



*Bangkok 2014*

# 5<sup>th</sup> GMS SUMMIT

*Committed to Inclusive and Sustainable Development in the GMS*

## MEDIA HANDBOOK



### GMS SUMMIT LOGO

The six flags on the top of logo represent the six countries of the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS), namely Cambodia, the People's Republic of China, the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR), Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam.

The picture in the middle is the most visited and remembered landmarks of Bangkok, which comprises three significant places.

First, **the Grand Palace**, where every visitor must pay a visit at least once in their lifetime. The construction of the Grand Palace began in 1782 during the reign of King Rama I, the founder of Chakri Dynasty, to become a royal residence, and it has been the utmost architectural symbol of Thailand ever since. The Grand Palace served as a significant royal residence until 1925 and is now used for ceremonial purposes only.

Second, **Wat Arun (The Temple of Dawn)**, locally known as Wat Chaeng, is situated on the west bank (Thonburi) of the Chao Phraya River. It is one of the most stunning temples in Bangkok, not only because of its riverside location, but also because of the unique design, that is very different from other temples in Bangkok. Wat Arun is partly made up of colourfully decorated spires and stands majestically over the water.

Lastly, **The Giant Swing** situated in the Old City opposite Bangkok City Hall. The swing was originally used during the Brahmin thanksgiving ceremony after the main rice harvest. Men would ride the swing which rose 24 metres in the air to try and grab a bag of silver until 1932, it is now a place for worshippers and one of the Bangkok's main tourist attractions.



## **MEDIA HANDBOOK**

### **The Fifth GMS Summit**

**Bangkok, Thailand  
19 - 20 December 2014**

# The GMS Program and the 5<sup>th</sup> GMS Summit

The Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) is made up of Cambodia, the People's Republic of China (PRC, specifically Yunnan Province and Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region), the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR), Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam. In 1992, with assistance from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and building on their shared histories and cultures, the six countries of the GMS launched a program of subregional economic cooperation—the GMS Program—to enhance their economic relations, initially covering the nine priority sectors: agriculture, energy, environment, human resource development, investment, telecommunications, tourism, transport infrastructure, and transport and trade facilitation. The GMS Program, with the support of ADB and other development partners, is helping the participating countries achieve Millennium Development Goals through increased connectivity, improved competitiveness, and a greater sense of community (the three Cs).

Connectivity is being established through transport corridors, power interconnection systems, and telecommunication networks. Economic competitiveness is being improved through facilitation of efficient cross-border movement of people and goods, and the integration of markets, production process and value chains. Building a greater sense of community is being fostered through joint actions that address shared social and environmental concerns, such as preventing the spread of communicable diseases, and protecting biodiversity and ecosystems.

The GMS Leaders' Summit is the highest forum in the GMS Program, which serves as the venue where the GMS Leaders can renew their commitment to subregional cooperation, take stock of the progress made since the previous Summit.

The First Summit was held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia in November 2002; the Second Summit in Kunming, PRC in July 2005; the Third Summit in Vientiane, Lao PDR in March 2008; and the Fourth Summit was held in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar in December 2011.

The 5<sup>th</sup> GMS Summit will be hosted by Thailand with the theme "Committed to Inclusive and Sustainable Development in the GMS". As one of its key outcomes, it is expected to endorse the GMS Regional Investment Framework (2013-2022) and Implementation Plan (2014-2018), which will provide strategic and result-based action plan that will help address the challenges and seize development opportunities for sustainable subregional cooperation program in the coming years.

The Summit will be held at the Shangri-La Hotel in Bangkok, Thailand and will be attended by the Six GMS countries Leaders – **H.E. Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN**, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia; **H.E. Li Keqiang**, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China; **H.E. Thongsing Thammavong**, Prime Minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic; **H.E. U Thein Sein**, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar; **H.E. General Prayut Chan-o-cha (Ret.)**, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand; and **H.E. Nguyen Tan Dung**, Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. Leaders will discuss ways to ensure the sustainable and inclusive development within the region. **ADB President Takehiko Nakao** will join the Fifth GMS Summit. Ministers, senior officials and staff of various ministries of the GMS member countries' governments; representatives from the private sector and the diplomatic community; and other ADB officials and staff will also join the Fifth Summit.

## Media Guidelines

### Accreditation

Access to the Media Centre and all events designated as “full coverage” is limited only to accredited media representatives bearing the Summit’s Media Passes. Access to certain events and restricted areas requires additional passes and is regulated by the Media Secretariat. Media representatives are requested to display their Media Passes at all times.

Updates/revisions to delegates’ information and new requests for accreditation should be submitted in writing to the Summit Secretariat via [5gmssummit@nesdb.go.th](mailto:5gmssummit@nesdb.go.th)

On-site registration is available for media representatives who missed online registration.

### Collection of Media Passes

Media Passes for pre-registered accredited media representatives as well as a limited number of Media Kits can be collected at the Media Registration Counter from 18 - 20 December 2014 during 09.00 - 12.00 hrs. and 14.00 - 16.30 hrs.

*Each media representative must be present in person. Registration form and photograph identification (passport, driver’s license or media identification card) are required for collection of Media Passes.*

### Loss of Media Passes

Media representatives who misplace their media passes must report the loss promptly in person to the Media Secretariat Office. Please present a valid photograph identification to obtain a media pass replacement. Once replaced, the previous pass will no longer be valid for entry into the Media Centre and all designated venues.

### Dress Code

Media representatives must wear proper attire while covering all events. Dark lounge suit or smart attire is advisable. Please avoid tank-tops, shorts, slippers and sandals.

### Visa

All media representatives must be in possession of valid visas and passports for entry into Thailand. Please enquire at the Royal Thai Embassies in your respective countries. Information on visa application is available at <http://www.mfa.go.th/main/en/services/123>

### Customs Clearance Requirements

Temporary importation of equipment is allowed subject to Customs approval. All media representatives are required to carry a detailed list of their equipment including the type, serial numbers, and quantity of the items including radio communication equipment and the frequency bands. The list must be presented when enquired on arrival at Suvarnabhumi International Airport or Don Muang International Airport. The equipment list is also required to be submitted with media registration application form.

## Media Centre & Facilities

### Location

The Media Centre is located at Chao Phraya Room on the Level 1 of Shangri-La Wing, Shangri-La Hotel Bangkok

Address: 89 Soi Wat Suan Plu, New Road, Bangrak, Bangkok, 10500, Thailand  
Tel: +66 2 236 7777 Fax: +66 2 236 8579 <http://www.shangri-la.com/bangkok/shangrila/>

### Operating Hours

|         |               |   |
|---------|---------------|---|
| 18      | December 2014 | 09.00 - 17.30 hrs. (Media Registration Counter and Media Working Room only) |
| 19 - 20 | December 2014 | 08.00 - 17.30 hrs.  |

### Facilities

The Media Centre consists of the following:

- **Media Working Room** equipped with desktop PCs with internet connection, LAN cable outlets, printers, Photocopiers. Free Wi-Fi internet access is provided at the Media Working Room in the Media Centre
- **Media Secretariat Office** provides press releases, official programmes, media arrangements, general enquiry assistance, as well as information on coverage opportunities.
- **Media Registration Counter** administers on-site media registration and Media Pass collection for accredited media representatives.
- **The Media Dining Room** Complimentary lunch on 20 December 2014 is provided for accredited media representatives.

### Press Release

Press Release and other documents for the media will be available at the Media Secretariat Office and on ADB website.

### Media Terminology

**'Host Media'** refers to the *host media crew*, including photographers and cameramen who cover all the 5<sup>th</sup> GMS Summit events. Host media will publish available images and footages as soon as possible after each event on the meeting's official website.

**'Official Media'** refers to the government-designated media attached to the leaders/delegations attending the 5<sup>th</sup> GMS Summit. Official media must be accredited by their respective embassies and referred to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand. Official media will be given priority in covering the events.

**'Pooled Photo Opportunity'** refer to a pool of *photographers and cameramen* from official media of participating countries, and the host media crew. Access to a 'Pooled Photo Opportunity' is limited only to photographers/cameramen bearing armbands. Due to space constraints, media pooling will be arranged for some events.

**'Full Coverage'** indicates an event open to all accredited media bearing valid Media Passes, including photographers, cameramen and reporters.

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## Media Opportunities Programme

| FRIDAY, 19 DECEMBER 2014 - PRE-SUMMIT EVENTS             |   |                          |
|--|---|--------------------------|
| Time   | Event   | Media Coverage           |
| 0830 – 1230 hrs  | <b>GMS Investment Forum</b><br><u>Venue:</u> Ballroom II<br><u>Participants:</u> Private Investors/Businesses in the GMS, GMS Senior Officials, Representatives of Development Partners, and ADB Representatives  | Full Coverage            |
|  | <b>GMS Youth Forum</b><br><u>Venue:</u> Ballroom III<br><u>Participants:</u> GMS Youth Participants and Representatives from the Governments  | Full Coverage            |
| 1400 – 1530 hrs  | <b>GMS Business Forum Event</b><br><u>Venue:</u> Ballroom III<br><u>Participants:</u> Private Investors/Businesses in the GMS, GMS Senior Officials and ADB Representatives   | Full Coverage            |
| 1930 – 2100 hrs  | <b>Gala Dinner</b><br><u>Venue:</u> Grand Ballroom<br><u>Participants:</u> GMS Leaders and Official delegations   | Pooled Photo Opportunity |
| SATURDAY, 20 DECEMBER 2014 - PLENARY SESSION AND RETREAT |   |                          |
| Time   | Event   | Media Coverage           |
| 0900 – 1000 hrs  | <b>Opening Session (Plenary)</b><br>- Video Presentation on GMS Achievements and Vision for the Future<br>- Group Photo of the GMS Leaders and the ADB President<br>- Opening Remarks by the Prime Minister of Thailand<br>- Statements by Participating GMS Leaders and the ADB President<br><u>Venue:</u> Ballroom I and II<br><u>Participants:</u> GMS Leaders, ADB President, GMS Ministers and other Ministers and delegations, Development Partners, Private Investors/Business Representatives, Youth Representatives, and ADB   | Full Coverage            |
| 1000 – 1100 hrs  | <b>Presentations to the Leaders (Plenary)</b><br><b>Regional Investment Framework (RIF) Implementation Plan</b><br><u>Presenter:</u> H.E. Mr. Arkhom Termpittayapaisith, Deputy Minister of Transport and Secretary-General of National Economic and Social Development Board (NESDB) of Thailand<br><b>Statement from the GMS Investment Forum</b><br><u>Presenter:</u> Mr. Isara Vongkusolkrit, Chairman, Joint Standing Committee on Commerce, Industry and Banking (JSCIB-Thailand), Chairman, Board of Trade of Thailand and CEO Mitropol Sugar Co. Ltd.<br><b>Statement from the Development Partners</b><br><u>Presenter:</u> Mr. Newin Sinsiri, President, Neighboring Countries Economic Development Cooperation Agency (NEDA)<br><b>Statement from the GMS Business Forum</b><br><u>Presenter:</u> Mr. Win Aung, Chairman, GMS Business Forum<br><b>Statement from the GMS Youth Forum</b><br><u>Presenter:</u> TBA<br><b>Reply Statement on behalf of GMS Leaders, to the Presentations, by the Prime Minister of Thailand.</b><br><u>Venue:</u> Ballroom I and II<br><u>Participants:</u> GMS Leaders, ADB President, GMS Ministers and other Ministers and delegations, Development Partners, Private Investors/Business Representatives, Youth Representatives, and ADB | Full Coverage            |
| 1115 – 1230 hrs  | <b>Summit Retreat</b><br><u>Venue:</u> Ballroom III<br><u>Participants:</u> GMS Leaders and ADB President   | Pooled Photo Opportunity |
| 1330 – 1400 hrs  | <b>Media Briefing by the Prime Minister of Thailand</b><br><u>Venue:</u> Corundum Room<br><u>Participants:</u> Media Representatives  | Full Coverage            |

## Media Contacts

For general enquiries: Media & Publicity Working Committee for 5<sup>th</sup> GMS Summit

### **1. Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board (NESDB)**

Ms. Kanyarak Srithongrungrung  
Public Policy Expert  
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### **2. Ministry of Foreign Affairs**

Mr. Peerapatra Puspavesa  
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Ms. Oraya Witthayasuporn  
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### **3. Office of the Prime Minister**

Ms. Jintana Joyjunpotj  
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Ms. Possayaporn Divekwut  
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### **4. Asian Development Bank (ADB)**

Ms. Roykaew Nitithanprapas  
Thailand Resident Mission, Asian Development Bank (ADB)  
Email: rnitithanprapas@adb.org  
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## General Information about Thailand

### Location and Area

Southeastern Asia, bordering the Andaman Sea and the Gulf of Thailand

### Time Difference

Thailand time is 7 hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time.

### Population

The population of Thailand in December 2014 was estimated at 67.2 million.

### Religion

95% of the Thai people are practitioners of Buddhism, the official religion of Thailand. The next largest religion in Thailand, Islam, is practiced by about 4% of the population; the majority of Thai Muslims live in the most southerly provinces. Other religions in Thailand include Christianity, Hinduism, Confucianism, and, Taoism

### Language

The official language of Thailand is Standard Thai. Other languages spoken in Thailand are Chinese, Lao, Malay and Mon-Khmer, while English has also gained momentum in various commercial and governmental areas and the tourist locales.

### Currency

The official currency in Thailand is Baht (THB)

### About Bangkok

The population in Bangkok is approximately 14,507,858 in 2014.

### Public Transport

For travelling in Bangkok, the Skytrain (BTS), underground (MRT) rail systems connect the main shopping, entertainment and business areas of the city, while river taxis and express boats can be used to explore many historic sites and attractions at the riverside. Taxis are cheap and appear on virtually every corner at almost any time.

### Banking and Currency

The Baht (THB) is the standard Thai currency unit. There are 100 satangs in 1 Baht. Bank notes are in denominations of 20, 50, 100, 500 and 1,000 Baht. Coins include 1, 2, 5 and 10 Baht, with the smallest being 25 and 50 satang coins.

Foreign currency and travellers' cheques are conveniently exchanged and cashed at major banks and authorized money exchangers. Banks are generally open on weekdays from 08.30 to 15.30 hrs. The banks in the shopping malls however operate for longer hours until at least 19.30 hrs. every day of the week. Cash in THB can also be withdrawn from the ATMs. The exchange rates vary daily but 32 THB is approximate to 1 USD. Kindly check the local banks for daily exchange rates.

Hotels, shopping malls, restaurants and ATMs accept most international credit cards, including Visa, MasterCard, and American Express.

### Tax Refund

Foreign visitors can claim a 7 % value-added tax (VAT) refund for goods with total value of at least 5,000 THB, purchased at stores with a "VAT REFUND FOR TOURISTS" sign. Present a VAT Reform Form (P.P.10) and the invoice(S) for a refund at VAT Refund for Tourists Office upon departure.

- Suvarnabhumi International Airport (24 hrs.) 0 2134 0674-8

For more details, visit the Revenue Department website at [www.rd.go.th/vrt/howwill.html](http://www.rd.go.th/vrt/howwill.html)

### **Electricity/Voltage**

Standard voltage is 220-240 volts AC at 50 Hertz. Wall outlets usually accommodate two types of plugs: flat-bladed and round-pinned plugs.

### **Smoking**

According to the new anti-smoking law effective since 11 February 2008, smoking is prohibited in public areas nationwide, both open-air and air-conditioned, including pubs, restaurants, discos and market-places. Those who violate the law can be fined as much as 2,000 THB. Smokers however are permitted to smoke in designated areas.

### **Emergency Numbers**

Police 191

Tourist Police 1155, 1699

Ambulance Service 1669

Main Police Station 0-2215-2991-3, 0-2354-6957-61

Fire Brigade 199

Bangkok Immigration 0-2141-9889

## **Diplomatic Missions in Thailand**

### **1. THE ROYAL EMBASSY OF CAMBODIA**

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Wangtonglang, Bangkok 10310, Thailand

Tel: +66 (0) 2 957 5851-2

Fax: +66 (0) 2 957 5850

E-mail: camemb.tha@mfa.gov.kh

### **2. THE EMBASSY OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA**

57 Ratchadaphisek Road, Bangkok 10400, Thailand

Tel: +66 (0) 2 245 0088

Fax: +66 (0) 2 246 8247

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### **3. THE EMBASSY OF THE LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC**

520,502/1-3 Soi Sahakarnpramoon, Pracha-Uthit Road

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### **4. THE EMBASSY OF MYANMAR**

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### **5. EMBASSY OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM**

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