



**The 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Project Steering Committee for  
the SEAFDEC/UNEP/GEF Project on Establishment and Operation of a Regional System of  
Fisheries *Refugia* in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand**

5<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> November 2019  
Pullman Miri Waterfront, Miri, Sarawak, Malaysia

**Information Note  
for Participants**

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Dear Participants,

Welcome to Miri! Thank you for confirming your participation at the upcoming The Second Meeting of the Project Steering Committee. Please read the following information carefully, as it will help you to plan your travel to Miri, Sarawak.

## 1. Meeting Venue

The events will be held at Pullman Miri Waterfront Hotel.

The meeting room names “**Waterfront 1**” at Level 6.

Address: Lot 1347 Miri Waterfront Commercial Centre Sarawak 98000 MIRI MALAYSIA,

Location on Map:



## 2. Accommodation

The accommodation will be provided, you will be staying at Pullman Miri Waterfront, the same location of meeting venue. The organizers will take the responsibility for booking and paying for accommodation cost of the representative which cover room charge (single room) with Breakfast only. Personal expenditures i.e. minibar, telephone, laundry or for any other expenses incurred by participants.

For non-sponsored participants or participant’s spouse, the expenses will be on their own responsibility. Please contact the organizers in advance for hotel booking. In case of cancellation will follow to cancellation policy of the hotel.

### Hotel Facilities

Pullman Miri Waterfront is ideally located at the Miri Waterfront Commercial Centre hub towering majestically by the Miri River with spectacular view of the city, Miri river mouth overlooking the South China Sea. A 5-star International chain hotel and the highest building in Miri is dedicated to

discerning leisure and corporate participants. The 328 room full service hotel, 2 ballrooms, 5 state of the art function rooms, 5 food and beverage outlets, casually elegant in style, smart architectural and relaxed in spirit offering the ultimate luxury experience, a complete range of wellness in its fitness center, a 1.4M deep, 21M long and 10M wide infinity swimming pool and children’s pool, Spa, Jacuzzi and Sauna.



Pullman Miri Waterfront



Lobby



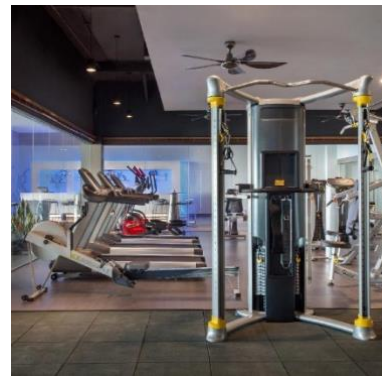
Restaurant



Deluxe Room



Swimming Pool;



Fitness Room

### 3. Transportation

#### ❖ Transportation between meeting venue and airport

The destination airport of this meeting is “Miri International Airport” Malaysia.

The co-organizer, Department of Fisheries of Malaysia kindly provide pickup arrangement at the Miri International Airport” to Hotel. Please search for DOF/MY LOGO as follows:



#### ❖ Other Transportation in Miri

The city of Miri in Malaysia often is used as a stop-over city when traveling to other destinations in Southeast Asia. Whether you stay for a day or are just passing through, here are a few transportation tips and ideas.

**Long Distance Bus:** State of the art buses are available for transport both into the city and out. A bus from Brunei to Miri is one of the most popular routes. The buses provide comfortable chairs that recline nearly all the way down. Most buses feature a bathroom, although it is highly recommended to use the restroom at bus stops. Some buses will not allow you to use the bathroom even if one is on board.

**Airport in Miri:** The airport in Miri, Malaysia is on the small side. This is because there are not many flights that come into the city. Two Malaysian Airlines subsidiaries flights come in daily Mulu. A few other flights come in from other areas around the country, but for the most part this is a smaller regional airport. The airport itself is on the newer side though and amenities are impressive for an airport of its size. It is clean and well maintained.

**City Buses:** The Miri City Bus Company provides the city bus services. These buses are nowhere near as nice or comfortable as the long-distance buses. Many of the buses are on the older side as well, so seeing one on the side of the road with engine trouble is not completely unheard of. In general, the buses are able to take you to the set stops throughout the city, although the schedule isn't very accurate.

**Taxis:** Taxis here are a bit different from what you'll find in other areas around Southeast Asia. Instead of looking for a meter taxi, just about everything comes with a fixed fair. This ranges from talking a ride to a hotel to the airport, the Eastwood Valley Golf & Country Club or the City Centre. All of the cabs are red and yellow sedans (most of which are rather old, like the city buses). You can negotiate a bit on more specific destinations and trips, but if it is a popular tourist destination, there is very little you can do about the price.





## 4. Language

The Meeting will be conducted in English and all the Meeting documents will be mainly in English. The official language spoken in Malaysia is the Malaysian language. This language is sometimes called Malaysian Malay or simply just Malay or Malaysian. Malay is spoken by the majority of the country and is taught extensively in the country's public education system. Aside from Malay, English is also very commonly spoken in Malaysian. Aside from English, Chinese dialects such as Mandarin and Hokkien are also spoken in the country, primarily by those of Chinese ethnic origin. Tamil is also another popular language spoken in the country, primarily spoken by people from India.

Most restaurants and stores have signs and other information written in both English, Malaysian and Chinese sometimes with pictorial depictions that you can point to

Some useful words and phrases in Malaysia (Malaysian):

Good Morning – Selamat Pagi

Good afternoon – Selamat tengah hari

Good evening – Selamat petang

Good night – Selamat malam

Good bye – Selamat tinggal

See you again – Jumpa lagi

Yes - Ya

No – Tidak

Thank you – Terima Kasih

Please – Sila

Excuse me – Tumpang lalu

I am going to ... - Saya pergi ke ...

How much – Berapa harga

That's too expensive – Mahal sangat

Can you reduce the price – Boleh kurang?

I would like to change money – Saya hendak tukar duit/wang

Where is the toilet – Di mana tandas?

What time does the bus leave – pukul berapa bas bertolak

Airport – Lapangan terbang

Post office – Pejabat pos

Shop - Kedai

Delicious - Sedap

## 5. Mobile phones

There are five large operators of Malaysia telecommunication company sell SIM cards. Participants can purchase their own local SIM cards from these recognized mobile operators upon arrival at Miri airport in Malaysia. (Click link)

Maxis	<a href="http://www.maxis.com.my">http://www.maxis.com.my</a>
Celcom	<a href="http://www.celcom.com.my">http://www.celcom.com.my</a>
DiGi	<a href="http://www.digi.com.my">http://www.digi.com.my</a>
U Mobile	<a href="http://www.u.com.my">http://www.u.com.my</a>
Tune Talk	<a href="http://www.tunetalk.com">http://www.tunetalk.com</a>

## 6. Registration

REGISTRATION: is arranged in front of the Meeting Room. All Meeting documents are uploaded to the fisheries refugia website:

URL: <https://fisheries-refugia.org/2nd-pscm/2nd-pscm-doc>

## 7. IT Services and Document

The meeting room is equipped with Wi-Fi. Technical support is available through the Secretary of the meeting desk. Technical support for presentations must be arranged in advance with the Project Co-ordinating Unit (PCU) support team.

Participants can also connect the internet WIFI while travelling on the bus and during the technical site visits via access the exclusive network in following:

*Network name:* Fisheries Refugia  
*Password:* refugia2018

The presentation and documents of the meeting will be uploaded to SCS: USB flash drive and share to all participants.



You can see some photos in Fisheries *Refugia* official Facebook. (Please visit: [web.facebook.com/fisheriesrefugia](http://web.facebook.com/fisheriesrefugia))

## 8. Currency and DSA

The official currency of Malaysia is the MYR. The commercial rate is subject to change daily (currently estimated at around USD1 ~ MYR4.19). There are banks and currency exchange kiosks located at the airport, but you may exchange from the hotel cashier and exchange counter/shop around the hotel as well.

All major credit cards are widely accepted at banks, hotels, restaurants and shopping centers. Participants are advised to exchange some local currency prior to your departure, or at the airport upon your arrival.

**Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA)** and Terminal expenses, will be provided to all sponsored participants in USD on the first date of the meeting.

## 9. Weather

The climate in Miri is hot, oppressive, and overcast. Over the course of the year, the temperature typically varies from 75°F to 88°F and is rarely below 73°F or above 91°F. When the southwest monsoon hits from May to October, it brings rain to the lowlands on the west coast of the peninsula and particularly the southwest coast between the capital of Kuala Lumpur and Melaka. To the northern end of the west coast of the peninsula, around Penang and Langkawi, the rain can be especially heavy in September and October. While the west coast is getting heavy rain, the east coast of the peninsula is bathed in sunshine and dry weather. This changes however when the northeast monsoon blows in between November and March, bringing with its torrential rain and often flooding along the east coast of the peninsula. At this time most resorts on the islands along the east coast of the Malaysian peninsula close up till the rains ease. Sarawak are affected slightly differently. As with the east coast of the peninsula, the northeast monsoon brings with it extremely heavy rain, delivering over half of Sarawak's rainfall for the entire year. While the entire period from October to March is, well, damp, January in particular is a very wet time in Sarawak. The region is less affected by the southwest monsoon but they still see a fair amount of rain through the rest of the year.

## 10. Technical Site Visits

### SCHEDULE FOR 6 NOVEMBER 2019

TIME	ACTIVITY	REMARK
6 am	Leave Hotel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 40 seater bus</li> <li>• Packed breakfast will be provided in the bus</li> </ul>
6.30 am	Short Briefing at Pasu River (nursery area for juvenile tiger prawn)	
7.00 am – 9.30 am	Travel to Niah National Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Packed morning break will be provided in the bus</li> </ul>
9.30 am – 12.30 pm	Visiting Niah Cave	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 way walking journey = 6.5km</li> </ul>
12.30 pm – 1.30 pm	Lunch at Niah National Park's Cafe	
1.30 pm	Travel to Hotel	
3.30 pm	Reach Hotel	

**Note:**

**All participants are advised to take action as follows:**

- ⇒ Wear appropriate clothes and shoe for outdoor activity and
- ⇒ Bring cap, small torch light and mosquito repellent
- ⇒ Other necessary things such as disposable rain coat and gloves will be provided.

## 11. Others information

### 11.1 Meal:

Please be informed that the Department of Fisheries as host of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Project Steering Committee kindly invite all participant for a Reception Dinner on the 5<sup>th</sup> November 2019. The SEAFDEC/PCU also invite all participant for a Farewell Dinner on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

### 11.2 Visa Requirements

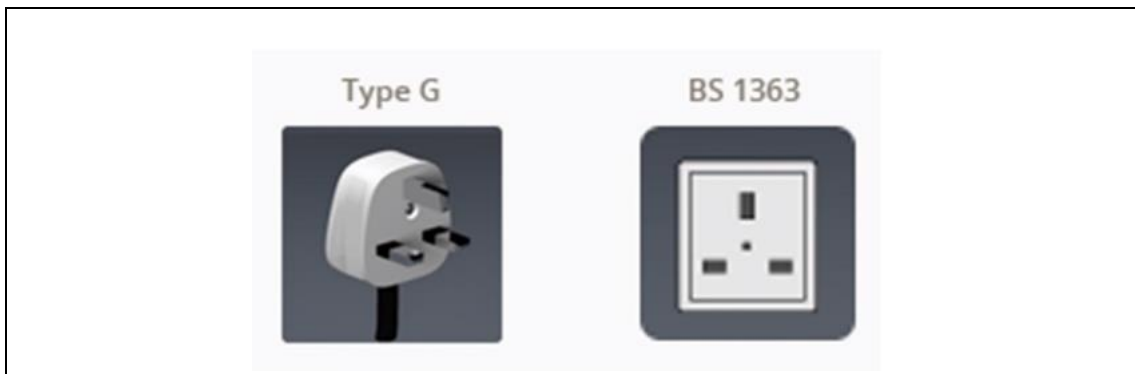
Many nationalities do not require a visa for Malaysia for a stay of up to either one or three months depending on their nationality. For the vast majority of casual participants, a three-months stay should be sufficient for a first poke around the country. The transit visa – issued to allow a person to transit to another country and so is unlikely to be of interest to participants intent on spending time in Malaysia. <https://www.imi.gov.my/index.php/en/visa/visa-requirement-by-country.html>

### 11.3 Time Zone

Miri, Sarawak is currently 8 hours ahead of UTC/GMT.

### 11.4 Electricity

The electrical currents in Malaysia are 240 volts and the frequency is 50Hz. You can use your electric appliances in Malaysia, if the standard voltage in your country is in between 220-240 volts. Manufacturers take these small deviations into account



### 11.5 Health

All participants are required to obtain medical insurance for the duration of the event prior to your departure.



## 12. Local Contact Point

Should you have any questions or require any assistance during the event, please feel free to contact:

**Ms. Vaani Muniandy**

Fisheries Officer  
Resource Management Section  
Marine Park and Resource Management Division  
Department of Fisheries Malaysia  
Level 3, Tower Block, Wisma Tani  
62628 Putrajaya  
MALAYSIA  
Tel (O) : 03 - 8870 4308  
e-mail: vaani@dof.gov.my

**Ms. Nathacha Sornvaree**

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*The meeting organizers disclaim all responsibilities for medical, accident and travel insurances, for compensation for death or disability compensation, for loss of or damage to personal property and for any other losses that may be incurred during travel time or the period of participation. In this context, **it is strongly recommended that participants will secure international medical, accident and travel insurances for the period of participation prior to departure.***

Finally, we wish you an enjoyable event in Miri, Sarawak!



Dr. Somboon Siriraksophon  
Project Director,  
SEAFDEC/UNEP/GEF Project on Fisheries *Refugia*  
24 October 2019