



联合国  
粮食及  
农业组织

Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

Organisation des Nations  
Unies pour l'alimentation  
et l'agriculture

Продовольственная и  
сельскохозяйственная организация  
Объединенных Наций

Organización de las  
Naciones Unidas para la  
Alimentación y la Agricultura

منظمة  
الأغذية والزراعة  
للأمم المتحدة

# ASIA-PACIFIC FORESTRY COMMISSION

## THIRTIETH SESSION

**Sydney, Australia  
2-6 October 2023**

## INFORMATION NOTE

### *“Sustainable Forests for a Sustainable Future”*

#### I VENUE AND DATES

1. At the kind invitation of the Australian Government, the 30th Session of the Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission (APFC-30) will be convened in Sydney, Australia, from 2 to 6 October 2023. The Session will be conducted as an ‘in-person’ event.
2. The formal APFC Session will commence on Tuesday, 3 October 2023, at 09:00 hours and the session is scheduled to close in the afternoon of Friday, 6 October 2023. A set of pre-session events, including an evening Market Place, will be held on Monday, 2 October 2023. The Australian Government will host a Welcome Reception on Wednesday, 4 October from 18:00 to 20:00 hours at the Hyatt Regency. Field trips will be organized on Thursday, 5 October 2023. Details of the organization of the week will be posted on [www.fao.org/events/detail/APFC-30/en](http://www.fao.org/events/detail/APFC-30/en).
3. The Commission session will be held at the following venue:  
The Hyatt Regency Sydney Hotel  
161 Sussex Street  
Sydney, New South Wales 2000  
Australia  
Tel No: +61 2 8099 1234  
Website: [5 Star Hotel & Accommodation | Hyatt Regency Sydney](#)

## II. ENROLMENT AND INFORMATION

4. Participants are requested to complete the pre-session registration form [here](#), preferably by 31 July 2023. If necessary, an offline registration form can be provided upon request.
5. On site registration will take place at the Hyatt Regency Sydney Hotel on Monday, 2 October 2023, from 9:00 to 17:00 hours. Late on-site registration will be possible at the same location on Monday and Tuesday, 2-3 October 2023, from 08:00 to 09:00 hours.

## III. DOCUMENTATION

6. Documentation will be provided in English. APFC documents will be available online approximately two months before the event at: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/82939/en/>.

## IV. GEOGRAPHY AND CLIMATE

7. Sydney is the largest city and the capital of New South Wales and is located on the east coast of Australia. The climate in Sydney is classified as temperate and is characterized by warm, sunny weather and mild sea breezes. The city is surrounded by several national parks and natural reserves, which offer unique landscapes and support a diverse range of plant and animal life.
8. October is the middle of spring in Sydney, the climate is typically pleasant and warm. The average temperature during the time is around 22°C - 25°C (72°F - 77°F). The city usually experiences sunny weather with occasional showers and light winds.

## V. CURRENCY

9. The Australian Dollar (AUD) is the official currency of Australia. The exchange rate is approximately USD 1.00 = AUD 1.49<sup>1</sup>.
10. Bank notes currently in circulation are in denominations of 5, 10, 20, 50, and 100 AUD, as well as coins of 5c, 10c, 20c, 50c, AUD 1 (one dollar), and AUD 2 (two dollars). Major credit cards are widely accepted in Australia. A small number of cafes and retail outlets no longer accept cash as payment.

## VI. FORMALITIES FOR ENTRY INTO AUSTRALIA

11. Passports should be valid for at least six months from the time that the visa is to be issued and the time of planned departure from Sydney.
12. Delegates should ensure sufficient time for processing visa applications. Optimal timing for visa application is approximately 8-10 weeks prior to travel to Australia. Please visit <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa> to view visa requirements for passport holders of various nationalities and instructions for applying for visas. To apply for an e-Visa, applicants must first set up an online account. please visit: <https://online.immi.gov.au/lusc/register>. Passport holders who are not eligible to apply for an e-Visa should apply for a Visitor Visa (Subclass 600) in the Business stream at: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/visitor-600/business-visitor-stream>. It is important to note that visa requirements and regulations are

---

<sup>1</sup> At 6 April 2023

subject to change, so it is recommended to double-check the information on the official website before making travel plans.

## VII. ARRIVAL DETAILS AND TRANSPORTATION

13. Most APFC delegates traveling to Sydney will arrive at Sydney Airport (SYD), also known as Kingsford Smith Airport, located approximately 8 kilometers (5 miles) south of the city's central business district.

14. There are several transportation options available to travel from the airport to the hotels. The following are the recommended travel modes:

- Taxi: Taxis are available at the terminal building for journeys from the airport to the hotels comfortably. Taxis accept cash and credit cards. Delegates should expect to pay a taxi fare of approximately AUD 45-55 to arrive at hotels in the downtown area.
- Uber: Uber is also widely available in Sydney and is another convenient option for getting around the city. Delegates can use the Uber app to book a ride and track the driver's progress in real-time.
- Train: Sydney Airport features a direct train link to the city. Trains run approximately every 10 minutes and take 18 minutes to reach the city. The Airport station is located at the northern end of the terminal and accessible from the Arrivals level. To use this service, you can either purchase an Opal Card from the station or WH Smith, or tap on with your Amex, Visa or Mastercard. Town Hall Station is located approximately 600 metres from the Hyatt Regency Hotel. The train fare from Sydney Airport to Town Hall Station is approximately AUD 20.

## VIII. ACCOMMODATION

15. Delegates are invited to stay at the conference venue, Hyatt Regency Sydney Hotel, for convenience. A special room rate of AUD 330 (city view) or AUD 380 (harbour view) per night has been provided for APFC participants. To reserve a room at the Hyatt Regency, please use the link: <https://www.hyatt.com/en-US/group-booking/SYDRS/G-Y011>. Other accommodation options located within 5 minutes walking distance of the Hyatt Regency are listed below.

Hotel options	Room rate/night
<a href="#">Meriton Suites, 234 Sussex Street, Sydney, NSW</a>	AUD 228.00
<a href="#">YEHS Hotel, 252-258 Sussex St, Sydney, NSW</a>	AUD 238.00
<a href="#">Adina Apartment Hotel, 55 Shelley St, Sydney, NSW</a>	AUD 252.00
<a href="#">Mantra, 433 Kent Street, Sydney, NSW</a>	AUD 270.00

## IX. FIELD EXCURSIONS

16. Field excursions will be organized for 5 October 2023 and will showcase Australia's unique forests and forestry industry. Delegates planning to join the excursions should bring suitable clothing (including a raincoat) and comfortable walking shoes. Lunch will be provided for field excursion participants, along with sunscreen.

17. Further information describing the field excursions and registration forms will be available in advance of the Session. APFC delegates will be required to complete registration forms for the

field trips to secure preferred destinations. A brief description of the field trips will also be made available on the APFC-30 website prior to the APFC Session.

## X. EXHIBITS AND MARKET PLACE

18. A limited number of exhibition stands will be available at the conference venue. A call for exhibition stands will be announced in June 2023. APFC delegates and organizations who wish to have an exhibition stand should register for these when the call is made.

19. An evening Market Place event will be held on Monday, 2 October 2023, from 18:00 to 20:00 hours. This event will provide opportunities for informal networking and serve as a platform for delegates to exchange information. Registration for Market Place exhibition space will be announced prior to the APFC Session.

## XI. WELCOME RECEPTION

20. The Australian Government will host a Welcome Reception on Wednesday 4 October from 18:00 to 20:00 hours at the Hyatt Regency. This event will provide participants further opportunity to network and relax. Canapes and drinks will be provided.

## XII. CONTACT

21. Please refer to the APFC-30 website <https://www.fao.org/events/detail/apfc-30> for further information and updates on the Session (as information becomes available), and travel logistics. For specific queries and individual concerns, contact the APFC Secretariat at: [APFC-Secretariat@fao.org](mailto:APFC-Secretariat@fao.org)

22. For additional information please contact:

**Sheila Wertz-Kanounnikoff**

APFC Secretary

FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

E-mail: [Sheila.Wertz@fao.org](mailto:Sheila.Wertz@fao.org); copy to [kallaya.meechantra@fao.org](mailto:kallaya.meechantra@fao.org)

23. For information and help on visa-related questions, please contact:

**Keiran Andrusko**

Director, International Forest Policy

Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

E-mail: [Keiran.Andrusko@aff.gov.au](mailto:Keiran.Andrusko@aff.gov.au); copy to [Andre.Blanchard@aff.gov.au](mailto:Andre.Blanchard@aff.gov.au)