

## INFORMATION NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS

### Thirteenth Meeting of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (IAEG-SDGs) 7 to 9 November 2022, Bangkok, Thailand

#### General

This document provides links to external and third-party website, for convenience of meeting participants, and for use at their discretion. UNSD and ESCAP cannot vouch for the accuracy or correctness of the information contained therein.

#### Venue

The meeting will be held in the [United Nations Conference Centre \(UNCC\)](#), Rajdamnern Nok Avenue, Bangkok 10200, Thailand.

#### Visa and entry requirements

##### Visa 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 in this link [MFA list of Visa Exemption and VOA](#).

Participants holding UN Laissez-Passer (UNLP) travelling on official business to Thailand are **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 with the meeting organizer 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 may need further assistance from ESCAP on their visa application should contact the meeting organizer, well in advance, for necessary action.

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 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. Participants may apply online at <https://www.evisathailand.com> and contact the Visa-on-Arrival counter at the airport upon arrival 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.

**NOTE:** The information provided above is accurate as of July 2022.

## Entry Requirements

For Thailand's entry requirements, the registration for Thailand Pass is no longer required. From 1 July 2022, Thai and foreign nationals are only required to show proof of either a certificate of vaccination or a negative RT-PCR or professional ATK test result within 72 hours of travel. Random checks will be made on arrivals at Thailand's international airports.

Unvaccinated/not fully vaccinated travelers who are randomly checked and unable to show proof of a pre-arrival negative test will be required to undergo a professional ATK test at the point of entry.

Please find more information in the following links: [A summary of Thailand's entry procedures](#)

Participants may consult with the Royal Thai Embassy/Consulate in their respective countries regarding the latest applicable immigration requirements in preparation for and prior to their departure to Thailand.

## Health and vaccination

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.

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

1. Angola
2. Argentina
3. Bolivia
4. Brazil
5. Benin
24. Guyana
25. Kenya
26. Liberia
27. Mali
28. Mauritania

6. Burkina Faso
7. Burundi
8. Cameroon
9. Central African Republic
10. Chad
11. Colombia
12. Republic of Congo
13. Cote d'Ivoire
14. Democratic Republic of Congo
15. Ecuador
16. Equatorial Guinea
17. Ethiopia
18. French Guiana
19. Gabon
20. Gambia
21. Ghana
22. Guinea
23. Guinea-Bissau
29. Niger
30. Nigeria
31. Panama
32. Paraguay
33. Peru
34. Rwanda
35. Sao Tome & Principe
36. Senegal
37. Sierra Leone
38. Somalia
39. South Sudan
40. Sudan
41. Suriname
42. Tanzania
43. Togo
44. Trinidad & Tobago
45. Uganda
46. Venezuela

### **Zika virus**

Thailand is currently experiencing ongoing sporadic 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 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, Medical Services Division at UNHQs advises that pregnant UN 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. [For further information, please refer to the Zika virus FAQ.](#)

### **Air pollution and Health**

Bangkok, like many metropolitan Asian cities in the world, 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.

[This website is maintained by the Government of Thailand with daily information on air pollution.](#)

## **First-aid and emergency medical service**

During the event first-aid and emergency medical service will be available at the First-aid room, which is located on the Ground Level of the UNCC, next to the Post Office.

Delegates 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.

The UN buildings are smoke-free. Smoking is permitted only in the designated areas outside of the buildings and in the UNCC, the [designated smoking area is outside of the Public Foyer](#)

## **COVID-19 Protocol at the UN Conference Centre, Bangkok**

### **SPECIFIC MEASURES BEFORE & DURING THE MEETING**

#### **BEFORE THE MEETING**

- Be aware of the signs and symptoms of respiratory illness and how to manage it.
- Complete the [online self-declaration form](#) prior to entering the UNCC, sharing emergency contact details and certifying that:
  - you have not tested COVID-19 symptoms in the last 7 days
  - you have not had symptoms consistent with COVID -19 in the last 7 days
  - you accept to comply with the COVID-19 infection prevention measures in place
- Upon submission of the above-mentioned online self-declaration form, you will receive a clearance email from the ESCAP team. You will be asked to show this email when picking up your meeting badge at the (UNCC) Registration Desk.
- Ensure that you have your health insurance card or information with you at all times.
- Stay at home or in your accommodation if you or your household feels unwell, develop a fever and/or respiratory symptoms.
- All personnel entering the UNCC, whether on foot or using their own transport, are subject to thermal screening at all entrances. This is done through self-screening using stationary thermal scanners situated in various access points. If a person has a temperature of >37.3 degrees Celsius, s/he should not enter the UNCC.

#### **DURING THE MEETING**

- Follow instructions as provided by the organizer and the support staff on the ground, especially through the video on COVID-19 for meeting participants at UNCC and signages.
- Wear face masks all the time except when taking the floor to speak in the respective conference/meeting room, sit in designated areas and keep physical distancing.
- Wash or sanitize your hands frequently – after coughing, before preparing food or eating, after toilet use, after contact with ill persons, and during exposure to high traffic public areas.
- Avoid sharing personal items.
- If you feel unwell while in the meeting, do not ignore – report immediately to the meeting organizer.

## Travel Information

### Travel Advisory

Visitors are advised to be respectful of Thai customs at all times. Please note that Thailand has laws against making negative comments about the institution of the monarchy. Such laws are strictly enforced and are applicable to spoken, written, gestures and electronic communication, including social media.

### Transport from and to 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/>.

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)

EV Society Facebook

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

To use the airport limousine service, it is strongly recommended that participants contact only the authorized officials 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 Suvarnabhumi International Airport limousine service counters are located on Level 2 at Baggage Claim and Arrival Hall exits, channels A, B and C. 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.

### Hotel accommodation

**Hotels**, located relatively close to ESCAP or by mass-transit routes, may be used by participants, should they choose to. The selection of hotels at a walking distance from the UNCC is encouraged to reduce participants' local travel emissions and their exposure to traffic. [Click here for a list of hotels, with indicative prices.](#)

Please note that, you may have to refer to the current entry requirement to Thailand as the accommodation may require to be Sha Extra Plus (Sha++) or Alternative Quarantine (AQ). Please see the list at [Sha++ accommodation.](#)

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

Participants are responsible for booking their own rooms and are requested to contact the hotel well in advance. Any cancellations, postponements or other changes should be reported to the hotel. Rooms not occupied may be charged to the participants as per the hotel's policies.

Before departure from Bangkok, participants should settle directly with the respective hotels all accounts, including room charges and other expenses, such as for local and long-distance telephone calls, Internet usage, business center usage, laundry, room and hotel transportation services, mini-bar items, as well as restaurant and bar services. Participants are also responsible for any charges incurred with respect to rooms remaining vacant owing to late arrival or rescheduled departure for which inadequate prior notice is given.

### **Transport to attend meetings**

Participants should make their own transport arrangements to and from the UNCC. Metered taxis are readily available in the city and you may also book your transportation via applications such as Grab, Volt etc. Some hotels close to the UN building provide complimentary transport, according to fixed schedules, to and from the UNCC, so please check with the concierge.

### **Internet services**

Free wireless internet access is available in all conference and meeting rooms and in the public areas of the UNCC. Please use UN-WiFi, no password is required. Use of internet at UNCC is governed by relevant Organizational policies and guidelines. Failure to adhere to policies may result in revoking of those services.

### **Weather**

The weather in Bangkok is usually warm and humid. Light tropical clothing would be appropriate. 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).

### **Electric plug and socket**

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.

### **UNCC Floor plans**

The UNCC floor plans are available at <https://www.unescap.org/uncc/our-rooms>. The UN buildings are smoke-free. Smoking is permitted only in the designated areas outside of the buildings and in the UNCC, the designated smoking area is outside of the Public Foyer.

## 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.

## Catering services at the venue

### Operating hours

Catering services (food for purchase) are available at the following locations:

- International Cafeteria (Level 1, UNCC), which serves breakfast from 7.30 to 10.00 hours, and Thai, Halal and International menus for lunch from 11:00 to 14:00 hours on Monday through Friday.
- Coffee Corner (Level 1, UNCC), which serves assortment of bakery pastries and beverages, is open from 07:00 to 17:00 hours on Monday through Friday.
- Rajapruek Lounge (Ground Level, UNCC), which serves light meals and beverages, is open from 07:00 to 17:00 hours on Monday through Friday.

In line with the Sustainable United Nations (SUN) and Environmental Management System (EMS) principles, no single use plastic is available in the UNCC. Single-use food and drink containers have been banned within the UN compound in Bangkok. When purchasing coffee/tea at the Coffee Corner, meeting participants will be asked to pay a deposit of THB 100 for a cup, which will be returned upon return of the cup.

Dining venues at the UNCC also do not provide food storage boxes, plastic cutlery or straws for take-away orders. Diners wishing to take food away are advised to bring their own reusable food containers.