

## LOGISTICS NOTE

*The 3<sup>rd</sup> Asia-Pacific Environmental Human Rights Defender Forum*

*20-22 September 2023*

*Bangkok, Thailand*

### ABOUT THE FORUM

#### VENUE

United Nations Conference Center, United Nations Building

Rajadamnern Nok Avenue, Bangkok 10200 Thailand



#### PARTICIPATION

Following an expression of interest, participation in the Forum will be subject to an approval and registration process to ensure the safety and security of EHRDs. A final confirmation will be sent to selected participants by 28 July 2023. For queries related to this, please reach out to [apehrdforum@proton.me](mailto:apehrdforum@proton.me)

Once the final confirmation has been received, participants are **REQUIRED** to register to create their profile on the Forum platform no later than **30 August 2023**.

[Register](#)

#### WEATHER

The weather in Bangkok is usually warm and humid. The average temperature in September is between 25°C and 33°C. There are likely to be many days of rain.

The conference and meeting rooms at the UNCC are air-conditioned and the temperature is maintained in the range of 23–24 degrees Celsius (73–75 degrees Fahrenheit).

## CURRENCY

The “Thai Baht” (BHT) is the official currency of Thailand. There are coins of 1, 2, 5 and 10 Bahts, and banknotes of 20, 50, 100, 500 and 1,000 Thai Bahts. Every baht is divided into 100 Satangs and there are coins of 50 and 25 Satangs.

## TIME ZONE

Please note that the time zone for Thailand is Indochina Time (ICT), which is UTC +7.

## TRAVELING TO THE FORUM

### VISA ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Participants are **REQUIRED** to obtain an appropriate entry visa from the Royal Thai Embassy or the Royal Thai Consulate-General before entering Thailand, **EXCEPT** for those nationals listed on [List of Countries entitled for Visa Exemption and Visa on Arrival](#).

Please note that participants holding UN Laissez-Passer (UNLP) traveling on official business to Thailand are **also REQUIRED** to obtain an appropriate visa before entering.

To apply for an appropriate entry visa to Thailand, participants are required to contact their nearest Royal Thai Embassy or Consulate-General for the most updated information regarding visa application procedures and required documents. The list of Royal Thai Embassy/Consulate-General can be found at <https://www.thaiembassy.org>.

Participants who wish to apply for a visa outside their country of residence or reside in a country where there is no Royal Thai Embassy or Consulate should check the attached file - *List of Jurisdiction Territory* for 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 except at the Royal Thai Embassy or Consulate-General which has jurisdiction over the concerned territory.

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

1. The applicant must possess a passport from the list of countries whose nationals are eligible to apply for visa on arrival ([List of countries entitled for Visa on Arrival](#)) with the validity of more than 30 days, at least one completely blank page, and be in possession of a valid return ticket with date of departure within 15 days of the date of entry.
2. The applicant must fill out an application form, which is available at the Visa-on-Arrival counter at the airport, supply one recent passport-sized photograph and a fee of Thai Baht (THB) 2,000.
3. An online application is available at [Visa On Arrival \(immigration.go.th\)](#). Upon presentation of printed Transaction Reference Number (TRN) the applicant could obtain the visa at the Visa-on-Arrival counter at the airport before proceeding for immigration procedures
4. The applicant must provide proof of means of living expenses at the amount of THB 10,000 per person or THB 20,000 per family.

## HOTEL ACCOMODATION

Participants are responsible for arranging and making their own accommodation booking. The Forum organizers **WILL NOT PROVIDE** accommodation or reservation services for participants.

Hotels located relatively close to UNCC or by mass-transit routes may be used by participants, should they choose to. The selection of hotels within walking distance from the UNCC is encouraged to reduce participants' local travel emissions and their exposure to traffic. The accommodation rate should not be over 50% of your Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA). You may find a list of hotels with indicative prices here: [https://www.unescap.org/sites/default/d8files/event-documents/Hotel\\_Offers.pdf](https://www.unescap.org/sites/default/d8files/event-documents/Hotel_Offers.pdf)

Please note: The UN cannot vouch for the accuracy of the information or rates contained in the document. The list is meant purely for reference and ease of participants. Please confirm the room rates with the hotel directly.

## TRANSPORT FROM AND TO THE AIRPORT

Participants should make their own transportation arrangements from Suvarnabhumi International Airport or Don Mueang International Airport to their respective hotels. For the Airport Rail Link, an express and commuter rail connecting to Makkasan Station (MRT subway Petchaburi Station) and Phayathai Station (BTS Skytrain), passengers should go to Level B. Detailed information can be found at <https://www.srtet.co.th/index.php/en/>

**Metered taxi** and bus services are readily available at the airport. More information is available at <https://www.bangkokairportonline.com>.

For **public taxis**, participants are advised to proceed to the Level 1 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 THB 50 surcharge to be added to the meter charge from the airport to the city. Please refer to the airport website noted above for details.

**Electric taxis** (EVSociety/VIP) are currently available at the Suvarnabhumi International Airport. The counter is located next to the main taxi area. The service is available 24 hours and can be pre-booked via:

Line ID: @evsociety

Phone: +66 2039 8888

Email: [taxivip@evsociety.co.th](mailto:taxivip@evsociety.co.th)

## TRANSPORT FROM AND TO THE VENUE

Participants should make their own transport arrangements to and from the United Nations. Metered taxis are readily available in the city.

## AT THE FORUM

### REGISTRATION

The UN ESCAP Registration desk will open on Wednesday, 20 September 2023 at 7:30 am. Please bring your national passport to facilitate your registration and obtaining the premises badge.

Important: All participants are required to upload their profile photo, so that their badges can be prepared. Furthermore, please note all participants are **REQUIRED** to wear their meeting badges at all times while they are inside the venue. Loss of a meeting badge should be immediately communicated to the registration counter or the UN security, so that the incident could be recorded, and a new badge can be issued.

## **LANGUAGE**

The Forum will be held in English. Simultaneous interpretation to and from Thai will be available.

## **DRESS CODE**

Smart casual. Light tropical clothing would be appropriate.

## **INTERNET**

Free wireless internet access is available at the Forum.

## **CATERING**

Catering services are available at the venue. The Forum Organizer will provide lunch and tea/coffee breaks at the Forum venue from 20-22 September 2023.

## **OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION**

### **TRAVEL ADVISORY**

Visitors are advised to be respectful of Thai customs at all times. Please note the Lèse-majesté law in Thailand, which forbids the insult of the monarchy. Whoever defames, insults, or threatens the King, the Queen, the Heir-apparent or the Regent shall be punished with imprisonment. It is not aimed at restricting the legitimate right to freedom of expression but respecting the cultural aspect of Thailand with a respect of Thai royal family. Such laws are strictly enforced and are applicable to spoken, written, gestures and electronic communication, including social media.

### **MEDICAL**

#### *A. COVID-19*

The Thai Department of Disease Control (DDC), Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) has issued “Public Health Measures for Foreign Travellers Entering Thailand”, which is effective from 1 March 2023 until further notice, as per the following:

- Proof of COVID vaccination is no longer required.
- Proof of health insurance for COVID is no longer required.
- Any passenger having symptoms of COVID-19 on arrival shall be recommended to get COVID-19/RT=PCR test at arrival.

For more information, travelers can contact the DDC Hotline 1422 or visit <https://ddc.moph.go.th/en/index.php>.

#### *B. Important: Yellow Fever Vaccination Certificate*

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, will have to provide an International Health Certificate proving that they have received a valid Yellow Fever vaccination to the Immigration Officer.

The countries/areas listed below have been declared yellow fever infected areas (Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Thailand dated 30 November 2022):

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

You may find more information on the Yellow Fever vaccination requirement at the following official website: <https://www.mfa.go.th/en/page/list-of-countries-which?menu=5e1ff729c4281a00c95bd753>

### C. Zika Virus

Zika is endemic in Thailand and cases have been reported amongst tourists. All travelers are advised to protect themselves from mosquito bites while in Thailand. Given possible transmission of the disease to unborn babies, pregnant women should consider postponing travel to Thailand or talk to their doctor about the implications of traveling to Thailand during this time. In addition to the above, the Medical Services Division at UNHQ advises that pregnant women 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. For further information, please refer to the Zika virus FAQ. Information on other non-vaccine preventable diseases to watch out for while in Thailand can be found here: [Thailand - Traveller view | Travellers' Health | CDC](#)

### AIR POLLUTION AND HEALTH

Bangkok, like many metropolitan Asian cities, is periodically affected by high levels of air pollution, with haze and high concentrations of PM2.5 particularly of concern for sensitive groups. The Tourism Authority of Thailand advises tourists to monitor Bangkok's air pollution and take precautions when necessary. People who have existing asthma or are particularly vulnerable to the effects of air pollution should consult their treating physician as to whether a trip to Bangkok is advisable at this time. Information on

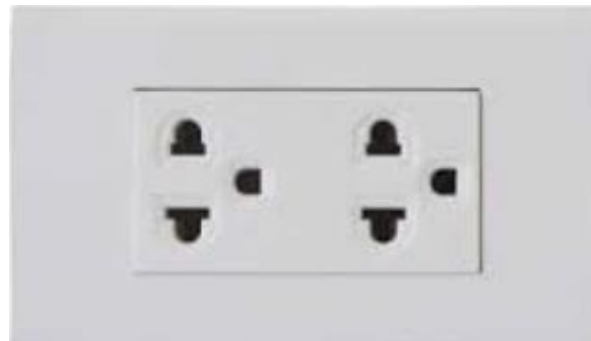
the Air pollution can be found [Air4Thai website](#), maintained by the government of Thailand with daily information on air pollution.

### **INSURANCE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES**

Participants are strongly encouraged to subscribe to a travel or health insurance which is valid in the Kingdom of Thailand, in order to cover any medical bills or hospitalization fees. In case of medical emergency, please call 1669. The nearest hospital to the UNCC is Mission Hospital, which has English speaking medical support staff +662-282- 1100.

### **ELECTRIC PLUG AND SOCKET**

The electric power in Thailand is 230V 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.



Participants are strongly encouraged to carry their own adapters for use with laptops and other electrical appliances as the Forum Organizer 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

### **FOREIGN CURRENCY DECLARATION**

Any person who brings or takes an aggregate amount of foreign currency exceeding USD 20,000 or its equivalent into or out of the Kingdom 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. For reference, participants may use – at their discretion – online currency conversion tool, such as <https://freecurrencyrates.com> for indicative currency conversion rates.

### **THAI EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

Police/general  
emergency call:  
Tel: 191

Fire brigade:  
Tel: 199

Emergency doctor/  
ambulance:  
Tel: 1669/1554

Tourism police:  
Tel: 1155

### **NOTE FROM THE ORGANIZERS**

Travel for eligible funded participants will be based on the lowest cost and most direct economy fare. The Forum organizers will not be responsible for costs associated with any changes that the funded participants may wish to make to their tickets, for example upgrading, re-routing or stopovers.

The Forum organizers shall not be responsible for the provision of or expenses relating to any medical or travel insurance for the Forum, including but not limited to any coverage relating to the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, the organizers shall not be liable for any loss or damage whatsoever that may be incurred during or in the context of your travel to or from the Forum or your participation therein, including but not limited to any compensation in the event of injury, illness, death or disability or for any loss or damage to your personal property. In this context, it is strongly recommended that international medical and/or travel insurance that covers COVID-19 related costs, including but not limited to any expenses that may be incurred arising from medical treatment, quarantine costs, adjustments to travel arrangements or similar, be obtained for the period of your participation.

## CONTACT THE FORUM ORGANIZERS

For general Forum queries, please contact [apehrdforum@proton.me](mailto:apehrdforum@proton.me)

### LOCAL CONTACT DETAILS

**Romchat Wachirattanakornkul,**  
UN Human Rights  
Regional Office for South-East Asia  
Email: [romchat.wachirattanakornkul@un.org](mailto:romchat.wachirattanakornkul@un.org)

**Georgina Lloyd,**  
UN Environment Programme  
Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific  
Email: [georgina.lloyd@un.org](mailto:georgina.lloyd@un.org)

### CONTACT PERSONS DURING THE EVENT

Please feel free to approach the Organizing Team with any questions during the event. They will be wearing **blue badges**.