



## IFLRY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING Manila, Philippines

*Organized by the International Federation of Liberal Youth (IFLRY),  
Hosted by the Kabataang Liberal ng Pilipinas (KALUPI)  
in cooperation with the  
Liberal Party of the Philippines (LP) and the Young Liberals and Democrats of  
Asia (YLDA)*

### PRACTICAL INFORMATION

#### **Overview of the Program**

Please check the program section of our EC blog: [www.iflrymanila.blogspot.com](http://www.iflrymanila.blogspot.com)

#### **Arrivals**

Upon arrival at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport, please proceed at the arrival area where you could find metered airport taxis (*Best Ride Taxis*). Metered airport taxis will charge no more than 250 PHP (4€/6US\$)(our approximation).

*Please kindly print the annex to this document containing the address and schematic map and show this to the taxi driver and/or dispatcher at the airport for direction.*

Please kindly send your flight itinerary to us no later than **July 15, 2008** to facilitate your room assignments.

#### **Accommodations**

All EC delegates will stay on a twin sharing rooms at the Asian Institute of Management (AIM) Conference Center- Manila. For more hotel information, please visit the following website: <http://www.accm.aim.edu.ph> (Asian Institute of Management Conference Center website). The address and contact details of the conference venue are as follows:

#### **The AIM Conference Center Manila**

Benavidez corner Transierra St., Legaspi Village  
Makati City 1260  
Metro Manila, Philippines  
Tel: +63 (2) 750-1010  
Fax: +63 (2) 750-4459 / 751-7160  
E-mail; [accm@aim.edu.ph](mailto:accm@aim.edu.ph)



Please inform us on or before **July 15** should you wish to stay for extra night/s before and/or after the conference period. The conference center/resort requires that each guest presents a credit card prior to check-in for incidental expenses. If this would be a problem, please inform the IFLRY-KALIPI secretariat so that we can, in exceptional cases, make the necessary arrangements with the conference center/resort.

Please note that the KALIPI will cover only the basic room charge which includes breakfast. Any additional costs, e.g. telephone calls, laundry, mini-bar and room service will be at your own personal expense.

### **Dietary and Disability Requirements**

Please advise the IFLRY-KALIPI Secretariat if you have any special dietary or disability requirements.

### **Other Matters**

1. Attire is smart casual for Executive Committee meeting dates.
2. The official language of the workshop is English.
3. Please bring umbrella as the rainy season has already started.

For further information or inquiries, please contact

**Mr. Jan-Argy Y. Tolentino**

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Secretary General, KALIPI/ Young Liberal and Democrats of Asia*  
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## AIM Conference Center-Manila







## Fast Facts

### Entry Regulations

A valid passport is required for entry to the Philippines. Generally, foreign visitors from countries with diplomatic relations with the Philippines are allowed to enter the country without visas and may stay for 21 days provided their passports are valid for at least 6 months and they hold return tickets. When staying for more than 21 days, a Tourist Visa, which is valid for 59 days, is necessary. Permits and visas can be obtained from Philippine Embassies and Consulates.

The following are allowed to enter the country without a visa for a stay not exceeding seven (7) days: holders of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR) passports, holders of British National Overseas (BNO) passports, holders of Portuguese passports issued in Macau and holders of Macau Special Administrative Region (SAR) passports.

*Further inquiries may be addressed to the Visa Division (tel. nos. (632) 834 3707 / (632) 834 3707 (632) 834 4810, Department of Foreign Affairs or log on to [www.dfa.gov.ph/consular/visa.htm](http://www.dfa.gov.ph/consular/visa.htm).*

### Health Regulations

The Philippines is fortunate to be free from epidemics. The country remains free from bird flu and foot-and-mouth diseases.

A certificate of vaccination against yellow fever is required for travelers coming from an infected area.

### Medical Facilities

Hospitals in the country are manned by highly skilled and competent doctors and nurses and equipped with modern facilities. The unique Filipino brand of caring and compassion makes the Philippines' medical services at par with the best of the world.

The country boasts of a wide variety of medical healthcare groups to choose from. Its healthcare system is largely patterned after the American model. There are private as well as government

run medical facilities, hospitals and clinics all over the country. Hotels and resorts provide medical assistance as well. Towns and cities have health centers that provide emergency medical attention.

### Customs Regulations

To facilitate customs examination, visitors are advised to fill in the Baggage and Currency Declaration Form before disembarking. Visitors are allowed to bring in the following items duty-free: reasonable quantity of clothes and jewelry; two bottles of wine or liquor of not more than one liter each; and, 400 sticks of cigarettes or two tins of tobacco.

### Foreign Exchange Regulations

Visitors carrying more than US\$3,000 are requested to declare the amount at the Central Bank of the Philippines counter at the customs area. Foreign currency taken out upon departure must not exceed the amount brought in. Keep all exchange receipts for record purposes. Departing passengers may not bring out more than P1,000 in local currency.



### Airports and Facilities

The Philippines has four (4) international airports: the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) in Manila, Diosdado Macapagal International Airport (DMIA) in Angeles City, Mactan-Cebu International Airport in Lapu-Lapu City, Cebu and the Francisco Bangoy International Airport in Davao City.

The NAIA is the main international gateway of the country. It is seven (7) kilometers south of Manila and southwest of Makati City's Central Business



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## Fast Facts

District. It has three (3) terminals that serve Manila and its surrounding metropolitan area. Manila is also served by the Manila Domestic Airport which is one kilometer from the NAIA.

DMIA, also called Clark International Airport, is the main airport serving the immediate vicinity of the Clark Special Economic Zone and the general area of Angeles City.

The Mactan-Cebu International Airport serves as the southern hub of the air transportation system of the country. The airport is ideally and strategically located that travel time is only 3-4 hours to 14 cities in Asia Pacific.

The Francisco Bangoy International Airport, also called Davao International Airport, is the main airport serving Davao City. It is the busiest airport in the Mindanao region and is the only international airport in Mindanao serving actual international flights on a regular basis.

These international airports have adequate traveler facilities: duty-free shopping centers, souvenir shops, tourist information counters, hotel and travel agency representatives and car rental services. The NAIA has banks, postal service, a medical clinic, a pharmacy, chapels, salon, sauna and massage services.

### Airport Transport

Taxis/Car Rental: The following accredited coupon taxis/limousine services are available at NAIA:

- Airport Shuttle Service Inc.
- Alamo Transport Leasing Services Inc.
- Classic Shipping Corporation
- G&S Transport Corporation
- Jorivim General Merchandise Transport
- MIA Transport Service Cooperative
- NAIA Transport Services Cooperative Inc.
- New Horizon Transport Service Inc.
- Nissan Car Lease Phils., Inc.
- Pacific Blue Transport Services
- People's Network Transport
- Sunshine Transportation Inc.

Metered taxis and rent-a-cars are readily available at the airport (Angeles, Cebu and Davao) to the city proper.

Hotel Transfers: Hotel transport can be arranged with hotel representatives at designated counters at the arrival lobby of the airport.

### Terminal Fee/Departure Tax

Airport fees of P750 (about US\$11) for international flights and P100-200 for domestic flights (paid in Philippine pesos only) will be charged upon departure.



NAIA Terminal 3





## Climate

The first half of the year, from January to May, is the best time to visit the country. November to February is cool, while March to May is hot and dry. June to October is rainy, with the months between July to September characterized by typhoons. Average temperature is 78 degrees F/ 25 degrees C to 90 degrees F/32 degrees C; average humidity is 77%. Some parts of the country, such as Cebu, are warm and comfortable in all seasons and can be visited throughout the year.

*For up-to-date weather information, visit the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) website: [www.pagasa.dost.gov.ph](http://www.pagasa.dost.gov.ph) or call PAGASA 24-hour hotline (632) 433 8526.*

## Clothing

Light clothes, preferably cottons, are advisable. Jackets or sweaters are needed in upland areas like the mountain city of Baguio. Casual wear is the rule although formal parties may require a suit or Barong Tagalog for men and a dressy frock for ladies.

When visiting churches and mosques, it is well to remember that shorts or provocative dresses will be inappropriate.

Visitors are also advised to bring walking shoes, sunglasses, sunblock cream, insect repellent and a wide brimmed hat.

## Time

The Philippines is eight (8) hours ahead of the Greenwich Mean Time (GMT).

## Language

The two official languages are Filipino and English. Filipino, which is based on Tagalog, is the national language. English is widely used and is the medium of instruction in higher education. It is also the dominant language in business, government, the legal system, medicine, the sciences and education. A large percentage of the media such as television, newspapers, and entertainment are also in English.

Eight (8) major dialects are spoken by majority of the Filipinos: Tagalog, Cebuano, Ilocano, Hiligaynon, Ilonggo, Bicol, Waray, Pampango and Pangasinense.

## Government

The Philippines has a democratic republic type of government.

## Religion

Majority of Filipinos (approximately 83%) are Catholic; about 5% are Moslems. The rest are made up of smaller Christian denominations.



## Currency and Credit Cards

Unit of currency is the Philippine peso, divided into 100 centavos. Bills are in: 20, 50, 100, 200, 500, and 1000 pesos. Coins come in 5, 10, 25 centavo and 1, 5, 10 peso denominations.

Next to the peso, the US dollar enjoys wide acceptance. Most foreign currencies can be easily exchanged at banks, hotels and authorized foreign exchange dealers. Remember to transact only with banks and licensed foreign exchange dealers. Always keep receipts of transactions.

*For a complete list of registered foreign exchange dealers / money changers by the Central Bank of the Philippines, log on to [www.bsp.gov.ph/banking/FXDMCRA\\_registry.pdf](http://www.bsp.gov.ph/banking/FXDMCRA_registry.pdf).*

International credit cards such as Visa, Diners Club, Mastercard, American Express Card and JCB are accepted in major establishments. It is advisable to use credit cards for major expenses.



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## Fast Facts

### Business and Banking Hours

Private and government offices are open either from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. or from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Mondays to Fridays. Some private companies hold office on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Most shopping malls, department stores and supermarkets are open from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. daily. There are 24-hour convenience stores and drugstores. Banks are open from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Mondays to Fridays, with automated teller machines (ATM) operating 24 hours.



Central Bank of the Philippines

### Communication Facilities

The international access code for the Philippines is +63. The outgoing code is 00 followed by the relevant country code. Major towns, cities and popular tourist spots are covered by GSM 900 and 1800 mobile networks. There are also providers that offer International Roaming. Phone units are rented in malls at a reasonable price. Internet connections are available in hotels, Internet cafés and major resorts all over the country.

### Internet Facilities

Internet facilities are available in most hotels and resorts and in several Internet or cyber cafes all over the country.

### Drinking Water

Generally, tap water is not suitable for drinking in some areas. It is advisable to either buy mineral water or boil tap water prior to drinking.

### Driving License

An international driving license is valid for up to three months.

### Electrical Current

Electrical current is 220 volts, 60 Hz. Two-pin flat blade attachments and two-pin round plugs are used. A transformer is necessary for appliances with electrical current of 110 volts.

### Tipping

In general, tipping is expected for many services. The standard practice is 10% of the total bill. However, most hotels and restaurants include a 10% service charge, making additional tipping optional.

### Tourist Information

The Department of Tourism (DOT) has a 24-hour Tourist Assistance Unit located at T.M. Kalaw Street, Rizal Park, Manila. It can be reached at 524 1728 / 524 1660.



Department of Tourism Building

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## Important Telephone Numbers

DOT Information Center (24 hours):  
524 2384 / 525-2000

DOT – NAIA Office:  
832 2964

DOT – Tourist Assistance Unit:  
524 1660 / 524 1728

NAIA Airport Security Center:  
877 1727 / 877 1109 loc. 3437

Philippine Airlines – Manila:  
818 0111 / 855 8888 / 855 7888

## Emergency Numbers

Philippine National Police (PNP)  
Public Information Office:  
725 5115

PNP 24-hour Hotline:  
722 2353 / 722 9587

Patrol 117:  
117

Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA):  
136

Association of Volunteer Fire Chiefs & Firefighters  
of the Philippines:  
160-16

Civil Defense Operation Center:  
911 5061

## Public Holidays

January 1  
New Year's Day

February 25  
EDSA Revolution Day

April 9  
Araw ng Kagitingan (Day of Valor)

May 1  
Labor Day

June 12  
Independence Day

Last Sunday of August  
National Heroes Day

Movable  
Eid-ul-Fitr (end of the month of fasting)

November 1  
All Saints Day

November 30  
Bonifacio Day

December 25  
Christmas Day

December 30  
Rizal Day

During the Catholic observance of Holy Week (Lenten season), Maundy Thursday and Good Friday are declared as holidays.



Independence Day Celebration



New Year's Eve Celebration