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Resilient nations.

FOR PARTICIPANTS ONLY

Government of Kyrgyzstan
United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)
United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)/Global Environment Facility (GEF)

Third International Forum: Energy for Sustainable Development
12 - 14 September 2012, Issyk Kul Lake, Kyrgyzstan
Hotel “Issyk Kul – Avrora”

INFORMATION NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS

BRIEF INFORMATION ON THE FORUM

1. The third International Forum: Energy for Sustainable Development will be jointly organized by the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)/Global Environment Facility (GEF), with participation of the Regional Environmental Center for Central Asia (CAREC), and will take place at the Issyk Kul Lake, Kyrgyzstan on 12-14 September 2012. Website of the Forum: <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=29476>.
2. The Forum will focus on the following topics:
 - **Sustainable energy in Central Asia and neighbouring regions:** current status, barriers and opportunities. Policy reforms and role of the Governments and public sectors in creating favourable environment for sustainable energy promotion.
 - **Energy efficiency (EE) in buildings and in housing sector:** challenges, success cases and opportunities.
 - **Investments in energy efficiency and cleaner energy:** ways to finance EE and cleaner energy projects.
 - **Role of the private sector in promoting cleaner energy options** in Central Asia and neighbouring regions.
3. Several thematic workshops will be organized under the framework of the Forum.
4. The Forum will be held at the Issyk-Kul Lake, Kyrgyzstan (website: <http://www.advantour.com/kyrgyzstan/issyk-kul.htm>) in the Hotel “Issyk Kul – Avrora” (website <http://www.aurora.kg/> (in Russian only)).

REGISTRATION AND ACCOMODATION

5. Participants are requested to register for attending the Forum (registration form is available at: <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=29476>). Participants are advised to stay at the Hotel “Issyk Kul – Avrora” (venue of the Forum) for the duration of the Forum. **To book a room at the hotel please advise the organizers** (by sending an e-mail with the Subject: “Hotel booking Issyk Kul” to e-mail addresses: registration@ifesd.kg and feei@unece.org) **of your preferred room option** (first and second choice) based on the table below. Meals are included in the room price (except for the cottage).

Note for participants for whom financial support is provided by the organizers: you will receive additional information on your accommodation at the Hotel “Issyk Kul – Avrora” separately.

DESCRIPTION	UNIT COST (US\$ per night)
Single Room (69 each)	60
Doubles (21 each)	85
Semi-lux (39 each)	101
Suit/Lux (14 each)	173
Cottage 13 each (to accommodate 2 people; meals USD21/person/day)	141+ meals

6. For identification and security reasons, all participants are requested to follow the instruction or advice from the organizers and hotel staff.

PAYMENT OF HOTEL BILLS

7. For participants who receive financial support, accommodation costs will be paid by the organizers. However it is the responsibility of these participants to settle directly with the hotel all other charges as applicable, such as local and long-distance telephone calls, business centre use, laundry room, hotel transportation services, mini-bar items, as well as restaurant and bar services and additional nights. All other participants are responsible for paying all their accommodation costs directly to the hotel. Payment is possible both in local and major foreign currencies (at the current exchange rate). The hotel does not accept credit cards. There are ATMs (*bankomats*) at the hotel however it is advisable to bring cash.

VISA REQUIREMENTS

8. Visas for Kyrgyzstan can be obtained:
- At the Embassy or Consulate of Kyrgyzstan in the visitor’s home country before departure for Kyrgyzstan.
 - At the Consulate Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at Manas International Airport in Bishkek upon arrival.
 - Citizens of several countries listed under point 11 below can apply for a single-entry tourist visa up to one month in any country where there is a Kyrgyzstan Embassy or upon arrival to Kyrgyzstan at the airport of Bishkek. The invitation is not necessary. The charge for single-entry visa is approximately

US\$ 70.

- If there is no Kyrgyzstan Embassy in your country, a Kyrgyzstan visa can be obtained from the Embassy of Kazakhstan. This establishment will provide a visa only after receiving a letter of invitation sent to the Embassy by one of the registered travel companies of Kyrgyzstan.
- Foreign visitors should, upon arrival to Kyrgyzstan, be registered in the local police department (OVIR). The visitors staying in the Hotel “Issyk Kul – Avrora” will get this registration at the hotel.

9. Citizens of the countries listed below intending to visit Kyrgyzstan for duration up to 60 days* are exempt from the visa:

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| (1) Australia | (24) Luxembourg |
| (2) Austrian Republic | (25) Malta |
| (3) Bahrain | (26) Monaco |
| (4) Belgium | (27) The Netherlands |
| (5) Bosnia and Herzegovina | (28) New Zealand |
| (6) Brunei Darussalam | (29) Norway |
| (7) Canada | (30) Poland |
| (8) Croatia | (31) Portugal |
| (9) Czech Republic | (32) Qatar |
| (10) Hungary | (33) Republic of Korea |
| (11) Germany | (34) Saudi Arabia |
| (12) Greece | (35) Singapore |
| (13) Denmark | (36) Slovakia |
| (14) Estonia | (37) Slovenia |
| (15) Finland | (38) Spain |
| (16) France | (39) Sweden |
| (17) Ireland | (40) Switzerland |
| (18) Island | (41) United Arab Emirates |
| (19) Italy | (42) United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland |
| (20) Kuwait | (43) USA |
| (21) Latvia | (44) Vatican. |
| (22) Liechtenstein | |
| (23) Lithuania | |

*A visa is required for above mentioned nationals intending to stay in Kyrgyzstan more than 60 days.

10. The list of the countries enjoying non-visa/partial visa regime

A. Nationals holding any type of passport of the following countries are exempt from visa requirement to enter Kyrgyzstan:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Azerbaijan | 9. Republic of Moldova |
| 2. Armenia | 10. Mongolia (<i>up to three months</i>) |
| 3. Belarus | 11. Russian Federation |
| 4. Georgia | 12. Vietnam |
| 5. Kazakhstan | 13. Tajikistan |
| 6. Korean People’s Democratic Republic | 14. Turkey (<i>up to one month</i>) |
| 7. Cuba | 15. Ukraine (<i>up to three months</i>) |
| 8. Malaysia (<i>with official and tourist purpose up to one month</i>) | 16. Japan |
| | 17. Uzbekistan (<i>up to two months</i>). |

B. Nationals holding *diplomatic* and *official passports* of the following countries are exempted from visa requirement to enter the Kyrgyz Republic for the period up to *one month*:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Hungary | 4. Uzbekistan (<i>up to two months</i>) |
| 2. People's Republic of China (also for holders of general civil passports for official use) | 5. Slovakia |
| 3. Turkmenistan | 6. Republic of Korea |
| | 7. Islamic Republic of Iran |
| | 8. Islamic Republic of Pakistan. |

C. Nationals holding *diplomatic passports* of following countries are exempted from visa requirement to enter Kyrgyzstan:

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| (1) Austria | (10) Luxembourg |
| (2) Belgium | (11) The Netherlands |
| (3) United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland | (12) Norway |
| (4) Greece | (13) Portugal |
| (5) Denmark | (14) United States of America |
| (6) Island | (15) Germany |
| (7) Spain | (16) Finland |
| (8) Italy | (17) France |
| (9) Canada | (18) Switzerland |
| | (19) Sweden. |

11. Citizens of the countries listed below require a visa (maximum stay up to 90 days) which can be obtained at the Embassy without an invitation letter:

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| (1) Albania | (11) Mexico |
| (2) Andorra | (12) Montenegro |
| (3) Argentina | (13) Oman |
| (4) Brazil | (14) Philippines |
| (5) Bulgaria | (15) Romania |
| (6) Chile | (16) San Marino |
| (7) Cyprus | (17) South Africa |
| (8) Indonesia | (18) Serbia |
| (9) Israel | (19) Thailand |
| (10) The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia | (20) Turkey |
| | (21) Venezuela |

All other foreign nationals of countries not listed above wishing obtain a visa to Kyrgyzstan and foreign nationals of countries listed above but travelling for the period **more than 90 days** are required to present:

1. An invitation letter.
2. Authorization letter for visa from the Consular Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kyrgyzstan ("visa support"). Inviting person or organization in Kyrgyzstan shall contact the Consular Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs not less than 30 days before submitting the application for visa at the Embassy. We strongly advise you not to confirm your travel arrangements until you have received this "visa support" for your visa application.

GENERAL INFORMATION

12. Climate and weather

The country's climate varies by region. The lower mountain slopes have a dry continental climate, as they receive hot desert winds from Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, whereas the highest mountain elevations have a polar climate. In the valleys, the average daily temperature

in July is 28° C (82° F). In January daily averages are as low as -14° C (7° F). Conditions are much colder at high elevations, where in July the average daily temperature is 5° C (41° F) and in January, -28° C (-18° F). Precipitation is between 100 and 500 mm (4 and 20 in) in the valleys and from 180 to 1,000 mm (7 to 40 in) in the mountains.

Average daytime air temperature in September: +17.9° C (+64.2° F)

Average nighttime air temperature in September: +9.4° C (+48.9° F)

Therefore, warm clothing would be recommended, though the hotel and meeting room will have central heating.

13. Electricity

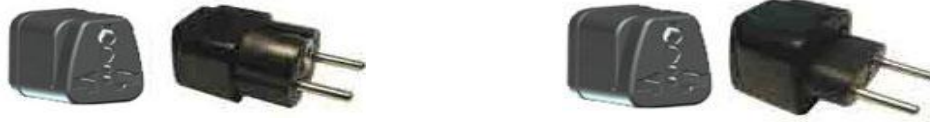
The electricity voltage in Kyrgyzstan is 220V, 50Hz. Please note that plug adapters may be necessary. The plug type has not been standardized and the following types are available.



This two-wire plug is ungrounded and has two round prongs. It is popularly known as the europlug which is described in CEE 7/16. This is probably the single most widely used international plug. It will mate with any socket that accepts 4.0-4.8 mm round contacts on 19 mm centres



Plug F, known as CEE 7/4 and commonly called "Schuko plug", is similar to C except that it is round and has the addition of two grounding clips on the side of the plug. It has two 4.8 mm round contacts on 19 mm centres.



14. Time Zone

Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan: KGT (UTC/GMT +6 hours). No daylight saving time. Time difference with Western Europe in September is +4 hours.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

15. National currency is Kyrgyzstani Som (KGS). There are exchange desks in many areas of Bishkek and at the Issyk-Kul Lake, including most hotels. Please note that cashing in American Express checks may not be possible at the Issyk Kul Lake.

The exchange rate is approximately (30 July 2012):

47.1 KGS per 1 USD

57.7 KGS per 1 EUR

1.46 KGS per 1 RUB

AIRLINE OFFICES

16. The following international airline offices in Bishkek are useful for reconfirming or changing dates of an existing flight (for the phone number below, the following digits should be added before the number if calling from a cell phone: +996 312):

- **Aeroflot** (62 09 76; Erkindik Blvd. 64)
- **British Airways** (66 09 00; fax 66 08 68; Toktogul 93)

- **China Southern** (formerly Xinjiang Airlines; 66 46 68; Chuy128/3)
Can book Ürümqi–Kashgar tickets.
- **KLM – Royal Dutch Airlines** (66 15 00; fax 66 34 50; Toktogul 93)
- **Lufthansa** (66 56 00; Hyatt Regency, Sovetskaya 191)
- **Turkish Airlines** (66 00 08; thyfru@elcat.kg; Sovetskaya 136, corner of Bokonbayeva)
- **Uzbekistan Airways** (21 48 63; uzb-air@elcat.kg; Kievskaya 107)

TRANSPORT FROM AND TO AIRPORT

17. Transport to and from the Forum venue during the Forum period (11-15 September 2012) will be provided by the organizers to all participants from Bishkek airport (Manas International Airport). **Please inform the organizers of your itinerary at your earliest convenience** (by sending an e-mail with the Subject: “Itinerary information for transfer to Forum” to e-mail addresses: registration@ifesd.kg and feei@unece.org).

INTERNET SERVICES

18. Internet access is available in the meeting rooms.

HEALTH AND MEDICAL SERVICES

19. Pharmacies are marked *darykhana* (Kyrgyz) or АИТЕКА (Russian)

20. We suggest that participants bring any medications that they take regularly with them. If participants feel uncomfortable or ill during the workshop, please do not hesitate to notify the organizers immediately. Hotel “Issyk Kul - Avrora” provides medical services.

FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS (where applicable)

21. For all participants, including those for whom the participation costs are born by the organizers, the organizers will not assume responsibility for any other expenditure, including the following:

- (i) All expenses in the home country incidental to travel abroad, including expenditures for visas, medical examination, inoculations and other miscellaneous items and internal travel to and from the airport of arrival and departure in the home country;
- (ii) Salary and related allowances for the participants during the period of the meeting;
- (iii) Costs incurred by participants in respect of travel, accident and medical insurance, medical bills or hospitalization fees in connection with attending the meeting;
- (iv) Compensation in the event of death or disability of participants in connection with attending the meeting;
- (v) Any loss of or damage to personal property of participants while attending the meeting or losses or damages claimed by third parties as a result of any negligence on the part of the participants;
- (vi) Any other expenses of personal nature, not directly related to the purpose of the meeting.