

TOPIK 2007
Towards Peace in Korea

14 – 20 November 2007

Information for Overseas Participants

We are looking forward very much to your participation in this peace visit and forum. Our team members are committed to helping you make the most of your time here and we will try to help you as best we can with anything you need.

Here are a few points in advance to assist with your preparation.

Arrival	<p>The airline you are travelling on will provide you with the necessary forms before landing.</p> <p>These will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Entry card. Your intended address in Korea is “Jijihyang Hotel, Paju Book City, Paju. Tel (031) 955 0090” (2) Customs declaration card. (You need to complete this even if you have nothing to declare). (3) A health declaration form may be required depending on the country where your journey originated. <p>After completing customs clearance please exit through the indicated gate so that you can be met outside the right gate in the arrivals area.</p>
Pickup	<p>You will be met by one of the TOPIK conference team.</p> <p>Participants arriving in Korea on November 13th will be taken to the Jijihyang Hotel to stay one night before departure the following morning to Geumgangsan. Luggage may be safely deposited at the hotel until we return from Geumgangsan.</p> <p>Participants arriving in Korea on November 14th will be met at the airport and taken directly to the Geumgangsan Hotel for one night. This hotel is on the southern side of the DMZ. They will then cross the DMZ on the morning of the 15th to join the other participants.</p>
Currency	<p>South Korea uses South Korean Won. Money can be exchanged on arrival at the airport, at major hotels, banks, and major department stores. Exchange is possible at a bank inside the Jijihyang Hotel but only during bank hours (Mon – Fri, 9:30 – 4.30). Please keep receipts for currency exchange as you may need them if converting won back to your own currency on departure. Major credit cards are accepted in most places, however small outlets, especially older style shops, may not take them. Not all ATM machines will allow cash advances on non-Korean origin credit cards.</p>
Electricity	<p>Both South Korea and the Geumgangsan resort hotel have a 220 volt, 60Hz supply. The plug has two round pins. It can be difficult to get adaptors here – please obtain one before departure.</p>
North Korea Requirements	<p>There are a number of particular requirements for visitors to North Korea.</p> <p>You are allowed to take photographs only when explicitly permitted. Generally photography from the bus, photography of North Koreans, military installations, etc, is prohibited.</p> <p>Mobile phones and other communications devices are not permitted.</p> <p>Cameras and video cameras with telephoto lenses of more than 160mm and binoculars with zooming capabilities of 10 times or more are banned.</p> <p>Newspapers, magazines and books from South Korea are banned. Material printed in other countries is permitted, except for Bibles and anything concerning Korea.</p> <p>MP3 players and similar are permitted if they have no radio or recording ability.</p> <p>It is best not to try to take notebook computers, PDAs or similar devices as it is uncertain if they would be permitted or not.</p> <p>It is possible to deposit small items (electronic equipment, printed matter) at Hwajinpo, the</p>

	<p>check-in point, when you are issued with your ID and travel pass. Those who have arrived in Korea on the 13th and stayed that night at the Jijihyang Hotel can deposit such items at the hotel for safe-keeping.</p> <p>You must always wear your ID (you will get this at the check-in point at Hwajipo, just south of the DMZ).</p> <p>You must carry your passport with you at all times.</p> <p>You are not permitted to bring alcohol into North Korea. There are some shops where you can buy alcohol and foods at the Geumgangsan Resort area.</p> <p>Apart from prescription medicines no other drugs or similar substances are permitted.</p> <p>Rubbish and cigarette butts must be deposited only in the bins provided.</p> <p>Washing hands and/or feet is not allowed in the fresh water springs.</p> <p>Please be aware of the “no smoking” areas.</p> <p>Do not take any natural objects (such as rocks or sea shells)</p> <p>Only US dollars and credit cards are accepted (Korean currency can be exchanged at the South Korean operated banks at the Geumgangsan Resort).</p> <p>There are many large rocks with engraving done by the government. Do not touch or lean on these rocks.</p> <p>You may speak with the North Korean people that you meet, but you may not take random pictures of them, including pictures from inside the bus. In addition, please be careful of the conversation topics when speaking with North Koreans.</p> <p>Do not talk about politics, diplomatic relations, economics and other such sensitive issues.</p> <p>The Geumgangsan resort hotel provides only soap and towels in its rooms. Please bring other required toiletries, or be prepared to buy them in the convenience store.</p> <p>Medical facilities including a pharmacy and clinic are available in the Geumgangsan resort area. In case of serious emergency patients can be taken by ambulance back to a hospital in South Korea.</p> <p>In the event of an emergency, guests at the hotel can be contacted at phone + 850 0081 – 87; fax + 850 0088 however if you have difficulty with International Direct Dialing to North Korea then you can contact the Anglican Provincial Office in Seoul at phone +82 2 738 8952; fax +82 2 737 4210 and ask them to call the hotel.</p> <p>If calling the hotel in Geumgangsan from South Korea, the full number, including access code is: phone: 008 850 0081 – 87; fax: 008 850 0088</p>
Jijihyang Hotel	<p>Our accommodation during the forum will be in the Jijihyang Hotel, Paju Book City, Paju. (www.jijihyang.org – website in Korean only). Its location is about 50km north west of Seoul, not far south of the DMZ. The hotel is situated in a newly constructed publishing complex (www.pajubookcity.org) with notable architectural and design features. It’s a beautiful environment for walking around but there are no other facilities near the hotel such as stores or restaurants and public transport is limited.</p> <p>Since it is in a “book city” the hotel rooms are supplied with books (probably only in Korean) but not television.</p> <p>Internet facilities are available at the hotel (network outlet in each room and wireless network in the lobby). There will be a business centre for forum participants including computers, telephone, fax and photocopier facilities.</p>
Expenses	<p>We will contact each participant individually about which charges you or the TOPIK conference are responsible for. However for everyone, items such as souvenirs, extra food or drink from convenience stores or drinks from the hotel bar are your own responsibility.</p>

Dress and weather	<p>The weather in Korea in November is typically bright, dry and cold, sometimes dropping below zero at night in more northerly parts. Please bring long sleeve shirts and an overcoat or warm jacket for going outside. Korean houses are generally well heated inside. It is also advisable to have some head gear and warm foot wear.</p> <p>The Geumgangsán tour will include sightseeing and other outdoor visiting for which you will need some form of sports shoe and other suitable clothing.</p> <p>As there will be various dinners and other ceremonies during the Conference, please prepare some appropriate clothes for formal occasions.</p>
Name cards	<p>The giving and receiving of name cards is important to Koreans. We suggest you bring an adequate supply of your own.</p>
Departure	<p>Our team members will take you to the airport for your departure on the 20th or 21st.</p>
Contact people in Korea	<p><i>TOPIK Conference Main Co-ordinator</i> The Rev'd Joachim H. Kim mobile phone +82 17 753 9140 (from overseas). 017 753 9140 (inside Korea)</p> <p><i>International Communications Team members:</i></p> <p>Brother Christopher John SSF mobile phone 019 287 4662 (inside Korea)</p> <p>The Rev'd Paul Mooney mobile phone 010 7556 0785 (inside Korea)</p> <p><i>TOPIK Office Address:</i> 3 Jeong-dong, Jung-gu, Seoul 100-120, Republic of Korea phone +82 2 738 8952; fax +82 2 737 4210 (from overseas) phone (02) 738 8952; fax (02) 737 4210 (inside Korea)</p>

Revised: 23 October 2007