



INFORMATION NOTE
High-Level Regional Consultation on Policies to Respond to High Food Prices
in Asia and the Pacific Region
1-2 October 2012 Plaza Athénée, A Royal Méridien, Bangkok, Thailand

Dates and venue

The High-Level Regional Consultation on Policies to Respond to High Food Prices in Asia and the Pacific Region will be held at the **Hotel Plaza Athénée, A Royal Méridien**, Bangkok, Thailand from 1st to 2nd October 2012. The meeting will be held in Athénée Crystal Hall B. The hotel is located in the Lumpini Park area, and is about 40 km from Suvarnabhumi International Airport. It is also close to the centre of the city. The Consultation will be conducted in English. During the Consultation, lunch will be arranged at Athénée Crystal Hall A.

Hotel address

61 Wireless Road (Witthayu) Lumpini Pathumwan · 10330 Thailand // Phone: +66 (0) 2-650-8800
For more details please check the website
<http://www.plazaatheneebangkok.com/>

Travel Arrangements

For FAO sponsored participants only:

The FAO Representation (FAOR) in your country will issue air tickets and help with visa formalities if needed. A daily subsistence allowance to cover hotel accommodation and other expenses will be paid upon your arrival at the Consultation. Please bring along with you a photocopy of your passport to the registration desk and the FAO registration form.

For all participants

It is recommended that all participants stay at the Plaza Athénée, A Royal Méridien as block booking of

rooms has been made at the Hotel at the special rate of THB 3,000 (single occupancy) and THB 3,400 (double occupancy) for a Deluxe Room, including all taxes. Breakfast is also included in the rate.

High speed internet at guests own cost. If you have any inquiry about the Hotel, kindly contact **Ms Thanisara Duangchandra/Reservation Manager**, +66 08-240-2229
thanisara.duangchandra@lemeridien.com

Thailand visa/ permit entry formalities

Any foreigners seeking to entry the Kingdom of Thailand must possess a passport or travel document with validity of not less than 6 months. Participants are advised to contact a Thai Embassy or Consulate-General at their point of origin regarding their visa requirements to Thailand.

<http://www.thaiembassy.org/>

<http://www.mfa.go.th/main/en/services/123/15398-Issuance-of-Visa.html>

<http://www.thaiembassy.com/thailand/visa-on-arrival.php>

Currency and foreign exchange services

The monetary unit of Thailand currency is the Thai Baht. The current exchange rate (19 Sep. 2011) is approximately: USD 1 = THB 30.6. All major credit cards are accepted in Thailand. US dollar traveller

cheques can be conveniently cashed at the banks and authorized money changers.

Exchange service is available at the bank branch at the airport, hotel and in many exchange shops in shopping area at relatively the same rate. Many bank branches in the city have international transaction service, business hour is 08.30 – 15.30hrs. (Mon-Fri).

Transportation from airport to hotel

Suvarnabhumi International Airport (BKK) is located approximately 45 minutes from the city and is primarily serviced by taxis.

<http://www.suvarnabhumiairport.com>

Public Taxi

Located on the 2nd level of the Arrival Hall of Suvarnabhumi International Airport, taxis from the airport are readily available. As most taxi drivers do not speak English, it is advisable to contact the taxi hiring station to assist you communicating with the driver. The one-way fare from the airport to the city is approximately THB 300 - 400 (USD 10-13). Please note that there is a surcharge of THB 50 in addition to the fare on the meter when taking a public taxi from Suvarnabhumi Airport. The passenger also pays any highway tolls.

Airport link

The Airport Link's City Line will run every 15 minutes and the Express Line every 30 minutes. Both lines operate from 6am to midnight. The train is connected with Phayathai BTS Station. Plaza Athénée is walking distance from Ploenchit BTS station. <http://airportrailink.railway.co.th/en/>

Insurances

It is recommended that all participants take out their own travel insurance for any potential risk.

Climate

Thailand has a tropical climate with 3 distinct seasons: summer from March – May, rainy season from June– October and cool season from November – February. The climate in October is with a temperature of less than 30°C.

Electricity

The electricity voltage is 220 Volt AC (50 cycle) throughout the country. There are many plugs and sockets in use. Travelers with difference plug types and voltage appliances should carry a plug-adaptor kit.

Telephone Service

Area code: 02 (for local calls in Bangkok). Mobile code: 08X (participants can purchase mobile SIM card from service providers at the airport) or in any 7-11.

Getting around in Bangkok

Plaza Athénée, A Royal Méridien right in the middle of entertainment areas and shopping centers. Also the hotel is adjacent to a BTS skytrain station. The Grand Palace, the Temple of the Dawn, and the Temple of the Emerald Buddha are just a short boat ride away. For more information about Bangkok's attracts please visit:

<http://www.tourismthailand.org/wheretogo/cities-guide/destination/bangkok/>.

Contact

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REGISTRATION FORM (DELEGATE)
High-Level Regional Consultation on Policies to Respond to High Food Prices
in Asia and the Pacific Region
1-2 October 2012 Plaza Athénée, A Royal Méridien, Bangkok, Thailand

Please complete and return this form to:

Ms Marrilyn ANTHALI

Tel: (+66) 2 697 4305

Fax: (+66) 2 697 4445

E-mail: marrilyn.anthali@fao.org

DELEGATE DETAILS

Please note that the details completed within this section will be reproduced exactly as they appear, in the delegate list.

Family Name: _____

Given Name: _____ Middle Name: _____

Title and Position: _____

Organization: _____

Address (Postal): _____

Country: _____ Postcode: _____

Telephone: _____ Facsimile: _____

Email: _____ Cell phone: _____

SPECIAL NEEDS

Please let us know if you have any special needs (e.g. dietary requirements, wheelchair access). Every attempt will be made to meet your needs: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____