



GSC-9 Meeting

General Information

MAY 9 – 13 2004, SEOUL, REPUBLIC OF KOREA

1. An Introduction to Seoul



Seoul, a historical and cultural city, has been the capital of Korea for more than 600 years since the Joseon Dynasty was founded in 1392. About a quarter of the total Korean population live in Seoul since it is a center of politics, economy, and culture. For more information, visit the following website (<http://english.seoul.go.kr>).

2. Weather



The climate of Korea is characterized by four distinct seasons: spring, summer, fall, and winter. Spring lasts from late March to May and is warm. In May, the daytime temperature in Seoul generally ranges from +14 °C to +25 °C (57 °F to 77 °F). To find the current weather of Seoul, visit the following website (<http://www.kma.go.kr/kmas/kma/english/main.htm>).

3. Visa Requirements



Any foreign visitor wishing to enter the Republic of Korea should have a valid passport and a visa. Visitors for sightseeing or transit with confirmed outbound tickets may stay in Korea up to 30 days without visas, except for some countries. Please visit the following website (<http://www.mofat.go.kr/en/visa/e Visa.mof>). For further information, contact Korean Embassies in your country. For those who want to get a Letter of Invitation for the visa application, please fill in **the letter of Invitation Request Form** and send it to Mr. Ki-Hoon Kim.

4. Laptop Computer & LAN facilities



As the meetings will be fully electronic, delegates will be required to bring a laptop computer with a wireless LAN card(IEEE 802.11B). A flash memory, instead of CD, with all contributions will be given to delegates.



5. Local Time



GMT + 9 hours (the same as Tokyo time)

6. Electrical Current



In meeting rooms and Internet Café only 220 Volt is available. 110 volt and 220 volt are available in Guest room. The participants need to prepare an appropriate power plug adapter.

7. Foreign Exchange Rate



Participants are requested to check with local banks or financial services for latest rates. Information is available at <http://finance.yahoo.com/m3?u>.

8. Transportation

To get to Lotte Hotel Seoul-Jamsil, it is recommended to take KAL limousine bus from the airport. This bus is the most convenient way to travel from the Incheon International Airport to the hotel.

(1) KAL Limousine Bus (Strongly recommended)



The KAL Limousine Bus runs between Lotte Hotel Seoul-Jamsil and Incheon International Airport. at every 25~35 minutes. (05:45~22:30)

* **Fare : ₩ 12,000**

* **Departure : Bus Stop 4B, 11A(Arrival Curbside)**

* **Bus Line : Line 4**

* Trip Time : Approximately 1.5 hours(may vary depending on the road condition)

* Buying a ticket: At near to Exit Number #5, you can buy the Ticket for Airport Limousine Bus from the Airport to the Hotel.

(2) Taxi

Average fare from the Incheon International Airport to downtown Seoul is about ₩ 40,000 ~ ₩ 55,000 (USD 30 ~ 43) in a standard taxi and ₩60,000 ~ ₩80,000 (USD 46 ~62) in a deluxe taxi(black car with yellow light) but it may cost more depending on traffic during rush hours. Please note that there is additional charge of 20% from midnight to 4 a.m.

Additional information : (<http://www.airport.or.kr/Eng/transportation/traffic.jsp>)

9. Korea & Korean Tourism

Please consult the following Website for information on Korea and possible tours: Korea National Tourism Organization Homepage (<http://www.knto.or.kr>)