincesslarnluang.com</a></td>
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<td>Ms. Thannaree Ketkaew</td>
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<td>Leisure Class</td>
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<tr>
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<td>**The Sukosol *******</td>
<td>15-30</td>
<td>5 min. walk to Phaya Thai BTS Station &amp; Airport Rail Link</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Deluxe</td>
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<td>2,800 a/b/c</td>
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<td>Ms. Nathkanit Chirawacharanant</td>
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<tr>
<td>**Trang Hotel *****</td>
<td>5-10</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Superior Premium</td>
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<td>1,400 a/b</td>
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<td>1,800 a/b</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms. Thongtem Lerknawapairoj</td>
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<tr>
<td>**VIE Hotel Bangkok, MGallery by Sofitel *******</td>
<td>20-35</td>
<td>1 min. walk to Phaya Thai BTS</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Standard</td>
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<td>2,996 a/c</td>
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<tr>
<td>117/39-40 Phaya Thai Road, Ratchathewi, Bangkok 10400</td>
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</table>
Notes:

a. Inclusive of daily American breakfast, service charge and value added tax.
b. Complimentary transport services provided according to fixed schedules, from the hotel to UNCC in the morning and back to the hotel in the evening. Hotel Dé Moc has one way transfer from hotel to UNCC.
c. Free Internet Access.

21. Unless otherwise advised, participants are requested to book directly with the hotel of their choice, and settle directly with the respective hotels all personal accounts, including room charges and other expenses, such as for local and long-distance telephone calls, internet use, business centre use, laundry, room and hotel transportation services, mini-bar items, as well as restaurant and bar services.

22. Rooms are available to participants on a first-come, first-served basis. Any cancellations, postponements or other changes should be notified to the hotel at least 48 hours in advance. Rooms not occupied in accordance with the latest advice will be held for 24 hours at the participant’s expense and then released.

23. The rates provided in the table are as of December 2015 and subject to change without notice. Please confirm the room rates with the hotel directly.

XI. Transport from and to the airport

24. Participants should make their own transportation arrangements from Suvarnabhumi International Airport to their respective hotels. Limousine, metered-taxi and bus services are readily available at the airport. Detailed information about Suvarnabhumi International Airport can be found at www.suvarnabhumiairport.com.

25. To avail themselves of the airport limousines service, it is strongly recommended that participants contact only the authorized staff at the counters located in the airport arrival zone. These officials will issue a ticket for the assignment of a limousine for transporting passengers to the desired destination, upon request. The airport limousine service counters are located on the second floor at Baggage Claim and Arrival Hall exits, channels A, B and C. For public taxi, participants are advised to proceed to the first floor of the Passenger Terminal, between exit doors 4 and 7, outdoor area, where they will find automatic dispensing machines from which they can collect a queuing ticket for a public taxi. In addition to toll
fees, there is a 50 baht surcharge to be added to the meter charge from airport to the city.

XII. Transport to attend meetings

26. Most hotels indicated in paragraph 20 provide complimentary transport, according to fixed schedules, to and from UNCC. Otherwise, participants must make their own transport arrangements in order to attend meetings.

XIII. Internet services

27. Free wireless Internet access is available in all conference and meeting rooms and in the public areas of UNCC. Password is not required.

XIV. Catering services

28. Catering services are available at the cafeteria, which is located on the 1st floor of UNCC, from 1100 to 1400 hours. Rajapruek Lounge, on the ground floor of UNCC, is open from 0700 to 1700 hours from Monday to Thursday, and from 0700 to 1900 hours on Friday. The canteen, on the ground floor of the Service Building, is open from 0700 to 1300 hours. In addition, the Coffee Corner, which serves sandwiches, pastries, coffee, tea and soft drinks, is located on the 1st floor, UNCC and is open from 0700 to 1700 hours.

XV. Communications

29. For information concerning the substantive preparations for the meeting, please visit www.unescap.org/events/apfsd4 for further information, please feel free to contact the secretariat at escap-apfsd@un.org or the following members of the secretariat:

For substantive preparation:

| Overall APFSD | Ms. Katinka Weinberger  
|               | Chief, Environment and Development  
|               | Policy Section (EDPS), EDD  
|               | Email: weinbergerk@un.org  
|               | Mr. Riccardo Mesiano  
|               | Environmental Affairs Officer,  
|               | EDPS/EDD  
|               | Email: mesiano@un.org  

Travel arrangements (sponsor participants/speakers)

| Ms. Chanerin Maneechansook  
| Administrative Assistant, EDPS/EDD  
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XVI. Meeting documents and language

30. Participants are requested to bring with them copies of the meeting documents distributed by the ESCAP secretariat to their Governments/Agencies/Organizations prior to the session.

31. As part of the current efforts of the United Nations towards reducing paper, printed copies of official documents will be available on demand. Delegates requiring hard copies can make their request at the Document Distribution Counter, located next to Conference Room 2 on the 2nd floor of the United Nations Conference Centre. Limited numbers of printed copies will be available to other meeting participants. All documents can be found on the website: www.unescap.org/events/apfsd4/.

32. Meeting rooms and public areas will be equipped with Wi-Fi connections and power sources. Touch screens will also be available close to the conference room and registration counter for participants to view information such as list of participants, programme, side events, etc.

33. A limited number of laptops and tablets are available for loan to government delegations on a first-come, first served basis. Kindly note that a photo ID is required to borrow the devices.

XVII. Library facilities

34. ESCAP Library facilities are available on the 1st floor, Service Building from 0730 to 1600 hours, Monday to Friday. For details on the use of the ESCAP Library facilities, please consult the staff on duty at the Library or call extensions 1329 and 1360. Further information about the ESCAP Library can be found at www.unescap.org/unis/library.

XVIII. Banking facilities

35. Banking services are available at the Siam Commercial Bank, United Nations Branch, located on the 1st floor of the Service Building, from 0830 to 1530 hours during weekdays (telephone extension 2168).

XIX. Postal services

36. Postal services are available at the Post Office, United Nations Branch, located on the ground floor of UNCC. The post office is open from 0800 to 1600 hours, Monday to Friday and can be contacted at extensions 1260 and 2911.
XX. Souvenir shop

37. The souvenir shop is located on the 1st floor of UNCC.

XXI. Travel agent

38. The American Express Travel office is located at the 4th floor, Service Building. It is open from 0800 to 1700 hours on weekdays and can be contacted at extensions 2820, 2821, 2822 and 2823.

XXII. Daily subsistence allowance (only if applicable)

39. Participants whose travel is sponsored by ESCAP will be provided with a daily subsistence allowance at prevailing United Nations rates in local currency. In order to facilitate the payment of subsistence allowance, eligible participants are requested to submit copies of their passport, boarding pass(es), the arrival/departure form together with their air tickets to the secretariat staff in the conference room.

40. Participants who are unable to stay for the duration of the meeting are requested to inform the secretariat as soon as possible after arrival, so that the subsistence allowance can be adjusted accordingly.

XXIII. Financial and administrative arrangements (only if applicable)

41. In those cases where the participation costs are borne by ESCAP, the secretariat will provide only travel and daily subsistence allowance as expressed and will not assume responsibility for any other expenditure, including the following:

(a) All expenses in the home country incidental to travel abroad, including expenditure for visa, medical examination, inoculations and other such miscellaneous items and internal travel to and from the airport of arrival and departure in the home country;

(b) Salary and related allowances for the participants during the period of the meeting;

(c) Costs incurred by participants in respect of travel insurance, accident insurance, medical bills or hospitalization fees in connection with attending the meeting;

(d) Compensation in the event of death or disability of participants in connection with attending the meeting;

(e) Any loss of or damage to personal property of participants while attending the meeting or losses or damages claimed by third parties as a result of any negligence on the part of the participants;

(f) Any other expenses of a personal nature, not directly related to the purpose of the meeting.
Annex

Visa requirements

Participants are REQUIRED to obtain an appropriate entry visa from the Thai Embassy or Consulate before entering to Thailand, EXCEPT for nationals of countries listed below.

List of countries and territories entitled for visa exemption and visa on arrival

For Ordinary passport

A. Visa exemption for a maximum of 14 days

1. Cambodia
2. Myanmar (international airports only)

B. Visa exemption for a maximum of 30 days

1. Australia
2. Austria
3. Bahrain
4. Belgium
5. Brunei Darussalam
6. Canada
7. Czechia
8. Denmark
9. Estonia
10. Finland
11. France
12. Germany
13. Greece
14. Hong Kong, China
15. Hungary
16. Iceland
17. Indonesia
18. Ireland
19. Israel
20. Italy
21. Japan
22. Kuwait
23. Lao People’s Democratic Republic
24. Liechtenstein
25. Luxembourg
26. Macao, China
27. Malaysia
28. Monaco
29. Mongolia
30. Netherlands
31. New Zealand
32. Norway
33. Oman
34. Philippines
35. Poland
36. Portugal
37. Qatar
38. Russian Federation
39. Singapore
40. Slovakia
41. Slovenia
42. South Africa
43. Spain
44. Sweden
45. Switzerland
46. Turkey
47. United Arab Emirates
48. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
49. United States of America
50. Viet Nam

C. Visa exemption for a maximum of 90 days

1. Argentina
2. Brazil
3. Chile
4. Peru
5. Republic of Korea
For Diplomatic / Official Passport

A. Visa exemption for a maximum of 30 days

1. Brunei Darussalam
2. Cambodia
3. China
4. Ecuador
5. Hong Kong, China
6. Indonesia
7. Lao People’s Democratic Republic
8. Macao, China
9. Mongolia
10. Myanmar
11. Oman
12. Pakistan (diplomatic passport only)
13. Singapore
14. Viet Nam

B. Visa exemption for a maximum of 90 days

1. Albania
2. Argentina
3. Austria
4. Belarus
5. Belgium
6. Bhutan
7. Brazil
8. Chile
9. Colombia
10. Costa Rica
11. Croatia
12. Czechia
13. Estonia (diplomatic passport only)
14. France (diplomatic passport only)
15. Germany
16. Hungary
17. India
18. Israel
19. Italy
20. Japan
21. Liechtenstein
22. Luxembourg
23. Malaysia
24. Mexico
25. Montenegro
26. Morocco
27. Nepal
28. Netherlands
29. Panama
30. Peru
31. Philippines
32. Poland
33. Republic of Korea
34. Romania
35. Russian Federation
36. Slovakia
37. South Africa
38. Spain (diplomatic passport only)
39. Sri Lanka
40. Switzerland
41. Tajikistan
42. Tunisia
43. Turkey
44. Ukraine
45. Uruguay

C. Visa on arrival for a maximum of 15 days

1. Andorra
2. Bhutan
3. Bulgaria
4. China
5. Cyprus
6. Ethiopia
7. Fiji
8. India
9. Kazakhstan
10. Latvia
11. Lithuania
12. Maldives
13. Malta
14. Mauritius
15. Papua New Guinea
16. Romania
17. San Marino
18. Saudi Arabia
19. Taiwan Province of China
20. Ukraine
21. Uzbekistan

Updated as of 26 December 2016 by the Department of Consular Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand.
1. Participants holding a United Nations Laissez-Passer (UNLP) travelling on official business to Thailand are REQUIRED to obtain appropriate visa before entering.

2. To apply for an appropriate entry visa to Thailand, participants are required to contact the respective Thai Embassy/Consulate for accurate information regarding to their visa application procedures and required documents. The list of Thai Embassies/Consulates can be found at www.thaiembassy.org.

3. Participants who may wish to apply for a visa outside of their country of residence or reside in a country where there is no Thai Embassy/Consulate should check the location where it is possible for them to apply for a Thai visa. Please note that certain nationalities, for security reasons, are not allowed to apply for a visa elsewhere except at the Thai Embassy/Consulate which is holding jurisdiction over the territory. For more information, please consult with your meeting organizer.

4. Participants who may need further assistance from ESCAP on their visa application should contact their meeting organizer in order to coordinate with the Visa and Shipment Unit, Division of Administration, ESCAP, for necessary action.

5. Participants who wish to apply for visa on arrival at Suvarnabhumi International Airport or at Don Mueang International Airport should follow the requirements below:

    (a) The applicant must be in possession of a passport, with a validity of at least six months, and a valid return ticket with date of departure within 15 days of the date of entry;

    (b) The applicant must fill out an application form, which is available at the Visa-on-Arrival counter at Suvarnabhumi International Airport, supply one recent passport-sized photograph and pay a fee of 1,000 baht.

**NOTE:** The information provided above is accurate as of January 2017. All participants are advised to consult with the Thai Embassy/Consulate in their respective countries regarding the latest applicable immigration requirements prior to their departure for Thailand.