



Useful Information for Participants

Regional Development Forum for Asia-Pacific

13-15 September 2023, Bangkok, Thailand

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

1. Meeting

The **Regional Development Forum for Asia-Pacific (RDF-ASP) 2023** is organised by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific. The Forum will be held in a hybrid format during 13-15 September 2023 in Bangkok, Thailand. For more details please visit <http://itu.int/go/RDF-ASP-23>.

2. REGISTRATION

To participate, please register online using the link available on the direct link at <https://www.itu.int/net4/CRM/xreg/web/Login.aspx?src=Registration&Event=C-00012892> no later than **11 September 2023**. Only the registered participants are entitled to participate the forum.

3. Venue

W Hotel Bangkok

106 North Sathorn Road, Silom, Bangrak, Bangkok 10500, Thailand
(BTS Congnonsi station – exit 1)

T: +66 2 344 4317

Email: Res.WBangkok@whotels.com

Website: <https://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/bkkwb-w-bangkok/overview/>

Location: https://maps.app.goo.gl/zRvdZZMCLtFybaAZ7?g_st=ic

4. Visa and Immigration Requirements

To enter Thailand, all participants must possess a valid passport or accepted travel document. Participants who require a visa should apply for a visa at a Royal Thai Embassy or a Royal Thai Consulate-General in their respective country well in advance of their departure. For nationals of some countries, it may take more than two weeks for visa processing. As visa requirements change from time to time, please check with your nearest Royal Thai Embassy/Consulate-General for your visa requirements. You are also advised to visit <http://www.mfa.go.th> for more information on visas and travel documents.

The following is the list of countries and territories entitled for visa exemption and visa on arrival to Thailand:

Summary of Countries and Territories entitled for Visa Exemption and Visa on Arrival to Thailand

Passport holders of the following countries/ territories may apply for Visa on Arrival Period of stay 15 days	Ordinary Passport						Diplomatic/Official Passport			
	Passport holders of the following countries/ territories may enter Thailand without a visa						Passport holders of the following countries/ territories may enter Thailand without a visa			
	Tourist Visa Exemption Scheme			Bilateral Agreement			Bilateral Agreement			
	Period of stay 30 days			14 days	Period of stay 30 days		30 days		Period of stay 90 days	
Bulgaria	Andorra	Norway	Brazil*	Cambodia	Hong Kong**	Argentina	Bangladesh (Diplomatic pp. only)	Albania	Nepal	
Bhutan	Australia	Oman	Korea (ROK)*	Myanmar	Laos	Brazil*	Brunei	Argentina	Panama	
China	Austria	The Philippines	Peru*	<i>(International Airports only)</i>	Macau	Chile	Cambodia	Austria	Peru	
Cyprus	Belgium	Poland	Hong Kong**		Mongolia	Korea (ROK)*	China	Belarus	The Philippines	
Ethiopia	Bahrain	Portugal	Vietnam**		Russia (&VoA)	Peru*	Ecuador	Belgium	Poland	
Fiji	Brunei	Qatar			Vietnam**		Hong Kong	Bhutan	Romania	
Georgia	Canada	San Marino					Indonesia	Brazil	Russia	
India	Czech Republic	Saudi Arabia (&VoA)					Kazakhstan	Bulgaria	Serbia	
Kazakhstan	Denmark	Singapore					Laos	Chile	Seychelles	
Malta	Estonia	Slovak					Macau	Colombia	Slovakia	
Mexico	Finland	Slovenia					Malaysia	Costa Rica	South Africa	
Nauru	France	Spain					Mongolia	Croatia	Spain	
Papua New Guinea	Germany	South Africa					Mozambique	Czech Republic	<i>(Diplomatic pp. only)</i>	
Romania	Greece	Sweden					Myanmar	El Salvador	Sri Lanka	
Taiwan	Hungary	Switzerland					Oman	Estonia	Switzerland	
Uzbekistan	Iceland	Turkey					Pakistan (Diplomatic pp. only)	Finland	Tajikistan	
Vanuatu	Indonesia	Ukraine					Singapore	France	Tunisia	
	Ireland	UAE					Timor-Leste	<i>(Diplomatic pp. only)</i>	Turkey	
	Israel	UK					Vietnam	Germany	Ukraine	
	Italy	USA						Georgia Greece (Diplomatic pp. only)	UAE	
	Japan							Hungary	Uruguay	
	Kuwait							India		
	Latvia							Israel		
	Liechtenstein							Italy		
	Lithuania							Japan		
	Luxembourg							Korea (ROK)		
	Malaysia							Kosovo		
	Maldives							Kuwait		
	Mauritius							Latvia		
	Monaco							Liechtenstein		
	The Netherlands							Luxembourg		
	New Zealand							Mexico		
								Montenegro		
								Morocco		
								The Netherlands		

Department of Consular Affairs, 1 April 2023

Remarks

* Passport holders of Brazil, Korea (ROK) and Peru are entitled for tourist visa exemption scheme. Meanwhile, Thailand also holds bilateral agreements on visa exemption for holders of diplomatic, official and ordinary passports for a visit of not exceeding 90 days with Brazil, Korea (ROK) and Peru.

** Passport holders of Vietnam and Hong Kong are entitled for tourist visa exemption scheme. Meanwhile, Thailand also holds bilateral agreements on visa exemption for holders of diplomatic, official and ordinary passports for a visit of not exceeding 30 days with Vietnam and Hong Kong.



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VISA ON ARRIVAL

Nationals of 17 countries and territories (pls. see the name list in the table) holding a valid ordinary passport may be granted a visa for a stay not exceeding 15 days, upon arrival, by the Thai immigration authority at Suvarnabhumi Airport, provided the requirements noted below are met:

- The applicant must be in possession of a passport with a validity of at least six months or an appropriate travel document recognized by the Government of Thailand
- The applicant must possess means of living expenses at the amount of 1,000 Baht per person and 20,000 Baht per family accordingly. (show of cash or other monetary instruments will be requested at the checkpoint)
- The applicant must be in possession of a full paid and confirmed onward or return air ticket which is usable within 15 days after the date of entry
- The applicant must submit the application form duly filled out and to which his/her recent photograph (4x6 cm) is attached. The application form is available at the Visa-on-Arrival Counter at Suvarnabhumi Airport

5. Weather

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).

6. Foreign Currency Declaration

The unit of Thai currency is Thai Baht (THB). The exchange rate is THB 33.83 to 1 USD (as of 31 July 2023).

Under Thai law, any person who brings or takes an aggregate amount of foreign currency exceeding 20,000 United States dollars or its equivalent into or out of the Kingdom of Thailand shall declare the amount of foreign currency to a Customs Officer. Failure to make such a declaration or making any false declaration to a Customs Officer is a criminal offence.

Currency exchange facilities are available at hotels.


7. Travel Insurance and Covid 19 Requirement

Participants are reminded that it is advisable to obtain travel insurance. Such insurance should cover payment for your medical care in the case of hospitalization as well as the cost of repatriation to your home country if that should become necessary. The Organizers do not take responsibility for any individual, medical, travel or personal insurance. Participants are advised to secure their own insurance policies as necessary.

From 1 October 2022 onward, passengers travelling to Thailand will no longer be required to present COVID-19 related documents such as the certificate of vaccination and COVID-19 test result upon arrival in Thailand.

8. Recommended Hotels

Official hotel for the ITU Forum is W Hotel Bangkok Hotel. It is a recommended hotel for participants attending the forum.

<p>W Hotel Bangkok (<i>Meeting Venue</i>)</p> <p>106 North Sathorn Road, Silom, Bangrak Bangkok 10500, Thailand Phone: +66 2 344 4317 E-mail: Res.WBangkok@whotels.com URL: https://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/bkkwb-w-bangkok/overview/</p> <p>Location: BTS: Chongnonsi station (exit 1) https://maps.app.goo.gl/zRvdZZMCLtFybaAZ7?g_st=ic</p>												
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rates quoted are inclusive daily buffet breakfast & in room internet. • Rates quoted are exclusive of 10% service charge and 7% VAT 	<p>Wonderful Room (41 sqm)</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"> <p>Single (Baht/night)</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"> <p>THB 5,000++</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"> <p>Double (Baht/night)</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"> <p>THB 5,600++</p> </td> </tr> </table>		<p>Single (Baht/night)</p>	<p>THB 5,000++</p>	<p>Double (Baht/night)</p>	<p>THB 5,600++</p>	<p>Spectacular room (43 sqm)</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"> <p>Single (Baht/night)</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"> <p>THB 5,600++</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"> <p>Double (Baht/night)</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"> <p>THB 6,200++</p> </td> </tr> </table>		<p>Single (Baht/night)</p>	<p>THB 5,600++</p>	<p>Double (Baht/night)</p>	<p>THB 6,200++</p>
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<p>Easting Grand Sathorn Hotel</p> <p>33/1 Moo. South Sathorn Road, Yannawa, Sathorn, Bangkok 10120, Thailand Phone: +66 2 210 8100 ext. 7303 URL: Eastin Grand Hotel Sathorn Bangkok Deluxe Hotel in Thailand Official Hotel Website (eastinhotelsresidences.com)</p> <p>Location: BTS: Surasak (exit 4)</p> <p>Room type: Superior</p> <p>Single room: Baht 3,300 net breakfast included. Double room: Baht 3,600 net breakfasts included.</p> <p>Room type: Superior Sky</p> <p>Single room: Baht 3,700 net breakfast included. Double room: Baht 4,000 net breakfasts included.</p> <p>Contact person: Ms. Wilairat Hongsiri E-mail: ados@eastingrandsathorn.com</p>

Nearby Hotels

Hotel Name	Address
Mode Sathorn Hotel BTS: Surasak station (exit 3)	Address: 144 North Sathorn Road, Silom, Bangrak, Bangkok Phone: +66 2 623 4555 Email: rsvn@modesathorn.com ; rsvn.sup@modesathorn.com URL: https://www.modesathorn.com/ Location: https://maps.app.goo.gl/WQekjgRBNQJDR8zYA?g_st=ic
Evergreen Laurel Hotel Bangkok BTS: Chongnonsi station (exit 2)	Address: 68, 88 North Sathorn Road, Silom, Bangrak, Bangkok Phone: +66 2 266 7266 Email: elhbkk@evergreen-hotels.com URL: https://www.evergreen-hotels.com/ Location: https://maps.app.goo.gl/EsPcHNCeaiuJCG9D9?g_st=ic
I Residence Hotel Silom BTS: Chongnonsi station (exit 4)	Address: 93 Narathivas Rachanakarin Road, Silom, Bangrak, Bangkok Phone: +66 2 267 9700-3 Email: duangporn@iresidencesilom.com URL: https://www.iresidencesilom.com/ Location: https://maps.app.goo.gl/2jLTSqcDMsQEsYdp7?g_st=ic

Participants are advised to book accommodation directly to the hotel and responsible for arranging their own transportation to and from the meeting venue and the airport.

9. Transport from and to Airport

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

Please note that the Don Muang Airport, the former Bangkok International Airport, currently handles domestic flights and some low-cost international flights.

For your general information, the following transportation is available from Suvarnabhumi International Airport:

1. Public Meter Taxi, is located on 1st floor of the Passenger Terminal, Gate 4 and 7. Fare shown on meter, plus Baht 50 surcharge for boarding at the airport.
2. Airport Limousine Service, the limousine service to various destinations in the city, is located at the arrival floor of the airport.
3. Hotel Limousine Services

For participants wishing to avail themselves of the limousine and public metered-taxi services indicated above, it is strongly recommended that they approach only the authorized representatives at the counters located in the airport arrival zone.

There are good public transportation facilities at the Suvarnabhumi International Airport, Thailand. For more information, please visit website: <http://www.bangkokairportonline.com/>.

10. Travelling within Bangkok

Although traffic can be heavy at times, getting around Bangkok is relatively easy thanks to a well-integrated and inexpensive transport system of public buses, taxis, limousines, motorcycle taxis, tuk-tuks and mass transit.

- **Taxis:** a large number of taxis ply Bangkok's streets 24-7. Look for the Taxi Meter sign on top and make sure the cabbie turns on the meter. Fares begin at 35 baht (roughly US\$ 1) and increase according to distance traveled.
- **Mass Transit:** the city's mass transit system consists of an elevated and underground rail service through the downtown area, providing links to city hotels, shopping malls, entertainment areas, business districts and the river. Both are air-conditioned, with signage and directions in Thai and English, and operate from 6 am to midnight daily. Both systems are linked with change-over stations.
- **BTS Skytrain:** elevated electric trains transport Bangkok's commuters in wide air-conditioned carriages, running every 3-5 minutes at peak times and slightly longer off-peak, providing a quick, reliable and efficient service. Fares are based on distance traveled.
- **MRT Subway:** the underground rail system complements the BTS Skytrain in moving commuters around central Bangkok through a special tunnel system. Lifts and escalators provide access to the trains.

11. Language

English is spoken in most hotels, shops and restaurants as well as in major tourist destinations.

12. Time

The time in Bangkok is 7 hours ahead of the Greenwich Mean Time (GMT +7).

13. Electricity & Power Plug

The electric current is 220 volt AC throughout the country. For Thailand, the picture/diagram shows the type of main power plug used in Thailand so participants can bring the right adaptor for their electrical appliances. This plug and receptacle are technically known as NEMA 5-15 (North American 15 A/125 V grounded).

