



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

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
“PRACTICAL STEPS TOWARDS A KNOWLEDGE-BASED  
ECONOMY”

and

SEVENTH SESSION OF THE SPECA PROJECT WORKING GROUP ON  
KNOWLEDGE-BASED DEVELOPMENT

(Dushanbe, Tajikistan, 16-17 June 2015)

INFORMATION NOTICE

I. INTRODUCTION

This document provides some details regarding the International Conference “Practical steps towards a knowledge-based economy” and the seventh session of the SPECA Project Working Group on Knowledge-based Development (PWG on KBD) 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 Ministry of Industry and New Technologies 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 International Conference. 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 can attend the seventh session of the PWG on KBD as observers.

III. VENUE

These events will take place on 16-17 June 2015 in the conference room of the **Sheraton Dushanbe Hotel** \*\*\*\*\* (address: 48 Ayni Street, 734024 Dushanbe, tel.: +992 48 703 00 00, fax: +992 48 703 00 01).

#### IV. ORGANIZATION

Registration of participants will start at 08:30 on 16 June 2015. The Conference will be held from 09:00 until 17:00 on 16 June 2015 and from 9:00 until 12:15 on 17 June 2015. The seventh session of the SPECA PWG on KBD will be held from 14:00 until 17:00 on 17 June 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.

Participants will receive a digital copy of a visa support letter by e-mail. To obtain a visa, the participants will have to print and provide it together with **a colour photo and the filled in visa application form** to the respective Embassy/Consulate in a country of residence. Getting visa to the Republic of Tajikistan in advance is highly recommended for all participants.

The participants from the states which have no representative offices of the Republic of Tajikistan may obtain a visa 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.

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 the Organizers (**Tatiana.apatenko@unece.org** and **langr@un.org**) with your travel details as soon as possible but not later than **1 June 2015**.

#### VIII. ACCOMMODATION

A suitable number of single rooms (US\$ 100 per night, excluding 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.

**It is not possible to confirm your reservation directly with the hotel.**

UNECE international experts and delegates are invited to contact Ms. Tatiana APATENKO (tel.: +4122 917 36 66, e-mail: [Tatiana.apatenko@unece.org](mailto:Tatiana.apatenko@unece.org)) who will assist with your hotel reservation.

ESCAP international experts and delegates are invited to contact Mr. Rémi LANG (tel.: +66 22 88 15 23, e-mail: [langr@un.org](mailto:langr@un.org)) 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 International Conference and the seventh session of the SPECA PWG on KBD can be found at the SPECA website at the following address: [http://www.unece.org/speca/kbd\\_v.html](http://www.unece.org/speca/kbd_v.html).

A limited number of copies of documents will be available in the conference room during the meetings.

## 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.

## XI. FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information on the International Conference and the annual session of the SPECA PWG on KBD can be obtained from:

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## XII. USEFUL INFORMATION

**Weather:** In June, the average daily temperature in Dushanbe ranges from 30°C to 35°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.