

# Sixth WMO International Workshop on Monsoons (IWM-6) 13-17 November 2017, Singapore



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## INFORMATION NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS

### 1. Date and Venue of the Workshop

The Sixth WMO International Workshop on Monsoons (IWM-6) will be held in Singapore from 13-17 November 2017. The event will be held at:

Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel

392 Havelock Road Singapore 169663 [\[Google Map\]](#)

Website: <https://www.millenniumhotels.com/en/singapore/grand-copthorne-waterfront/>

### 2. Working Language

The working language of the workshop is English.

### 3. Entry/visa requirements

Participants are requested to make their own arrangements for visa applications, if required. Please refer to the Travellers' Info Guide at the Singapore Immigration and Checkpoint Authority's (ICA) website:

<https://www.ica.gov.sg/page.aspx?pageid=96&secid=94>

Should you require a letter of support from MSS, please complete the attached [Letter of Introduction] in Annex 1.

### 4. Hotel Arrangement

Participants are requested to make their own arrangements for their hotel reservations. The Local Organising Committee has reserved a block of rooms at Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel with an extended corporate rate for IWM-6 participants:

*Superior Room: S\$230.00+ (S\$246.10 nett) per room per night inclusive of breakfast for 1 person and WIFI*

Participants must make their reservations before **31 Oct 2017, Tuesday** to be eligible for the special rates. To make the reservation please email your booking to Dessy from the Group Reservation team. The email is [grprsvns.gcw@millenniumhotels.com](mailto:grprsvns.gcw@millenniumhotels.com), and be sure to send a copy to the Local Organising Committee.

The Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel accepts the following foreign credit cards: Visa, American Express, Diner's Club, MasterCard, Amex and Unionpay. Internet access in the hotel rooms is available and free of charge. Please access the workshop website for detailed/updated information about the hotel: ([workshop website](#))

## **5. Currency**

The currency used in Singapore is the Singapore Dollar (S\$). Information on the day-to-day exchange rates can be found at <http://www.dbs.com.sg/personal/rates-online/foreign-currency-foreign-exchange.page>. Foreign currency can be exchanged at Singapore Changi Airport upon arrival, at banks or Authorised Money Changers located around Singapore. Hotels, retail stores and restaurants accept major currencies based on the day's exchange rate.

Automated Teller Machines (ATMs) are located everywhere in Singapore, and accept most of the main credit cards such as Visa, MasterCard and American Express.

## **6. GST Refund**

Overseas visitors to Singapore may claim for a refund of the 7% Goods and Services Tax (GST) for purchases above S\$100 made at participating retail shops. For more information, visit the Tourist Refund Scheme webpage at [www.customs.gov.sg](http://www.customs.gov.sg) or [www.iras.gov.sg](http://www.iras.gov.sg).

## **7. Transport**

We recommend participants to use taxis for airport transfer.

### **Leaving Changi Airport:**

Taxis are available at the taxi stands at the Arrival levels of each Terminal. A ride to the city takes about 30 minutes and costs between S\$20 and S\$40.

### **Getting to Changi Airport:**

Hail a taxi on the street or make a booking through your hotel. Otherwise, you may contact one of the following taxi operators:

Comfort or Citycab Tel: +65 6552 1111

SMRT Taxi Tel: +65 6555 8888

Transcab Tel: +65 6555 3333

For more information on taxi bookings, please refer to  
<http://www.changiairport.com/en/transport/public-transport.html?anchor=taxi>

## **8. Climate and Weather**

Singapore is known for its hot and humid weather, with little variation throughout the year. The daytime temperature is around 32 degrees Celsius, falling to around 24 degrees Celsius in the night.

Rain clouds usually develop rapidly and bring showers often accompanied by thunder, and typically last not more than an hour. The showers can be heavy at times. Having an umbrella handy is useful, both as a shade from the sun or shelter from the rain.

## **9. Electricity**

The electric current is 220 volts AC, 50 cycles per second in Singapore. Common power plugs are square 3-pin plugs (as shown).



## **10. (No) Smoking**

Smoking is an offence in air-conditioned areas such as shopping centres, restaurants, entertainment outlets and cinemas; and on the SMRT trains, public buses, taxis and in lifts. Recently, the smoking ban has also been imposed on public eateries and within a five-metre radius from most building entrances, except for allocated smoking areas that are clearly marked with bright yellow paint. A maximum fine of S\$1,000 may be imposed on first-time offenders.

## **11. Insurance**

Participants and/or their employers are strongly encouraged to purchase insurance for their own coverage purposes. Neither the Meteorological Service Singapore nor the National Environment Agency shall be held responsible for any accident, illness, loss or damage which may occur during the organisation of the event.

## **12. Local Organising Committee Contact Information**

For additional information and assistance concerning local and logistical arrangements, please contact:

- (i) Ms YAP Hoon Fang at +65 6488 1872; Email: [YAP\\_hoon\\_fang@nea.gov.sg](mailto:YAP_hoon_fang@nea.gov.sg)
- (ii) Ms Krysanja TAN at +65 6488 1846; Email: [Krysanja\\_TAN@nea.gov.sg](mailto:Krysanja_TAN@nea.gov.sg)

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