



UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Programme des Nations Unies pour l'environnement Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente

Программа Организации Объединенных Наций по окружающей среде برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة

联合国环境规划署



Resumed first session of the ad hoc open-ended working group on a science-policy panel to contribute further to the sound management of chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution (OEWG 1.2)

Bangkok, 30 January-3 February 2023

Logistics note for participants*¹

I. Date and venue

The resumed first session of the ad hoc open-ended working group on a science-policy panel to contribute further to the sound management of chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution (OEWG1.2) will be held in Bangkok, Thailand, from **Monday, 30 January to Friday, 03 February 2023**. The meeting will also be live streamed online.

The meeting will take place at the following venue:

United Nations Conference Centre (UNCC)
Rajdamnern Nok Avenue
Bangkok 10200
Thailand
www.unescap.org/uncc

OEWG 1.2 will be opened on Monday, 30 January 2023 at 10 a.m. Attendance in the meeting is limited to registered participants. The meeting schedule will be made available on the dedicated [webpage](#) once it is finalized.

The Secretariat will also provide facilities for regional and other groups to organize preparatory meetings on 29 January 2023 at the meeting venue.

II. Visa information (*information as of October 2022*)

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 at [List of Countries entitled for Visa Exemption and Visa on Arrival](#).

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

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

*As of 30 November 2022

application procedures and required documents. The list of Royal Thai Embassy/Consulate-General can be found at www.thaiembassy.org. Kindly note that approved participants shall receive an automated invitation letter by email, which may be used for visa application purposes. The visa application process is the sole responsibility of the travelling participant and, unfortunately, the Secretariat is not in position to support participants with the visa application processes.

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 for the location where it is possible for them to apply for a Thai visa. Please note that certain nationalities must apply for a visa 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 \(immigration.go.th\)](http://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 20,000 per person or THB 40,000 per family. For more information visit: <https://www.thaiembassy.org/>

III. Registration, badges and stakeholder accreditation

All participants wishing to attend the meeting are requested to register through the [online meeting platform](#) no later than 20 December 2022. The registration system contains participant information from OWEG 1.1, which can be updated and used to register for the current meeting.

In addition to Member State representatives, Major Groups and Stakeholders' organizations accredited to UNEA, stakeholders admitted as observers to the meetings of relevant chemicals and waste-related multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs), and focal points representing non-governmental organizations under the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) are invited to participate in the work of the OEWG as observers. Stakeholders admitted as observers to the meetings of the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Labour Organization (ILO) may also be admitted to the meeting to participate in the work of the OEWG as observers.

Registered participants are encouraged to collect their identification badges at the main entrance of the meeting venue from 1 p.m. until 6 p.m. on Saturday, 28 January 2023, on Sunday between 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. or Monday-Friday between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. Participants are requested to present valid passports or identification cards when collecting their badges, which must be worn at all times in the meeting venue. Please note that for security reasons, badges must be displayed to gain admission both to UNCC and to the meeting rooms. The loss of an identification badge must

be communicated to the staff at the registration desk immediately so that a replacement can be issued.

Organizations that wish to send their representative to the meetings but have not received an invitation are requested to send an email to <mailto:spp-cwp@un.org>. Interested stakeholders who are not already accredited to UNEP can find more information about how to become accredited at <https://www.unep.org/civil-society-engagement/accreditation>.

For any questions regarding registration for the meeting, please contact the Secretariat (spp-cwp@un.org).

IV. Sponsored participants

In addition to registering online through the link provided above, any delegate designated to receive financial support for travel and daily subsistence allowance are requested to fill out an online form through the following link: <https://indico.un.org/event/1003202/overview> and attach the following three documents to the online form, as soon as possible but no later than **Friday, 25 November 2022**:

1. Event Ticket (Approved Registration for Attendance at OEWG-1.2);
2. Note Verbale nominating the delegate who should be receiving the travel funding;
3. Copy of the passport bio-page.

For the necessary travel arrangements to comply with the United Nations rules and regulations, nominations or replacements of delegates received after the deadline cannot be guaranteed consideration for funded support. Final decision on travel requests will be subject to available financial resources.

For any questions, see below list of contacts:

Registration of Member States Mr. Graham Janji (graham.janji@un.org);

Major Groups Registration and Travel Support - Laetitia Zobel (laetitia.zobel@un.org)

Travel Support for Member States - Ms. Linda Kegeedi (linda.kegeedi@un.org)

The financial assistance includes a return air ticket using the most economical fare as approved by the United Nations, to be issued by the travel agency working with the United Nations, and daily subsistence allowance (DSA) for Bangkok by means of a debit card. As of 1 October 2022, the DSA rate for Bangkok is **\$200** per day; that rate is, however, subject to change. For further enquiries regarding the financial assistance that may be provided to representatives of eligible countries, please contact the Secretariat (spp-cwp@un.org).

V. Hotel accommodation

Participants are responsible for making their own accommodation arrangements and are advised to do so as soon as possible. Reservations for lodging at an SHA Extra Plus (SHA++) certified hotel is **no longer required** under the Thailand Pass. A list of hotels with special discounts provided to ESCAP at the following link: https://www.unescap.org/sites/default/d8files/event-documents/Hotel_Offers.pdf

VI. Health requirements and medical facilities

The health and safety of participants during the meetings is a key priority of the United Nations and the host country. This section outlines health requirements, including the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic prevention and mitigation measures in place. It also outlines the code of

conduct summarizing the precautionary behaviour expected of delegates and other participants during the meeting period.

Before making their travel arrangements, participants are advised to review the following link for the latest information: World Health Organization website:
www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019

A. COVID-19 measures at UNCC

Participants are also advised of the following measures and recommendations set out by UNCC for the duration of the meeting:

- Wear a well-fitting face mask that fully covers your mouth and nose in crowded areas
- Ensure that you cover your cough or sneeze into a disposable tissue or your elbow.
- Immediately advise the Secretariat if you or a member of your delegation has been tested positive.
- If feeling unwell, stay at your accommodation.
- Self-observation and practice of distancing, mask, handwashing, testing measures for five days for positive cases with no or mild symptoms and if not part of an at-risk group.
- Positive cases with moderate or severe symptoms or if from an at-risk group should contact their local care provider for guidance.
- Close contacts of positive cases are advised to self-monitor and practice distancing, mask, handwashing, testing measures for 5 days.

Participants should ensure that they have adequate health insurance coverage for the duration of their stay and carry the details of such insurance in case external medical assistance or hospitalization is required.

If you feel unwell during the meetings, do not ignore your symptoms. Call medical services at extensions 1352, 1353 or 1761 during business hours for further guidance. After business hours, call the United Nations Medical Officer at 0-2288-1353 for further guidance. In case of a medical emergency on ESCAP premises, call the United Nations Department for Safety and Security at 02 288 1102/1120 for assistance in calling an ambulance.

If you test positive by means of a self-test kit, self-isolate and inform the Secretariat (spp-cwp@un.org) of your COVID-19 status in order to trigger any necessary contact tracing.

B. Measures after the meeting

Departure from Thailand: Any participant who tests positive before their departure should contact the First Aid team at UNCC for guidance on subsequent action and support. Passengers travelling out of Thailand must check and comply with the travel- and health-related requirements of the transit and destination countries for their travel.

Self-monitoring after the meetings: After participating in in-person meeting, participants are expected to monitor their health closely for 14 days, being alert to the development of a fever or any other COVID-19 symptoms.

C. Other health measures

Participants who have travelled from or through countries that have been declared “yellow fever infected areas” by the Thai Ministry of Public Health are required to provide a valid international

health certificate proving that they have received a yellow fever vaccination. Upon arrival, applicants must present the relevant international health certificate at the Health Control Office before proceeding to immigration. A valid vaccination certificate means that the vaccine was administered at least 10 days before travel to Thailand. Information on requirements for yellow fever vaccination can be found at the following link: <https://www.mfa.go.th/en/page/list-of-countries-which?menu=5e1ff729c4281a00c95bd753>. The certificate must be submitted together with the visa application form.

Thailand is experiencing sporadic transmission of the mosquito borne Zika virus. All travellers are advised to protect themselves from mosquito bites while in Thailand. Given the possibility of transmission of the disease to unborn babies, pregnant women should consider postponing travel to Thailand or consult their doctor about the implications of travelling to Thailand. In addition to the above, the UNHQ Medical Services Division advises pregnant United Nations personnel not to undertake duty travel or be relocated to countries/areas where local transmission of Zika virus is known to occur. Women seeking pregnancy should obtain individualized 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, available at <https://www.unescap.org/sites/default/d8files/event-documents/ZikaFAQ.pdf>.

Participants are advised to get vaccinated against diseases such as hepatitis A, tetanus and typhoid.

Finally United Nations buildings are smoke-free areas. Smoking is only allowed in the designated areas outside the buildings.

VII. Meeting documents and presentations

The Secretariat will use the [meeting webpage](#) to provide access to meeting documents and general information during the meeting. Parties wishing to submit conference room papers should email them to the Secretariat (spp-cwp@un.org).

VIII. Meeting rooms

To reserve rooms for regional and bilateral meetings before the start of the meeting, kindly send an email to the OWEG Secretariat (spp-cwp@un.org) indicating the date, time, duration and number of participants. Owing to the limited availability of rooms at UNCC, the Secretariat may not be able to fulfil all requests.

Requests to reserve rooms **once the meetings have started** should be made to the Conference Officer, Mr. Thanachit Phansiri, by email (phansiri@un.org).

IX. List of participants

A preliminary list of participants will be posted online before the closure of the meeting for individual verification of participants' contact details. Delegates are requested to verify the accuracy of the information on the list, including names, designations, contact information and the order in which the names of delegation members are presented, and to sign the list and return it to the meeting room attendants or to the helpdesk. Corrections can also be sent to spp-cwp@un.org. The final list of participants will be made available on the meeting portal following the closure of the meeting.

X. Side events

Owing to the limited funding available to the Secretariat, no side events are planned for the duration of the meeting.

XI. Catering services at ESCAP

Catering services may be arranged by contacting Mr. Danuphol Somsuai (somsuai@un.org, tel.: +66 2 288 3122) and Ms. Kasama Vidhayasai (vidhayasai@un.org, tel.: +66 2 288 1181). Further information on catering is available at <https://www.unescap.org/uncc/social-functions-and-catering>

XII. Local transportation

Participants should make their own transport arrangements to and from UNCC. Metered taxis are readily available in the city. Some hotels close to UNCC provide complementary transport to and from the Centre according to fixed schedules. Movement within the city is facilitated by commuter taxis, shared rides (Uber), tuk-tuks and the rail system; all are safe and readily available outside most hotels.

XIII. Safety and security

The contact information for the United Nations Department of Safety and Security in Bangkok is: Security Control Centre (24/7): +66 2 288 1102

Emergency: +66 2 288 1100

Mobile: +66 81 807 8471

The Thailand emergency numbers are:

Police general emergency: 191

Fire: 199

Ambulance and rescue: 1554

Tourism Police: 1155

XIV. Local currency

Participants may bring unrestricted sums of foreign currency into Thailand in the form of cash, traveler's cheques, bank drafts, letters of credit or other banking instruments, which may be exchanged for Thai currency at the prevailing exchange rates. However, participants may be required to declare the value of the currency in their possession on arrival at Suvarnabhumi Airport.

Currency exchange facilities are available at hotels and at Siam Commercial Bank, United Nations Branch, located on the first floor of the Service Building (telephone extensions 2168 and 2169). Opening hours are 8.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. Monday to Friday.

ATMs are available throughout Bangkok, and credit cards such as American Express, MasterCard and Visa are accepted in major hotels and shopping malls.

XV. Local weather and time

The temperature in Bangkok in February averages 24°C to 33°C (75°F to 92°F). Light clothing will be appropriate, although the evenings can be cooler. The conference rooms are air-conditioned, and the temperature is maintained in the range of 23°C to 24°C (73°F to 75°F).

The standard time zone in Thailand is UTC + 7 hours.

XVI. Language in Thailand

Thai is the main language in Thailand. Other languages spoken include Chinese, Lao, Malay and Mon-Khmer, while English is more prevalent in government and commercial settings. English is also taught as a second language in secondary schools and universities, which may enable the English-speaking visitor in Thailand to converse. However, taxi and tuk-tuk drivers often have very limited knowledge of English. Participants are therefore encouraged to carry the address of their hotel in Thai script.

XVII. Other practical information

A. Travel advisory

Visitors are advised to respect Thai customs at all times. Kindly 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 and written language, gestures, and electronic communication, including via social media.

B. Accessibility support for persons with special needs

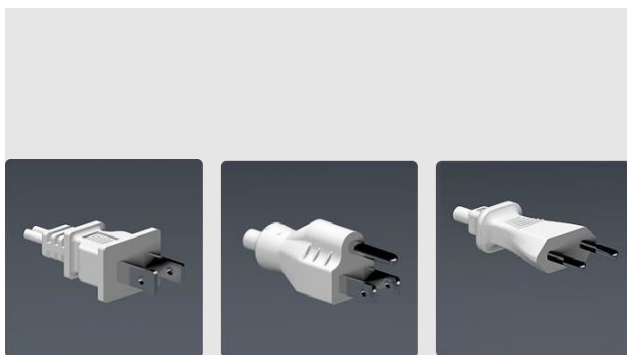
In order to enhance accessibility to UNCC for persons with special needs, including brain lesions and visual, physical, hearing and speech impairments, assistive devices are available upon request in a designated area at the Accessibility Centre, located on the first floor of UNCC. To reserve devices or for more information, please send an email to Pirzada@un.org.

C. Phone access codes

The country code for Thailand is 66 and the area code for Bangkok is 2.

D. Electrical power supply

The voltage in Thailand is 220 V running at 50 Hz, and the plug types used are A, B and C, shown below. Hybrid sockets, which accept all three types, are found in most hotels. 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 adapters**. Adapters can be purchased from shops in the city dealing in electronic and electrical items.



Type A

Type B

Type C



Hybrid socket

E. SIM cards for cellular phones

Local SIM cards that can be used with unlocked phones are available from post offices, convenience stores and newsstands and at shops in the Arrivals terminal. A valid passport is required for purchase of a SIM card.

F. Prayer and meditation rooms

The prayer and meditation rooms are located on the second floor of UNCC, by ESCAP Hall.

G. Post office

Postal services are available at the Post Office, United Nations Branch, on the ground floor of UNCC. Opening hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday to Friday, except on official holidays. The Post Office can be contacted at extensions 1260 and 2911.

H. Souvenir shop

The United Nations souvenir shop located on the first floor of UNCC is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday to Friday.

I. Restaurants and cafés

Catering services are available at the cafeteria, which is located on level 1 of UNCC, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. for lunch from Sunday to Friday. The Rajapruerk Lounge on the ground floor of UNCC is open from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday. In addition, a coffee corner serving sandwiches, pastries, coffee, tea and soft drinks is located on level 1 of UNCC and is open from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Kindly note that to protect the environment, single-use cups are no longer available within the UN compound in Bangkok. For drinks in a cup, a deposit fee of 100 baht will apply in addition to the cost of the drink. The fee will be refunded once the cup is returned.

Restaurants, fast food outlets and food stands can be found throughout the city, offering a wide variety of international culinary choices around the clock.

XVIII. Tourism

The American Express Global Business Travel (AMEX-GBT) office is located on Level 1, UNCC and is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays. The office can be contacted at extensions 2820, 2821, 2822 and 2823.

For tourist information on Bangkok and Thailand, please visit the official website <http://www.tourismthailand.org/>.

Hotels will have tourist information packages and should be able to advise participants about tourist attractions.

Looking forward to seeing you in Bangkok!
