

**Local information for 11th GRUAN Implementation and Coordination Meeting (ICM-11)****HOST**

The meeting is hosted by the National Environment Agency of Singapore (NEA)

For additional information and assistance concerning the local and logistic arrangements, please contact:

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**MEETING VENUE**

The meeting will be held at the Furama City Centre Hotel, Ballroom 1, from 20 to 24 May 2019. The hotel is located at:

60 Eu Tong Sen Street,  
Singapore 059804

Each day a complimentary international buffet lunch and two tea/coffee breaks will be provided during the meeting, courtesy NEA. Conference dinner will be on Wednesday 22 May 2019, with details to be announced later. The cost of the meeting will be covered by the host, no conference fee is required.

The most convenient way to reach the Furama hotel is using the MRT (Mass Rapid Transit). The nearest MRT train station is **Chinatown MRT Station**, which connects the North East Line and Downtown line. Furama is a 3-minute walk from the MRT station. Furama is also accessible by Public buses:

A: Bus stop no 05022 – 54, 124,145, 147, 166, 190, 851

B: Bus stop no: 05023 – 2,12, 33, 51, 61, 63, 80, 174, 197, 961

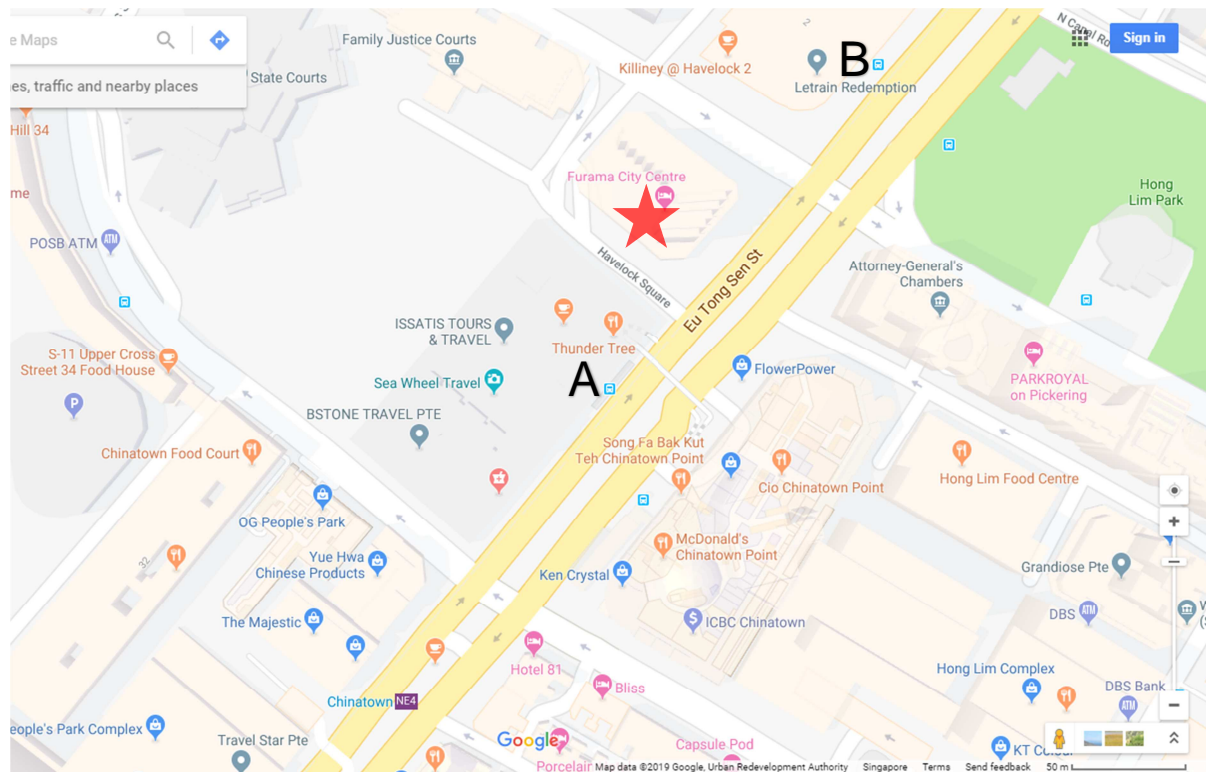


Image Credit: Google Maps

More information on getting around Singapore is available at:

<http://www.lta.gov.sg/content/ltaweb/en/public-transport.html>

## HOTEL ACCOMODATION

Participants are recommended to stay at the **Furama City Centre Hotel**, where the meeting is held. For the meeting, the following rates have been secured with the hotel:

### Deluxe Room

Single Occupancy - S\$217.75 nett

Double/Twin Occupancy - S\$241.29 nett

Full Buffet Breakfast and Internet Access is included. Bookings may be made via the accompanying form to Ms Elaine Ko: [elaineko@furama.com](mailto:elaineko@furama.com). For other room types, you may also check with Ms Elaine Ko for the rates and availability.

### **Dorsett Singapore Hotel** (<https://www.dorsethotels.com/en/dorsett-singapore/index.html>)

Located a 11 minute-walk away from the meeting venue. Public buses (Number 54, 124, 147, 147E, 166, 190, and 851) run between the Dorsett hotel and the meeting venue. To go to meeting venue, use the bus stop across the road in front of the hotel. For ICM-11, the following rates have been secured with the hotel (reference NEA Event):

Dorsett Room

Single Occupancy - S\$211.86 nett

Double/Twin Occupancy - S\$235.40 nett

Deluxe Room

Single/ Double Occupancy - S\$258.94 nett

Full Buffet Breakfast and Internet Access is included. For bookings and more information please contact Nadia Ismail: [nadia.ismail@dorsetthotels.com](mailto:nadia.ismail@dorsetthotels.com), The hotel offers complementary one-way shuttle service to the meeting venue if there are more than 10 participants staying with them.

**Bliss Hotel** ([www.blisshotel.com.sg](http://www.blisshotel.com.sg))

Rates starting S\$120 nett per night, with free wifi internet. See accompanying booking form.

**Hotel Mono** (<https://www.hotelmono.com/>)

Rates are from S\$160 nett per night, with free wifi internet. Check their website for promotions and direct booking

Singapore has a comprehensive and well-functioning public transport system. With the meeting venue conveniently located close to an MRT train station (Chinatown Station on the North East Line and Downtown Line), participants can also choose to book a hotel in downtown Singapore.

Travel apps and booking portals may offer competitive rates, feel free to check and compare prices before booking directly at the hotel.

**TRANSPORTATION**

Participants are recommended to arrive at the Singapore Changi Airport (<http://www.changiairport.com>).

*Airport Transfers to City*

**Taxi:** Taxis are available at the taxis stands at the Arrival levels of each Terminal. A ride to the city takes about 30 minutes, depending on traffic conditions, and costs between S\$20 and S\$40.

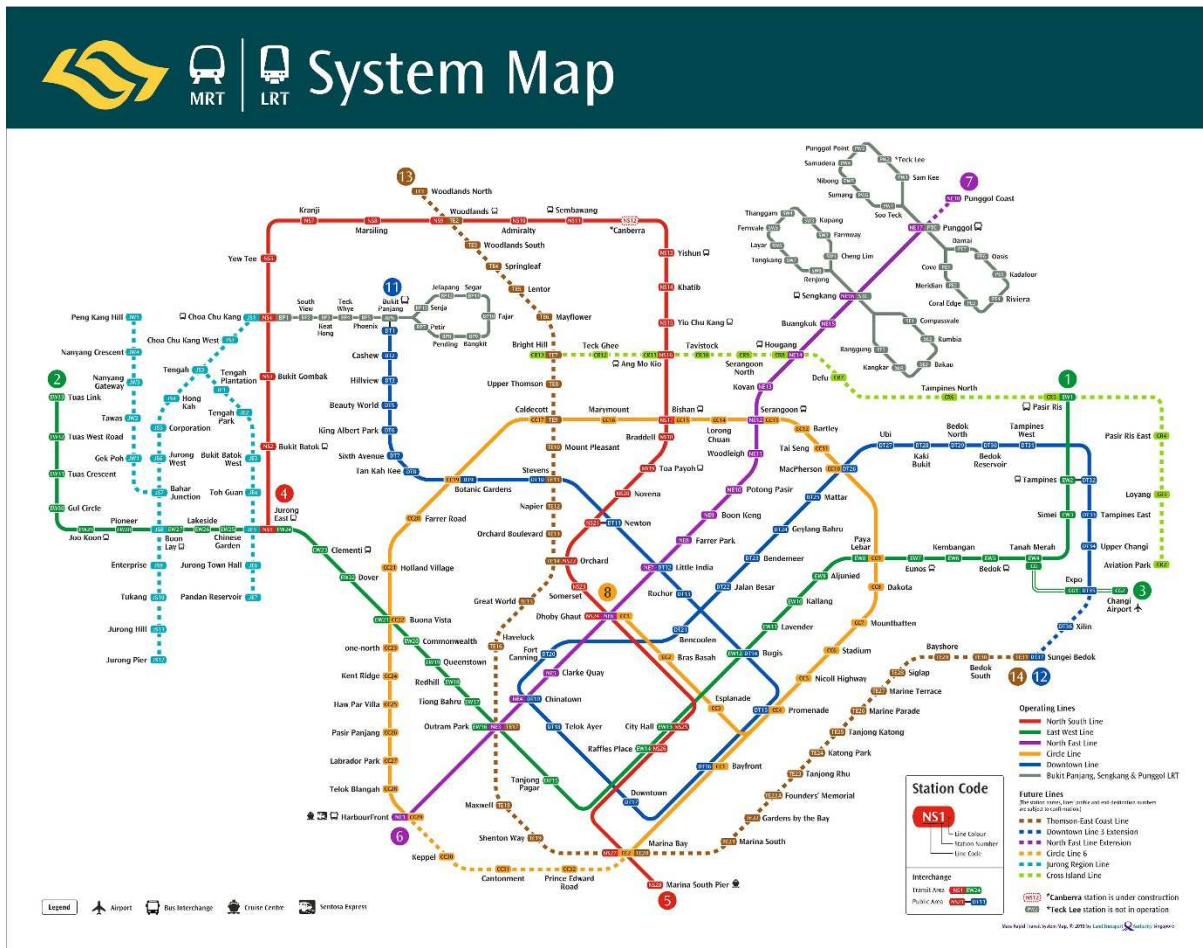
**MRT train:** The Changi Airport train station is accessible by foot from Terminal 2 or Terminal 3. To get to the city, transfer to the west-bound train at Tanah Merah Station. Operating hours: 5:20 – 23:50, Sundays/public holidays 5:50-23:50

A single ride ticket can be purchased at train stations. A stored-value EZ-Link card for multiple rides can also be purchased from train stations or any Changi Recommends store. The journey from Changi to Chinatown station takes about 45 minutes.

**Bus:** Public bus service 36/36A operates to the city from the airport. The bus stops are located at the basement bus bays of Terminals 1, 2 and 3. The exact fare (approximately S\$3) needs to be provided in cash (no change given). Alternatively, a stored-value EZ-Link card for multiple rides can be purchased from any Changi Recommends store or the Changi Airport train station.

**Getting to Chinatown:** For participants staying at Furama City Centre or Chinatown area, you should transfer to the newly opened Downtown Line (Blue) at Expo station, and alight at Chinatown station. At the Expo station, Downtown Line Train service starts at 05:36am from Monday to Saturday, and ends at 11:40pm. On Sundays, the timings are 05:54am and 11:40pm.

Further information on the modes of transportation from Changi Airport are available at the following website: <http://www.changiairport.com/en/transport/public-transport.html>



## Visa/Entry Requirements

Participants are requested to make their own arrangements for visa applications, if required. Please refer to the visa requirements guide at the Singapore Immigration and Checkpoint Authority's (ICA) website:

[https://www.ica.gov.sg/visitor/visitor\\_entryvisa](https://www.ica.gov.sg/visitor/visitor_entryvisa)

Please be aware of the restrictions regarding bringing personal medications into Singapore

[https://www.hsa.gov.sg/content/hsa/en/Health\\_Products\\_Regulation/Consumer\\_Information/Personal\\_Import\\_Regulations/bringing\\_personal\\_medication\\_into\\_Singapore.html](https://www.hsa.gov.sg/content/hsa/en/Health_Products_Regulation/Consumer_Information/Personal_Import_Regulations/bringing_personal_medication_into_Singapore.html)

## CURRENCY EXCHANGE

The currency used in Singapore is the Singapore Dollar (S\$).

Approximate exchange rates: S\$ 100 = € 65 or US\$ 74

Up to date exchange rates can be found at <http://www.dbs.com.sg/personal/rates-online/foreign-currency-foreign-exchange.page>. Foreign currency can be exchanged at Singapore Changi Airport upon arrival, at banks or Authorized Money Changers located around Singapore.

Automated Teller Machines (ATMs) are located everywhere around Singapore, and accept the main credit cards such as Visa, MasterCard and American Express.

## LOCAL CLIMATE

Singapore experiences a hot and humid tropical climate, with little variations throughout the year. The mean daily maximum temperature for May is about 32°C and the mean daily minimum temperature is about 25°C.

Throughout the entire day, rain clouds may develop rapidly, bringing showers that are often accompanied by thunder. The showers can be heavy and typically last one hour.

The latest weather forecast information is available at the Meteorological Service Singapore website (<http://www.weather.gov.sg>) or weather@sg/myENV mobile apps.

## ELECTRICITY

The electric current is 220 volts AC, 50 Hz in Singapore. Common power plugs are square 3-pin plugs (type G) as shown below:



## NO SMOKING POLICY

Smoking is an offence in air-conditioned areas such as shopping centres, restaurants, entertainment outlets and cinemas; and on the MRT trains, public buses, taxis and in lifts. Recently, the smoking ban has been extended to public eateries and within a five-metre radius from most building entrances, except for allocated smoking areas that are clearly marked with bright yellow paint. A maximum fine of S\$1,000 may be imposed on first-time offenders.

## GETTING AROUND

In the vicinity of the meeting venue:

- Buddha Tooth relic temple/Sri Mariamman Temple
- Have 'Dim Sum' at Yum Cha Chinatown, desserts at Mei Heong Yuen
- Chinatown Street Market
- Clarke Quay/Boat Quay area – popular bar/pub place to chill after work

### Attractions/Sightseeing

- Gardens by the bay (you will have different experience visiting during the day or night, insider's tip: try the garden rhapsody show at night time)
- Singapore Botanic Gardens
- Esplanade/Merlion park

### Kids-friendly

- Singapore Zoo & Night Safari (juxtaposed)
- Universal Studio (located within Resort World Sentosa in Sentosa Island)

### Beaches

- Sentosa Island (various beaches)

- East coast park (where locals like to hang out, go for a run, and have some good hawker food)

#### Shopping/Market

- Chinatown – near the meeting venue, shophouses/food stalls/bazaars
- Marina Bay Sands (Iconic building)
- Bugis (vibrant shopping area, with malls, heritage temples and street market)
- Orchard Road

#### Food

- Hawker centres are the places to go for cheap and good local food (you will have to ask to share tables during peak hours). You can refer to this list for the hawker centres to go do, and the food to try: <https://www.thebestsingapore.com/eat-and-drink/the-best-5-hawker-centres-in-singapore/>
- Check out this list for local foods that are worth a try: <https://sethlui.com/best-local-famous-foods-to-eat-singapore/>

Otherwise, try a google search of things to do in Singapore: <http://tinyurl.com/yyp9ff6a>