



GOVERNMENT OF KIRIBATI

GoK DPF(14). Information Paper 01

DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS FORUM

Tarawa, Kiribati

13-14 March 2014

Information Paper 01: Important Information & Administrative Arrangements for the 2014 Development Partners' Forum

1. This document is intended to provide basic information that may be needed by the Development Partners Forum's delegates before arrival, on arrival and throughout the duration of the forum in Tarawa.

2. **Visa**

All foreign nationals and citizens are expected to abide by the country's visa or entry legal requirements, except nationals/citizens of countries listed in schedules 1 and 2 of the Republic of Kiribati's existing (or 2007) Visa (Exemption) Order. Copies of these schedules are appended for ease of reference. Accordingly, those delegates who may need a visa are requested to quickly lodge their visa applications with the Kiribati Immigration Department.

3. **Accommodation**

Special arrangements have been made with Otintaai Hotel, Utirerei Motel and Mary's Motel to reserve rooms for the forum's delegates from arrival on 13 March to departure on 16 March 2014. The number of rooms available at these hotels is limited, so delegates are advised to contact Maaman Ioakim in the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development early and she will make a booking on your behalf. Maaman's email address is mantoo35@gmail.com or telephone 686 21806 ext 212. Websites for the hotels are: Otintaai Hotel: www.otintaaihotel.com; Utirerei Motel www.utirereimotel.com; and Mary's Motel: www.marysmoteltarawa.com.

4. **Transport**

The Ministry of Finance and Economic Development will provide transport for the forum's delegates from the airport to the three reserved hotels and back (i.e. on arrival and departure), from the reserved hotels to the meeting venue and back, including transport to and from venues of official functions for the forum. Delegates accommodated elsewhere, other than the three reserved hotels, are requested to see into their own transport arrangement.

5. Airport Reception

There will be ushers to meet the delegates on first arrival at the airport and also to see them off on departure. For ease of identification, these ushers will wear their I/D cards for the forum and will assist delegates with immigration formalities, luggage handling, and others as may also be needed by the delegates both on arrival and departure. In addition, all delegates for the forum will be accorded the airport's VIP services.

6. Medical & Pharmaceutical Services

Only one registered pharmacy is available in Tarawa i.e. the government's pharmacy which is managed by the Ministry of Health and Medical Services. However, a shortage of essential drugs, vaccines and other highly demanded medications is a common problem for this pharmacy hence the need for delegates to bring along their own medications to last them the duration of their entire stay in Tarawa. On call doctors will be arranged to provide basic medical services that may be needed by the delegates during their stay in Tarawa for the forum.

7. Program

The official opening of the 2014 Development Partners' Forum will be done by the Honourable Minister of Finance and Economic Development, Mr Tom Murdoch, on 13 March at 3.15 p.m. at the Otintaai Hotel's 'maneaba' (or local meeting hall) in Bikenibeu, preceded by registration for the forum to start at 3.00 p.m. Presentations will be done at the same venue after the opening session. The meeting proper will be held at the Marine Training Centre's building in Betio on 14 March. More information on the program will be circulated separately to the delegates.

8. Meeting Papers

All documents for the forum will be provided electronically to the delegates before the meeting. All documents will also be placed on the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development website www.mfed.gov.ki. Completed papers will be sent via email to the delegates. Delegates are advised to use their final electronic copies of the meeting documents for the forum as no hard copies will be provided.

9. Currency & Bank Services

The Australian currency is the only currency used in Kiribati while the ANZ Bank is the only bank that provides bank services for the country. The ANZ Bank's head office is located in Bairiki with one branch in Bikenibeu and the other in Betio. ATM services are available outside all ANZ Bank's offices, including the USP Kiribati Campus and the Tungaru Central Hospital. More information about the Bank's services is available online at www.anz.com.au/kiribati.

10. Mobile Phone Services

Roaming mobile phones can be used in Tarawa. Sim and recharge cards are sold at the Telecom Services Kiribati Ltd's (or TSKL's) head office in Bairiki. However,

some shops, especially small shops, around town also sell recharge cards. TSKL's website, www.tskl.net.ki, provides more information about its mobile phone and other telecommunications services.

11. Secretariat Contact

The forum's secretariat will be housed in the room beside the venue for the meeting proper at the Marine Training Centre in Betio. The Secretariat staff will be available in this room to render assistance to the delegates throughout the entire duration of the meeting sessions. After hours, they may be contacted on mobile phone numbers to be announced to the delegates at the opening session.

- 12.** Delegates are advised to take careful note of this information for their guidance during their stay for the forum in Tarawa.

Republic of Kiribati Visa and Entry Requirements

Visa

It is a requirement that a VISA must be issued before traveling to Kiribati unless you are among the countries indicated on Exemption Order 2007. Visitors may apply for a visitor's permit upon arrival entitling them to stay 30 days in Kiribati provided they hold a Visa (if required), valid passport, onward ticket and have proof of sufficient funds for maintenance during their visit.

Visa Exemption Order 2007

a. Nationals and citizens of the following countries specified here in Schedule 1 are exempted from obtaining a visa before entering Kiribati where the intended duration of their stay is 30 days or less upon arrival.

Schedule 1

- Belize
- Federated States of Micronesia
- Macao (only in respect of holders of Macao Special Administrative Region passports)
- Marshall Islands
- Palau
- Republic of China (Taiwan)
- Republic of Korea

b. Nationals and citizens specified here in Schedule 2 are exempted from obtaining a visa before entering Kiribati:

Schedule 2

- Antigua and Barbuda
- Australia
- Austria
- Barbados
- Belgium
- Bulgaria
- Canada
- Cook Islands
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Estonia
- Fiji Islands
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Grenada
- Greece
- Hong Kong (only in request of holders of British National (Overseas) passports and Hong Kong Administrative Region passports)
- Ireland
- Italy
- Jamaica
- Japan
- Kenya
- Latvia
- Lesotho
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Malawi
- Malaysia
- Mauritius
- Nauru
- Netherlands
- New Zealand
- Niue
- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania
- St. Kitts and Nevis
- Samoa
- Seychelles
- Sierra Leone
- Singapore
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- Solomon Islands
- Spain
- St. Lucia
- St. Vincent and the Grenadines
- Switzerland
- The Bahamas
- Tonga
- Trinidad and Tobago
- Tunisia
- Tuvalu
- United Kingdom Overseas Territories of (Bermuda, Cayman Islands, Montserrat and Turks and Caicos Islands)
- United Kingdom
- USA
- Vanuatu
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe

c. Holders of *laissez-passer* issued by the United Nations are exempted from obtaining a visa before entering Kiribati when traveling on business of the United Nations.