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NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS

24 March 2008

Bangkok Climate Change Talks

Ad hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention (first session) and the Ad hoc Working Group on further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol (first part of the fifth session)

Bangkok, Thailand 31 March – 4 April 2008

Media Arrangements

Pre-Conference Press Briefings

by
Yvo de Boer,
Executive Secretary,
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

on Sunday, 30 March, at 6.30 p.m.

in the Press Conference Room (Theatre),
United Nations Conference Centre (UNCC),
Bangkok

General Rules for Media Coverage

Visual media are permitted to film, record interviews and take photos in all public areas of the conference site unless otherwise restricted for security reasons. Generally, all open meetings of the Conference are accessible to the print media, subject to the availability of space. For access by visual media, please see below and contact the Media Coordinator, Mr. Alexander Saier.

Please note: No access will be granted to any media representatives to closed meetings of the Conference or to office areas.

On Monday, 31 March 2008, at 10:00 a.m., the meeting will be formally opened in Plenary 1 (ESCAP Hall). The Conference will hear statements from H.E. Mr. Rachmat Witoelar, COP 13 President and Minister of Environment of Indonesia, H.E. Ms. Anongwan Thepsutin, Minister of Natural Resources and Environment of Thailand, Ms. Noleen Heyzer, Under-Secretary General and ESCAP Executive Secretary and Mr. Yvo de Boer, UNFCCC Executive Secretary.



Photo opportunity: Prior to the opening of the meeting, television crews and still photographers will have an opportunity for establishing shots in Plenary 1 (9.30 –10.00 a.m.)

Once the conference is declared open, television crews will be required to leave the Hall. In case, Television broadcasters wish to record the proceedings in the plenaries limited arrangements can be provided. Please contact the Media Coordinator, Mr. Alexander Saier, to discuss arrangements in advance. Still photographers may continue, on a one-by-one basis, under the guidance of the Media Coordinator.

Some seats are available on the gallery of the Plenary Hall for print media and news agencies. They can be taken on a first-come, first-served basis. We regret that, due to the extremely limited space, media representatives will have no access to the floor in Plenary 1. Correspondents who cannot be accommodated in the gallery will be able to follow the proceedings on closed-circuit television (CCTV) monitors throughout the Conference site and in the press centre.

Press Area

The press area on the ground floor will be available from Sunday, 30 March, 10:00 a.m. until the end of the Conference (4 April). It will be open 24 hours a day, with limited services between 9:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m.

The press area offers a total of 50 work spaces. Seats at the desks are available on a first-come, first-served basis. All desks have electricity supply. 10 desks have computers providing access to the Internet and to printers, and 20 desks will be equipped with “plugNplay” facilities. Wireless Internet access is provided in the press area. Please note that the Internet access only provides for surfing the web and sending emails, but not for uploading larger files or radio broadcasting.

A Media Information Desk will offer a selection of conference documents as well as the Daily Programme, UNFCCC press releases and publications, the texts of speeches as provided by delegations, as well as the daily Earth Negotiations Bulletin (which summarizes the daily proceedings). Official documents can also be accessed via the Internet at terminals in the press area.

Proceedings in Plenary 1, Plenary 2 and press conferences can be followed on monitors in the press area. The programme of the day including press conferences and other events is regularly updated on the programme announcement monitors.

Correspondents may also follow proceedings of the meeting from the conference website: unfccc.int using the computers in the press area.

Media Coordination

The Media Coordination offices can be found opposite the press conference room (Theatre):

- Mr. John Hay, Conference Spokesperson, mobile: +49 172 258 6944
- Mr. Alexander Saier, Media Coordinator (TV, Radio and Online Services), mobile: +49 172 179 8835
- Ms. Carrie Assheuer, Interview requests, mobile: +49 172 179 8836
- Mr. Brian Thomson, Media Information Desk, +66 89 927 1986

Please note that all UNFCCC communication staff will be equipped with local mobile phones. The numbers will be posted in the press section of unfccc.int.

Television Coverage

Due to space limitations it is not possible for television crews to record proceedings in Plenaries 1 and 2. There are, however, limited possibilities throughout the meetings for television crews to record plenary sessions and statements by the representative of their home country.

Please note: Prior arrangements for TV recordings and unilateral coverage should be made with the UNFCCC Media Coordinator, Mr. Alexander Saier.



Television crews are invited to record their own coverage of press conferences in the press conference room (Theatre) in the UNCC. An audio feed will be available from XLR distribution units to television and radio journalists on a first-come-first-served basis.

Radio Coverage

Audio feeds in English and in the original/floor language are available from XLR distribution units in the plenaries, in the press area and in the press conference room.

Online Coverage/Syndication

The secretariat is offering a special online reporting service to the media. Online videos will be made available on the website <unfccc.int> summarizing the secretariat's press briefings. This video can be viewed, downloaded for Podcast or editing purposes (Syndication; high-resolution version in QuickTime format). In addition, b-roll footage of the conference will also be made available for download (high-resolution version in QuickTime format).

The secretariat is encouraging online media to link to the online video on <unfccc.int>.

Please note: The video footage can be downloaded and broadcasted free of charge. For further questions please contact the Media Coordinator, Mr. Alexander Saier.

Photo Coverage

Photo opportunities will be provided for still photographers and television on the floor of Plenary 1 at the opening on 31 March as well as prior to other meetings.

Requests for non-flash photo access to the floor while the plenary meetings are in session, will be dealt with on an *ad hoc* basis by an on-scene information officer. (Please contact the Media Coordinator, Mr. Alexander Saier)

Press Conferences/Briefings

Regular press briefings by the United Nations, by national delegations, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations representing environmental and business interest groups will be held at the press conference room (Theatre), located on the ground floor of the United Nations Conference Centre (UNCC).

A pre-conference press briefing is scheduled for Sunday, 30 March, at 6.30 p.m., in the United Nations Conference Centre.

A press conference by Mr. Yvo de Boer, UNFCCC Executive Secretary is scheduled for Monday, 31 March, at 1:15 p.m.

On Tuesday, 1 April, 1:15 p.m. Mr. Yvo de Boer is inviting the press for a background briefing "on the road to Copenhagen", covering both the science and the politics of climate change.

All briefings will normally be limited to 30 minutes.

Please note: While regular press briefings will be included in the Daily Programme, other briefings will be announced on short notice on the CCTV programme monitors only.



Interviews

The office of the Conference Spokesperson will assist journalists, upon request, in contacting delegates for arranging interviews. Requests for interviews with the UNFCCC Executive Secretary should also be addressed to the Media Assistant, Ms. Carrie Assheuer.

Live and On-Demand Streaming on Internet

Negotiations and many other events can be followed live and on-demand through the conference network. Official meetings, special workshops, as well as press conferences will as well be available on demand from the public website: unfccc.int.

A comprehensive web index provides ready access to information on recorded events. Each recording is classified by date, agenda item and type of meeting. "Video anchors" will allow direct access to discussions of a particular agenda item. Audio/video on-demand archives will be delivered where possible in the original language and in English. A timetable, [meetings listing](#), is automatically generated and posted to the website throughout the day to provide information on additions or changes in the programme schedule.