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| **UNECE**  **United Nations Economic**  **Commission for Europe** |  | **ESCAP**  **United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific** |

## UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL PROGRAMME FOR THE ECONOMIES OF CENTRAL ASIA (SPECA)

**2021 SPECA Days**

**(Tashkent, Uzbekistan, 16-19 November 2021)**

**2021 SPECA ECONOMIC FORUM**

***“Sustainable Transport and Trade for a Green and Inclusive Economy***

***after the Pandemic”***

**and**

# SIXTEENTH SESSION OF THE SPECA GOVERNING COUNCIL

**INFORMATION NOTICE**

1. **INTRODUCTION**

This Information notice provides some logistical details regarding the sixteenth session of the SPECA Governing Council, 2021 SPECA Economic Forum and their side event jointly organized by the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the present Chair country of the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (SPECA), the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP).

All events will be held *in* *hybrid mode allowing to participate both in person and online*. Access links will be provided to all registered participants closer to the date of the events.

1. **VENUE**

2021 SPECA Days’ events will take place on 16 - 19 November 2021 in the conference rooms of the **International Hotel Tashkent**. The 2021 SPECA Economic Forum and the 16th session of the SPECA Governing Council will be held on 17 – 19 November 2021.

**Address:** 100084, Uzbekistan, Tashkent, Amir Temur, 107А, e-mail: [info@ihthotel.uz](about:blank), tel.: [+998 78 120 70 00.](about:blank)

**III.** **PARTICIPATION**

Government representatives of the United Nations member States, representatives of United Nations agencies and programmes, relevant international and regional organizations, international financial institutions, donors as well as representatives of the private sector and the academic community are invited to participate in the 2021 SPECA Economic Forum on 17 and 18 November 2021.

Representatives of neighbouring countries, other countries interested in supporting the Programme, United Nations agencies and programmes, international and regional organizations, international financial institutions, and donor agencies can attend the sixteenth session of the SPECA Governing Council on 19 November 2021 as observers online.

## CONFERENCE FEE

No conference fee is charged for participation.

**Travel and accommodation expenses are borne by the participants.**

## PRELIMINARY REGISTRATION

Interested parties are invited to fill in the [Registration form](about:blank) online by **1 November 2021** at the latest. For more information, please contact **Ms. Mijidgombo Oyunjargal** (**e-mail:** **[mijidgombo.oyunjargal@un.org](about:blank)**) with a copy to Mr. Grant Akopyan (e-mail: grant.akopyan@un.org).

## PASSPORTS AND VISAS

All travelers must have a passport valid more than 6 month after the entering Uzbekistan. Please check visa requirements to enter Uzbekistan in the link: [https://mfa.uz/en/pages/visa-republic-uzb](about:blank)

Entry visa to Uzbekistan can be obtained either at the diplomatic representations and consular missions of the Republic of Uzbekistan in your country of residence or upon arrival at the airport of Tashkent.

1. In your country of residence

**In order to apply for the visa, foreign citizens are to submit the following documents to the diplomatic representation or consular mission of the Republic of Uzbekistan in your country:**

* **passport, expiry date of which must exceed the visa’s period of validity not less than 3 months;**
* **1 copy of duly completed** [**visa application form**](about:blank)**; and**

**1 passport-size coloured photo.**

1. Upon arrival at the Tashkent International Airport

Foreign citizens arriving from the countries where there is no diplomatic representation or consular mission of the Republic of Uzbekistan can get visas upon arrival at the Tashkent International Airport. In this case you must apply in advance sending:

* **a color copy of the passport (readable and include the page indicating the expiry date);**
* **the completed visa application e-form in the** [**evisa.mfa.uz;**](about:blank)
* **you would need to upload your photo in the e-form, download and sign the completed form; and**
* **copies** of your air tickets.

Please submit the above documents to Mr. Ulugbek Burhanov, Ministry of Investments and Foreign Trade of Uzbekistan (e-mail: **mf310@mift.uz**) not later than one week before the arrival date. Please copy your request to the UNECE secretariat (e-mail: [mijidgombo.oyunjargal@un.org](about:blank)). Participants will receive a visa confirmation (stamp) of the Visa Division of the Consular Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan. With this confirmation the visa shall be issued on arrival at the Tashkent International Airport.

## COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS

COVID-19 requirements when entering to Uzbekistan can be found in detail here**:** **[https://mfa.uz/30298](about:blank)**

When visiting Uzbekistan **by air and rail**, **a PCR-test with negative result** made within 72 hours at your arrival **is required** and **a vaccination certificate** recognized internationally in the fight against coronavirus infection.

Vaccine certificates are not required to enter conference rooms and other places where the events will be held. However, the wearing a mask in the public places is strongly recommended.

Travelers must wear masks in all public places and on public transportation.

## TRANSPORTATION

## Shuttle service between the airport and the International Hotel Tashkent will be arranged by the Organizers. In case you would like to be picked up by the local Organizers at the airport at your arrival, please send your itinerary to Mr. Ulugbek Burhanov ([mf310@mift.uz)](about:blank). Please also send any last-minute change in your itinerary to Mr. Burhanov. No any reimbursement for taxi services is foreseen by Organizers.

## ACCOMMODATION

## The Organizers have pre-booked single standard rooms at the special rate USD 87 per night at the International Hotel Tashkent\*\*\*\*\* (Address: 100084, Uzbekistan, Tashkent, Amir Temur, 107А, e-mail: reservation@ihthotel.uz, tel.: [+998](about:blank) 78 120 70 00).

## Twin room (with two separate beds) at the rate of USD 110 per night is available at the request.

## Please make your own hotel reservation contacting the Reception of the International Hotel Tashkent by email indicating the code “SPECA” in order to obtain the special negotiated rate and please copy your request to Mr. Ulugbek Burhanov ([mf310@mift.uz)](about:blank) for record.

**11 November 2021** is the deadline to make and cancel hotel reservations. If participant has requested booking a hotel room, but for any reason cannot stay at the hotel, he/she is requested to cancel the room reservation before the above date.

Please note that participants are responsible for payment directly to the hotel of all expenses incurred by them, including room charges and other expenses, such as for local and long-distance telephone calls, business center use, laundry, room service and mini-bar items, as well as restaurant and bar services. All payments in the hotel are made in cash (UZS) and credit card (Visa, Mastercard, UnionPay). A currency exchange office is available at the hotel.

All participants are requested to provide a copy of their air ticket, if hotel accommodation and/or transfer from/to airport are needed to **Mr. Ulugbek Burhanov (**[**mf310@mift.uz)**](about:blank)with a copy to Mr. Grant Akopyan (e-mail: grant.akopyan@un.org).

## DOCUMENTATION

Subject to availability, documents for the 2021 SPECA Economic Forum and the sixteenth session of the SPECA Governing Council and their side event can be found on the UNECE website as per below:

* [Sixteenth session of the SPECA Governing Council](about:blank)
* [2021 SPECA Economic Forum](about:blank)
* [Sixteenth session of the SPECA Working Group on Trade](about:blank)

Please note a limited number of hard copies of documents will be available at the conference rooms.

## INTERPRETATION AND VISUAL AIDS

## Simultaneous interpretation in English and Russian as well as facilities for computer-aided presentations (e.g., PowerPoint) will be provided.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Further information on the sixteenth session of the SPECA Governing Council and the 2021 SPECA Economic Forum can be obtained from:

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| **Mr. Mario Apostolov**  Regional Adviser  UN Economic Commission for Europe  Tel.: +41 22 917 1134  E-mail: **mario.apostolov@un.org** | **Ms. Mijidgombo Oyunjargal**  Senior Research Assistant  UN Economic Commission for Europe  Tel.: +41 22 917 4147  E-mail: **mijidgombo.oyunjargal@un.org** |

## USEFUL INFORMATION

**Climate:** The climate in Uzbekistan is sharply continental. In November, the average daily temperature in **Tashkent** usually ranges between 4 and 14°C.

## Time: GMT+5

## Currency and Exchange Offices: Uzbekistan’s official currency is SUM (UZS). The currency exchange offices are widely available in the city as well as in the hotel. Payments in the city can be made in SUM. There is an exchange office at the airport, accepting US dollars, Euros and British pounds. There are ATMs on international circuits.

## Most hotels and shops accept credit cards, including Visa and Mastercard.

## International calls: For international calls from Uzbekistan, please dial: + country code + dialed number.

## Emergency phone numbers: 101 – Fire emergency

## 102 – Police

## 103 – Ambulance

## Electricity: Alternating current, 220V with 50 Hz frequency.

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