## THE NINTH SESSION OF THE WORLD URBAN FORUM

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia 7-13 February 2018

## **INFORMATION NOTE**

(As of December 2017)

Ninth Session of the World Urban Forum (WUF9) 7-13 February 2018 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

#### **About WUF9**

#### 1. Dates and host city/country

The Ninth session of the World Urban Forum (WUF9) will be held from 7 to 13 February 2018 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. WUF9 is hosted by the Government of Malaysia as well as the city of Kuala Lumpur.

#### 2. Venue

The WUF9 venue is the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (KLCC) in Kuala Lumpur www.klccconventioncentre.com/. Located at the heart of Kuala Lumpur's Central Business District, KLCC is the city's most technologically-advanced, purpose-built facility for international, regional and local conferences, tradeshows, exhibitions, entertainment and private functions.

The address of KLCC is as follows:

**Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre** Kuala Lumpur City Centre 50088 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

#### 3. Theme

The WUF9 theme is "Cities 2030, Cities for All: Implementing the New Urban Agenda".









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#### 4. Website

The WUF9 official website is available at <a href="www.wuf9.org">www.wuf9.org</a> for updated information. In order to subscribe to the WUF9 Newsletter, please visit through "Stay Tuned" at the bottom of <a href="www.wuf9.org">www.wuf9.org</a>. You can also find more information about next sessions and biding processes for the World Urban Forum at <a href="www.unhabitat.org/wuf">www.unhabitat.org/wuf</a>.

## 5. Languages and interpretation

English is the official working language of the World Urban Forum. English is widely spoken and understood in Malaysia. The Opening and Closing ceremonies as well as High Level Roundtables will have interpretation in the six official languages of the United Nations (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish). Other WUF9 meetings such as Dialogues and Special Sessions will have interpretation in English, French and Spanish.

#### 6. PaperSmart Conference

Following the United Nations PaperSmart initiative, WUF9 will be served in a PaperSmart manner. The information and documentation of the Forum will be available on the WUF9 website (<a href="www.wuf9.org">www.wuf9.org</a>). Accepted event organizers who wish to make available documents to participants during the Forum may forward an electronic copy to WUF Secretariat on <a href="www.wuf@unhabitat.org">wuf@unhabitat.org</a>

#### **Participation**

#### 7. Participants

Participation in WUF9 is open to representatives of national governments, local authorities and stakeholders such as non-governmental organizations, community-based organizations, grassroots, professionals, research institutions and academies, the private sector, foundations, parliamentarians, United Nations organizations, multilateral finance institutions, other international agencies and interested individuals.

Participation in the World Urban Forum is free of charge.









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#### 8. Registration

Online registration is open at <a href="http://wuf9.org/registration/">http://wuf9.org/registration/</a>. Participants of the previous sessions of the World Urban Forum may check and update their data on the same site. The deadline for online registration is 15 December 2017 23:59 (UTC+3).

The World Urban Forum has different registration forms which should be filled in according to your affiliation at the time of registration. Each participant at the World Urban Forum must be registered **individually** to attend the Forum. Registration by organization is not allowed.

#### 9. Accreditation at the venue

A WUF9 photo badge is a requirement for admission into the official venue. Each individual must collect a badge to access to the Forum at the WUF9 Accreditation Center of the venue.

Access to the Forum venue and conference rooms will require presentation of a valid WUF9 badge. Participants are requested to present their passport (for international participants) or identification card (for national participants) used for registration in order to receive the WUF9 badge at the WUF9 Accreditation Center.

#### 10. Invitations to representatives of national governments

A WUF9 invitation letter has been sent to the minister of Foreign Affairs, as well as to the line minister of each United Nations Member States.

Given the fact that WUF is a non-legislative Forum, credentials are not required. Instead, an official letter with the list of the delegation attending WUF9 should be sent to wuf@unhabitat.org prior to the forum.

## 11. Speaking opportunities

Heads of delegation who would like to have a speaking role speaking in WUF9 are welcome to contact the WUF Secretariat at <a href="wuf@unhabitat.org">wuf@unhabitat.org</a>, as well as Ana B. Moreno, WUF Secretariat Coordinator, and Roi Chiti, WUF Secretariat Programme focal point.











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#### 12. Least Developed Countries participants

UN-Habitat and the Government of Malaysia will cover the travel cost of two representatives per Least Developed Country (LDC). A letter of invitation indicating this travel funding information has been sent to all line ministers from LDCs.

## 13. List of participants

A WUF9 provisional list of participants will be issued after the event. In the online registration form, participants are requested to accept or reject to be included in the list of participants. Specific authorization is needed due to international privacy policies. The data published will be: First name, Middle name, Last name, Country and Organization. No other information will be published.

#### 14. Visas

Most nationalities do not require visas for social or business visits to Malaysia. Visitors to Malaysia must be in possession of a valid passport or travel document with a minimum validity of six months beyond the period of stay.

For more information on visa, please refer to <a href="http://wuf9.org/practical-information/#visas">http://wuf9.org/practical-information/#visas</a> or to the Malaysia Immigration Department at <a href="http://www.imi.gov.my">www.imi.gov.my</a>

## **Operations and Services**

#### 15. Traveling to WUF9

Participants are responsible for their own travel to and from Malaysia and accommodation in Kuala Lumpur. They are also responsible for their travel arrangements to and from the airport.

The main gateways to Malaysia are the Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) & Kuala Lumpur International Airport 2 (KLIA2) at Sepang which is about 50km south of the Kuala Lumpur city center and the city airport (Lapangan Terbang Sultan Abdul Aziz Shah) at Subang which is about 16km west of the city centre.









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Other gateways to Malaysia are Langkawi International Airport, Penang International Airport, Kuching International Airport and Kota Kinabalu Airport. From all of these airports the country is well serviced by 14 domestic airports including those in Sabah, Sarawak and the Federal Territory of Labuan in East Malaysia.

Some travel times to Kuala Lumpur are:

- 1 hour 10 minutes from Singapore
- 2 hours from Jakarta (Indonesia)
- 2 hours 10 minutes from Bangkok (Thailand)

A WUF9 Welcome Desk will be located at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport.

#### 16. Medical insurance

All participants should ensure that they have adequate medical insurance prior to arrival.

#### 17. Accommodation

Participants should reserve accommodation early due to the large number of attendees expected at the Forum. Each participant is responsible for booking their own accommodation.

Information on the hotels is available at WUF9 official website <a href="www.wuf9.org/practical-information/#accommodation">www.wuf9.org/practical-information/#accommodation</a>

## 18. Transport

The WUF9 venue – the Kuala Lumpur Convention Center - is accessible by public transport in several ways:

#### By Road

If you are in a taxi or a chauffeured car, approach the Centre along Jalan Pinang and turn left into the Main Entrance (second turn after the Mandarin Oriental Hotel) for drop off.









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The Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (KLCC) can be accessed by free bus services, *GoKL City Bus*. More information is available at http://www.gokl.com.my/.

Uber and GrabCar services (Apps on smartphones) are easily available in Kuala Lumpur.

#### By Train

Take the Light Rail Transit (LRT), Kelana Jaya Line and disembark at the KLCC Station. Turn left after exiting the turnstiles and walk through the Suria KLCC shopping centre Concourse level to the Centre Court. Turn left and make your way past Cold Storage to the Guardian Pharmacy where there is a covered walkway through to the Centre. Take the elevator to the Ground Floor where you will be directed to the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre.

For more info on train service, please visit <a href="https://www.myrapid.com.my/">https://www.myrapid.com.my/</a>

#### On Foot

From the Suria KLCC shopping centre's Concourse Level Centre Court, make your way past Cold Storage to the Guardian Pharmacy where there is a covered walkway through to the Centre. The Centre is also accessible for delegates and visitors via the airconditioned Bukit Bintang-KLCC Padesterian Walkway (pedestrian Bridge) that connects Pavilion KL (Bukit Bintang) to Impiana KLCC Hotel and the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre. The link bridge features entrance/exit at the Pavilion Mall, Wisma Cosway, Jalan Perak and the Impiana KLCC Hotel with convenient exit escalators and staircases) located at the main entrance to the Centre. This air-conditioned link allows delegates and visitors to travel conveniently, comfortably and safely on foot. Also accessible via this bridge is the Raja Chulan monorail station and the KLCC LRT station.











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## **Practical information**

#### 19. Official website of the Kuala Lumpur travel guide

Kuala Lumpur is the national capital of Malaysia as well as its largest city. Kuala Lumpur is the cultural, financial and economic centre of Malaysia, home to the Parliament of Malaysia, and the official residence of the Malaysian King, the Istana Negara. More information is available at <a href="https://www.visitkl.gov.my">www.visitkl.gov.my</a>

#### 20. Official website of the Government of Malaysia - Travel Guide

Malaysia is a bubbling, bustling melting-pot of races and religions where Malays, Indians, Chinese and many other ethnic groups live together in peace and harmony. Multiculturalism has made Malaysia a gastronomical paradise and home to hundreds of colourful festivals. Geographically, Malaysia is almost as diverse as its culture. 11 states and 2 federal territories (Kuala Lumpur and Putrajaya) form Peninsular Malaysia which is separated by the South China Sea from East Malaysia which includes the 2 states (Sabah and Sarawak on the island of Borneo) and a third federal territory, the island of Labuan.

One of Malaysia's key attractions is its extreme contrasts which further add to this theme of 'diversity'. Towering skyscrapers look down upon wooden houses built on stilts while five-star hotels sit just metres away from ancient reefs.

Rugged mountains reach dramatically for the sky while their rainforest-clad slopes sweep down to floodplains teeming with forest life. Cool highland hideaways roll down to warm, sandy beaches and rich, humid mangroves.

For more information, log on to http://www.malaysia.travel/en/my

#### 21. Official language of Malaysia

The official language of Malaysia is Bahasa Malaysia and English is widely spoken.









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#### 22. Currency

The monetary unit of the country is Ringgit Malaysia and is written as RM or MYR. The exchange rate is valued at USD1 = RM4.10 (as of November 28, 2017). Notes are available in RM1, RM5, RM10, RM20, RM50, and RM100 denominations, while coins are issued in 5, 10, 20 and 50 sen (cents) denominations. Foreign currencies can be exchanged at banks and money changers found widely at the airport and city centre.

#### 23. Time Zone

Malaysia is UTC/GMT +8.

#### 24. Weather

The country experiences tropical weather year-round. Temperatures range from 21°C (70°F) to 32°C (90°F). Higher elevations are much colder with temperatures between 15°C (59°F) to 25°C (77°F).

Annual rainfall varies from 2,000mm to 2,500mm. However, the wettest parts of Malaysia could well be the hill slopes of Sarawak's inland areas, which receive a mean annual rainfall exceeding 5,000mm.

#### 25. Health

Recommended vaccines: Poliomyelitis (childhood booster), Tetanus (childhood booster), Typhoid (food & water borne diseases), Hepatitis A (food & water borne diseases).

For those venturing outside cities and towns, further recommended vaccines are Hepatitis B, Rabies, Japanese B Encephalitis, Tuberculosis and Meningitis. For those visiting Sabah and Sarawak, Malaria prophylaxis is strongly recommended.

If you are coming from, or have recently travelled in, South America or sub-Saharan Africa you must present a certificate of vaccination against Yellow Fever upon arrival in Malaysia.









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Health insurance is recommended. Government and private hospitals are found in all the main cities. Medical services in the city (private clinics and hospitals) are available. Visitors are advised that some clinics request a down payment prior to providing medical assistance, even in emergency situations. Visitors should take medical precautions and advice should be sought before travel.

## **WUF9 Calendar - important dates**

24 November 2017 Closure of:

- Networking events applications
- Side events applications
- Training events applications
- Closure of Exhibition bookings

10 December 2017 First announcements of accepted Networking, Side and Training events

15 December 2017 Online registration closed

10 January 2018 Deadline for exhibition booking payments

**5 February 2018** Onsite accreditation open

7 February 2018 WUF9 starts

**WUF9** Exhibition opens

**8 February 2018** WUF9 Opening Ceremony

**13 February 2018** WUF9 Closing Ceremony











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## **WUF Secretariat**

Feel free to contact the WUF Secretariat for information regarding the Forum preparations by email at <a href="www.wuf@unhabitat.org">wuf@unhabitat.org</a>.









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