



**UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL PROGRAMME FOR THE ECONOMIES OF CENTRAL
ASIA (SPECA)**

2015 SPECA ECONOMIC FORUM
“Supporting the implementation and monitoring of
the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the SPECA region”

and

TENTH SESSION OF THE SPECA GOVERNING COUNCIL

(Dushanbe, Tajikistan, 10-11 November 2015)

INFORMATION NOTICE

I. INTRODUCTION

This document provides some details regarding the 2015 SPECA Economic Forum “Supporting the implementation and monitoring of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the SPECA region” and the tenth session of the SPECA Governing Council jointly organized by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in cooperation with the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan.

II. PARTICIPATION

Government representatives of the United Nations member States, representatives of United Nations agencies and programmes, relevant international and regional organizations, international financial institutions, donors as well as representatives of the private sector and the academic community are invited to participate in the Economic Forum. Representatives of neighbouring countries, other countries interested in supporting the Programme, United Nations agencies and programmes, international and regional organizations, international financial institutions and donor agencies are invited to attend the tenth session of the SPECA Governing Council as observers.

III. VENUE

These events will take place on 10-11 November 2015 in the premises of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan (address: 33 Sheroz Street, Dushanbe 734001).

IV. ORGANIZATION

Registration of participants will start at 09:30 on 10 November 2015. The Forum will be held from 10:00 until 18:00 on 10 November 2015 and from 10:00 until 13:00 on 11 November 2015. The tenth session of the SPECA Governing Council will be held from 14:00 until 18:00 on 11 November 2015.

V. CONFERENCE FEE

No conference fee is charged for participation. **Travel and accommodation expenses are borne by the participants.**

VI. PASSPORTS AND VISAS

All participants should be in possession of a valid passport with an entry visa if required. Passport validity: 6 months from the last date of visa validity period.

Those invited participants who need visa support are requested to submit a colour copy of the passport and the completed visa application form to **Ms. Tatiana APATENKO, Secretary to the SPECA Governing Council at the UNECE (e-mail: Tatiana.apatenko@unece.org) not later than 25 October 2015**. A copy of the passport should be readable and include the page indicating the expiry date. Participants will receive a digital letter of invitation for visa purposes by return e-mail.

To obtain a visa, the participants have to print and produce the visa support letter to passport control authorities at the Dushanbe international airport upon arrival.

VII. TRANSPORTATION

For representatives of the SPECA countries, participants from other countries and representatives of international organizations who are coming from abroad the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan will provide transfer from/to the Dushanbe airport and shuttle service between the hotel and the meetings' venue.

The Organizers request all delegations of the SPECA countries as well as other participants to provide the detailed information on their arrival/departure. Please provide **Ms. Tatiana APATENKO** (e-mail: Tatiana.apatenko@unece.org) with your travel details as soon as possible but not later than **30 October 2015**.

VIII. ACCOMMODATION

A suitable number of single rooms (US\$ 100 per night, including breakfast) are pre-booked at the Sheraton Dushanbe Hotel (address: 48 Ayni Street, 734024 Dushanbe, tel.: +992 48 703 00 00, fax: +992 48 703 00 01). Payments: Visa, Mastercard or USD dollars.

International experts and delegates are invited to contact **Ms. Sitora DENIZER** (tel.: +992 48 703 00 11, fax: +992 48 703 00 01, e-mail: Sitora.Denizer@sheraton.com) who will assist with your hotel reservation.

Each participant is expected to cover the cost of his or her own board and accommodation.

IX. DOCUMENTATION

Documents for the 2015 SPECA Economic Forum and the annual session of the SPECA Governing Council can be downloaded as they become available from www.unece.org/speca and northcentral-sro/unescap.org.

A limited number of copies of documents will be available during the SPECA events.

X. INTERPRETATION AND VISUAL AIDS

Simultaneous interpretation in English and Russian as well as facilities for computer-aided presentations (e.g. PowerPoint) will be provided by Organizers.

XI. FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information on the 2015 SPECA Economic Forum and the tenth session of the SPECA Governing Council can be obtained from:

Mr. Marton KRASZNAI	and	Ms. Tatiana APATENKO
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XII. USEFUL INFORMATION

Weather: In November, the average temperature in Dushanbe ranges from +14 to +24 °C.

Time zone: GMT+5

National currency: The Tajikistani Somoni (TJS) is the currency of Tajikistan. Exchange rate: 1 USD = 6 TJS (approximately). Under instruction of the National Bank of Tajikistan of 16 April 2015, activity of currency exchange offices of physical entities have been suspended since 17 April 2015 over the whole territory of the country.