

3 Regional eHealth Conferences in Manila, Philippines



Information Note

Pan Pacific Manila
Manila, Philippines
23-27 September 2013

1. Background:

On 23-27 September, the Asia eHealth Information Network (AeHIN), with several development partners are organizing 3 Regional eHealth Conferences in Manila (AeHIN General Meeting on 23-24 September and simultaneous conference on Information Technology for Universal Health Care [IT4UHC] and the Regional Workshop on Developing eHealth Strategy on 25-27 September). These events will bring together advocates from government and non-government sectors to support national eHealth and health information systems (HIS) development through knowledge and resource sharing.

2. Objectives:

Each meeting has its specific objectives

AeHIN General Meeting	Information Technology for Universal Health Care	Regional Workshop on Developing eHealth Strategy
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> review agreements from the first AeHIN General Meeting in Bangkok August 2012; share updates on country eHealth developments including opportunities and challenges; and craft a roadmap of activities to further strengthen the network and develop eHealth in the region. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> encourage policy debate on operationalisation of UHC strategies with information technology; at both international and national level; promote strategic thinking on use of and build regional networks on IT for UHC, capitalising on the existing ones such as AeHIN and the Joint Learning Network; sharing of regional experiences on how to plan, implement, and continuously operate IT systems for social health insurance, including challenges faced and lessons learned during the different levels of envelopment; and explore needs, contributions and what can be done regionally for country-level impact harmonise development assistance efforts. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> develop a national eHealth vision; develop an implementation roadmap that reflects country priorities and the eHealth context; and establish a national eHealth monitoring and evaluation programme.

3. Date and site

The meeting will be held from 23 to 24 September at Pan Pacific Hotel, M. Adriatico, corner Gen. Malvar Streets, Malate, Manila, Philippines.

4. Language

English only

5. Participants

Participants will be eHealth and health information system managerial professionals from ministries of health and information and communication technology

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6. Hotel Accommodations

Participants of the conference will be accommodated at the:

Pan Pacific Manila
M. Adriatico corner Gen. Malvar Streets, Malate, Manila City 1004 Philippines
Tel :+63 2 318 0788
Toll Free Reservation:
Within Philippines: 1800 8908 6362 / 1800 1441 0621
International toll-free numbers here
Fax:+63 2 302 9501
Hotel Mainline: +63-2 318 0788
Email: enquiry.ppmnl@panpacific.com / bizctr.mnl@panpacific.com

Room rate: Philippine Peso (PHP) 5000 per night (single occupancy only, inclusive of taxes and service charge)

Reservations: This should be made no later than 9 September 2013. Reservations made after 9 September 2013 will depend on room availability and different room rates may apply.

Any incidental expenses will be charged to the participant upon check-out of the hotel.

Room rate includes: Full buffet breakfast and unlimited wireless/wired broadband internet access

Reservation Guarantee: All bookings require a guarantee through credit card.

Check-in / Check-out: Check-in time is 2:00 p.m. and check-out time is 12 noon. Early arrivals and late check-out are subject to hotel occupancy and availability.

Incidentals and deposits: An incidental deposit of PHP 2,500 per room per night will be required upon check-in and is refundable upon check-out less any incidental charges incurred.

Cancellation of your reservation and no show booking will incur a charge equivalent to full duration of your stay.

Other nearby hotels where other individuals could book their accommodations are the following:

Diamond Hotel Philippines
Roxas Boulevard cor. Dr. J. Quintos St., Manila, Philippines 1000
Tel: +63 2 528 3000
Fax: +63 2 526 2255
Website: www.diamondhotel.com
Contact: bizcenter@diamondhotel.com

Hyatt Regency Hotel and Casino Manila
1588 Pedro Gil cor. M.H. Del Pilar, Manila, Philippines, 1004
Tel: +63 2 245 1234
Fax: +63 2 247 1234
Contact: manila.casino@hyatt.com

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7. Travel Arrangements

Many international airlines operate regular services to and from Manila. For participants whose travel is funded, you will be informed on the process of securing your flight and airport transfer prior to your departure for Manila.

For self-funded participants, airport transfer can be arranged with the conference hotel at specific rates and is still subject to availability. Individuals whose hotel accommodation is arranged and processed by the secretariat (National Telehealth Center, University of the Philippines Manila) have accompanying airport transfer.

To avail themselves public metered-taxis services, it is strongly recommended that participants contact only the authorized officials at the airport arrival zone.

8. Visa

All travellers are responsible for having in their possession a passport valid for at least six months from date of departure for the Philippines.

Please refer to the annex for complete information regarding visa.

9. Registration and identification badges

Only participants who confirmed their attendance with the organizers will be included in the participant's list and will be issued conference IDs. Conference IDs will be issued upon registration between 8:00 – 9:00 am on 23 September. For identification and security purposes, participants should wear their conference IDs at all times. The loss of conference IDs should be reported to the secretariat immediately for replacement.

10. Foreign currency declaration

No permit is required from the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas to bring in to or to take out from the Philippines of foreign currencies. However, foreign currency in excess of US\$10,000 carried by the traveler must be declared at the Bureau of Customs Desk in the airport. This is pursuant to the Anti-Money Laundering Act of 2001, which requires all money transactions involving amounts in excess of PhP400,000 to be reported to the Anti-Money Laundering Council (even if the transaction is done through the banks).

Travelers arriving in the Philippines must submit to the Bureau of Customs Desk in the airport Arrival Area a Declaration Form stating the amount (foreign currency in excess of \$10,000.00) being brought in. The source of the money (e.g., personal income) must be stated.

Travelers departing the Philippines must submit to the Bureau of Customs Desk in the airport Departure Area a Declaration Form stating the amount (foreign currency in excess of \$10,000.00) to be brought in or taken out of the Philippines. The source of the money (e.g., personal income) must be stated.

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11. Airport Tax

You can inquire with your travel funder or travel agency if your airport tax is accounted in your airfare. For terminal fees for international departure at Ninoy Aquino International Airport (Centennial Terminal 2), PHP550.00 or USD 12.33 is being charged.

12. Transport to attend workshop sessions

Participants will be provided transportation for the welcome dinner and the study tour. Local transport for personal activities may be arranged with the hotel through Ms Jennie Serrano at their own expense.

Participants staying at other hotels will make their own transport arrangements for attending meetings.

13. Documents for the workshop

All participants will be given a bag with documents and other resources for the workshop.

14. Photography policies

Attendance at, or participation in, any the conferences constitute consent to the use and distribution by organizers of the attendee's image or voice for informational, publicity, promotional and/or reporting purposes in print or electronic communications media.

15. Catering services

As part of the hotel accommodation package, breakfast buffet is available at 6 am to 10:30 am at the 21st floor. Lunch and refreshments will be provided as part of the conference. Dinner will be sponsored by the organizers on the 23rd and 25th September, while dinner on the other dates will be on your own. Food during buffet will be provided with labels for your reference.

16. Internet services

Free wireless internet access will be available in the hotel rooms and conference areas.

17. Climate

The Climate of the Philippines is tropical and maritime. It is characterized by relatively high temperature, high humidity and abundant rainfall. It is similar in many respects to the climate of the countries of Central America. Based on the average of all weather stations in the Philippines, excluding Baguio, the mean annual temperature is 26.60 C. Please note that September is still considered part of the rainy season so you may want to bring your jackets and umbrella.

18. Electricity

Electricity in the Philippines is 220 volts, requiring an U.S. two-prong adapter.

19. Banking Facilities

Banks are available within the hotel vicinity. Currency exchange is available at the hotel although other money exchange facilities are also available along the hotel street.

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The monetary unit in Manila is the Philippine Peso (PHP). The exchange rate is currently PHP 44.65 to USD 1.00 (subject to change).

20. Shopping and Recreation Areas

Robinson's Place Manila is the nearest shopping mall from the hotel which is located at Adriatico Street. Considering traffic in Manila, you can also go to the SM Mall of Asia, one of the largest shopping malls in the country, which is 45 minutes to one hour from the hotel.

If you would like to stroll around, you can go to the following tourist sites:

- Intramuros - The old walled city of Intramuros served as the nation's capital during the Spanish colonial period. It is 3.2 kilometers from the hotel.
- Luneta and Rizal Parks - Houses the Rizal monument, the Kilometer Zero, the Japanese Garden, the National Library, and the Manila Planetarium. It is a 2.5 kilometer drive from the hotel.
- Manila Ocean Park - The Manila Ocean Park is the first world-class marine theme park and premiere educational facility. It is a 2 kilometer drive via Mabini St.

21. Conference

This meeting is being organized by the Asia eHealth Information Network (AeHIN) whose secretariat is hosted at the University of the Philippines National Telehealth Center. AeHIN supported by the World Health Organization. The organizers of the meetings support a no-smoking policy.

The meetings are being organized in collaboration with partners:



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Annex 1: Visa

Nationals from countries listed below who are traveling to the Philippines for business and tourism are allowed to enter the Philippines without visas for a stay not exceeding thirty days (30) days, provided they hold valid tickets for their return journey to port of origin or next port of destination and their passports valid for a period of at least six (6) months beyond the contemplated period of stay. However, Immigration Officers at ports of entry may exercise their discretion to admit holders of passports valid for at least sixty (60) days beyond the intended period of stay.

The reckoning of the thirty days (30) begins on the day after arrival in the Philippines. This visa-free stay allows for regular tourism and business meetings.

Nationals who are subjects of deportation or blacklist orders of the DFA and the Bureau of Immigration shall not be admitted to the Philippines.

Nationals from the following countries are allowed to enter the Philippines without a visa for a stay of thirty days (30) days or less:

Andorra	Chad	Grenada	Malaysia
Angola	Chile	Guatemala	Maldives
Antigua and Barbuda	Colombia	Guinea	Mali
Argentina	Comoros	Guinea Bissau	Malta
	Congo	Guyana	Marshall Islands
		Haiti	Mauritania
Australia	Costa Rica	Honduras	Mauritius
Austria	Cote d'Ivoire	Hungary	Mexico
Bahamas		Iceland	Micronesia
Bahrain	Cyprus	Indonesia	
Barbados	Czech Republic	Ireland	Monaco
		Israel (see note below)	Mongolia
	Denmark	Italy	Morocco
	Djibouti	Jamaica	
Belgium	Dominica	Japan	Mozambique
Benin	Dominican Republic		Myanmar
Bhutan	Ecuador	Kenya	Namibia
Bolivia	El Salvador	Kiribati	
	Equatorial Guinea	Korea (Republic of Korea)	Nauru
	Eritrea	Kuwait	Nepal
Botswana	Estonia	Lao People's Democratic Republic	Netherlands
Brazil (see note below)	Ethiopia	Latvia	New Zealand
Brunei Darussalam	Fiji	Lesotho	Nicaragua
Bulgaria	Finland	Liberia	Niger
Burkina Faso	France	Liechtenstein	Norway
Burundi	Gabon		Oman
Cambodia	Gambia	Lithuania	Palau
Cameroon		Luxembourg	Panama
Canada	Georgia	Madagascar	Papua New Guinea
Cape Verde	Germany	Malawi	Paraguay
Central African Republic	Ghana		Peru
	Greece		Poland
			Portugal

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Qatar
Romania
Russia
Rwanda
Saint Kitts and Nevis
Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Samoa
San Marino
Sao Tome and Principe
Saudi Arabia

Senegal
Seychelles
Singapore
Slovak Republic
Slovenia
Solomon Islands
South Africa
Spain
Suriname
Swaziland
Sweden
Switzerland

Tanzania (United Republic of Tanzania)
Thailand
Togo
Trinidad and Tobago
Tunisia
Turkey
Tuvalu
Uganda
United Arab Emirates

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
United States of America
Uruguay
Vanuatu
Vatican
Venezuela
Vietnam
Zambia
Zimbabwe

The following are allowed to enter the Philippines without a visa for a stay not exceeding fifty-nine (59) days:

Holders of Brazil passports
Holders of Israel passports

The following are allowed to enter the Philippines without a visa for a stay not exceeding fourteen (14) days:

Holders of Hong Kong Special Administrative (SAR) passports
Holders of Portuguese Passports issued in Macao

The following are allowed to enter the Philippines without a visa for a stay not exceeding seven (7) days:

Holders of British National Overseas (BNO) passports

Holders of Macao Special Administrative Region (SAR) passports