



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



International Treaty
on Plant Genetic Resources
for Food and Agriculture



Second Global Symposium on Farmers' Rights

Farmers' Rights: Honouring Heritage, Preserving Biodiversity, and Cultivating Food Security for a Shared Future

16 -19 September 2025

Conrad Manila Hotel

Pasay City, Metro Manila, Philippines

NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS

I. SYMPOSIUM VENUE AND DATE

1. The Second Global Symposium on Farmers' Rights will be hosted by the Government of the Philippines and will convene in the Conrad Manila Hotel, Seaside Boulevard, Coral Way, Pasay City, 1300 Metro Manila, the Philippines. It is 6 km from Manila International Airport (also known as Ninoy Aquino International Airport, NAIA), a short 15-minute drive away.
2. The Symposium will take place from 16 to 19 September 2025. The last day will be dedicated to a field visit.

II. REGISTRATION AND COLLECTION OF SYMPOSIUM BADGES

3. On-site registration for the Symposium will start on Tuesday, 16 September at 08.00 at the Conrad Hotel and will continue for the duration of the Symposium.
4. International participants need to bring a valid identification document (passport or other type of official identification card with a photograph) with them to collect their badges.

III. COMMUNICATION WITH THE SECRETARIAT AND UPDATES

5. All correspondence or requests for information related to the Symposium should be addressed to the Secretariat, e-mail: PGRFA-Treaty@fao.org.
6. Participants from outside the Philippines, for logistics matters, please contact:
Inma Roda Martin: Inma.RodaMartin@fao.org
Natalie Nicora: Natalie.Nicora@fao.org
Fabrice Mongin: Fabrice.Mongin@fao.org
7. Participants from within the Philippines, for logistics matters, please contact:
NSIC Secretariat, Bureau of Plant Industry
Email address: nsic@buplant.da.gov.ph
8. The Secretariat of the International Treaty will, when necessary, provide regular updates to the information contained in this note through the meeting website at: <https://www.fao.org/plant-treaty/meetings/meetings-detail/en/c/1738260/>

IV. DISPLAY OF PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS

9. A number of tables will be available outside the Plenary Hall to display promotional materials. For more information, please contact the International Treaty Secretariat at PGRFATreaty@fao.org.

V. SYMPOSIUM

10. The Symposium will open on Tuesday, 16 September 2025 at 9.00 and conclude on Thursday, 18 September at 17:00.
11. There will be two sessions per day: a morning session from 09.00 to 12.00 and an afternoon session from 14.00 to 17.00, with a lunch break from 12.00 to 14.00.
12. The Provisional Programme of the Symposium is available on the International Treaty's website at: <https://www.fao.org/plant-treaty/meetings/meetings-detail/en/c/1738260/>
13. The Symposium will be conducted in English with simultaneous interpretation in French and Spanish.
14. On Friday, 19 September, the Bureau of Plant Industry has kindly organized a Field Visit to the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), University of the Philippines at Los Baños National Plant Genetic Resources Laboratory, and the BPI- Los Baños Field Genebank. Further details will be provided at a later stage.

VI. VISAS

15. Obtaining a visa to enter the Philippines to attend the Symposium is the responsibility of individual participants.

16. The Philippines grants visa-free entry to nationals of countries with which it has established visa waiver agreements. For details regarding current visa policies and accommodations, please refer to the VISA Policy and Accommodation document issued in March 2025, available at:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/136HUeRvaB4wixXuZK6h7mZVV2D8bQfJy/view>.

17. Participants that require a visa are advised to lodge their visa applications and the required documentation available at: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/15HOrjN7aslvEBxY4oBG0DBuI5U1QXgmC/view>) at the nearest Philippine Embassy or Consulate. **Please note this item is particularly important as visas upon arrival will not be issued.**

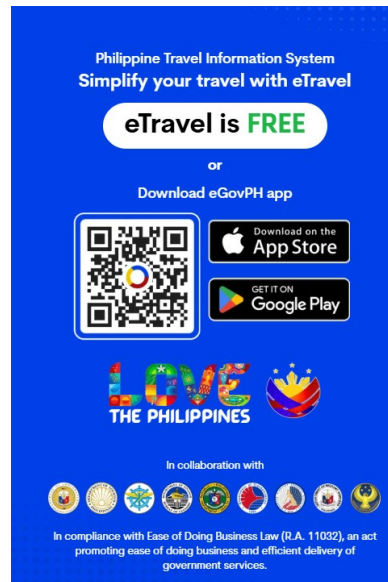
18. All foreign participants entering the Philippines must have a passport that is valid for a minimum period of 6 months from the date of entry into the Philippines.

VII. PRE-DEPARTURE REQUIREMENTS

19. **All travelers entering or leaving the Philippines must register with the eTravel platform (<https://etravel.gov.ph/>) or use the eGovPH mobile app (for iOS and Android).** Registration is free and can be completed up to 72 hours before arrival or departure. The form includes health, customs, and currency declarations. **Save or screenshot your QR code, as most airlines require it at check-in.**

20. The following are required in registering in the eTravel System:

- Active email address to create an account on the eTravel website
- Passport for personal information
- Flight information
- Hotel name and address to stay while in the Philippines



VIII. ARRIVAL IN THE PHILIPPINES

21. Personnel of the Public Assistance Office (PAO) under the New NAIA Infra Corp., which manages the Ninoy Aquino International Airport, will be available to receive and assist arriving participants on September 12, 13, and 15, 2025, at Terminals 1 and 3.

22. The PAO personnel will be waiting at the NAIA facility immediately after the disembarkation area. For easier recognition, they will carry a placard bearing the words “**2nd Global Symposium on Farmers’ Rights Participants.**” They will guide the guests to the designated Bureau of Immigration counters, specifically the **ASEAN and Special Assistance (SA) Counters**, for expedited processing.

23. After passing through the immigration counters, the PAO personnel will guide the guests to the baggage claim area to collect their checked-in luggage. Once they have cleared the Bureau of Customs’ Baggage Declaration Area, the guests will be escorted to the Arrival Lobby, where the ushers and usherettes of the Bureau of Plant Industry will be waiting. From there, they will accompany the guests to the designated airport parking area, where service vehicles will be ready to transport them to their respective hotels.

24. In case the arriving guests are unable to locate the PAO personnel upon disembarkation, they may contact the following BPI Plant Quarantine Officers stationed at the airport for assistance:

Date	Terminal 1	Terminal 3
September 12, 2025	Pearly Grace C. Frias / Jan Gerald L. Lee	Manuel Jonas A. Atienza
September 13, 2025	Pearly Grace C. Frias / Jan Gerald L. Lee	Manuel Jonas A. Atienza
September 14, 2025	Celeste L. Barrios / Noel Garcia	Joemer A. Lisbo
September 15, 2025	Diana C. Cariño / Ma. Princess O. Onoya	Hazel R. Medenceles

- Terminal 1 Hotline: +639708101507
- Terminal 3 Hotline: +639704884282

25. In case of emergency: please contact the following BPI Staff through their phone numbers:

Name	Phone Number	Name	Phone Number
Mr Paul Ryan O. Alcantara	+639189515661	Ms Paula R. Del Rosario	+639656788349
Ms Roxanne C. Siuagan	+639277776498	Mr Mark Cristopher Valdez	+639297045152
Ms Lovely D. Corilla	+639300016383	Mr John Ezequiel Gone	+6399224093572
Mr Krisjan F. Rodelas	+639939626763	Ms Diana SJ Tabudlong	+639178610286

IX. ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation and DSA for FAO-sponsored participants

26. The cost of participation of a limited number of designated participants will be supported by the Secretariat of the International Treaty. Accommodation for funded participants will be booked and directly paid for by the Secretariat of the International Treaty. The name of the hotel and other relevant details will be communicated to the concerned participants in due course.

27. Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA) is to be collected, if not delivered to relevant bank accounts, at the FAO office in the home country, unless otherwise indicated. The concerned participants will need to show a government-issued photo identification, such as the national passport, to receive the allocated DSA.

Accommodation for self-funded participants

28. Participants who are self-funded or have independent sponsors are encouraged to secure accommodation either near the Symposium venue or within a 5 km radius. A list of nearby hotels and their respective websites and

proximity to the venue can be found in Appendix A of this information note.

X. INTERNET ACCESS

29. WiFi is available in the Symposium venue, hotels, and the airport.

XI. TRANSPORTATION AND TAXIS

Transport from and to the airport:

30. Transport from and to the airport can be provided by the host institution to the participants between the Manila International Airport and the hotel on their arrival (12th, 13th and 15th September) and departure (19th and 20th September). Participants are requested to provide their flight details to the Secretariat of the International Treaty, as soon as possible.

31. Participants can also make their own transportation arrangements from Manila International Airport to their respective hotels. There are multiple transport options going in and out of the airport.

- i. **GRAB:** The most convenient way to book a car service is via the Grab App. Fares are displayed before booking. Note that tolls and surcharges are excluded. Your ride can be tracked, and trip history can be traced. Payment options are cash or debit/credit card.

Download the app on your smartphone, input payment details, and book a car. Grab cars are fairly available 24/7, but waiting times tend to increase during rush hours (6 to 10 am, and 5 to 9 pm).

Payment options include cash or debit/credit card via the App. Download the App for [iOS](#) and [Android](#).

- ii. **TAXI:**

- **AIRPORT TAXI:** Taxi stands and dispatchers are situated at the NAIA terminal arrival area. Coupon airport taxis (blue-marked white taxi) are dispatched by airport personnel and charged at a fixed price depending on destination. Note that airport taxis is recommended for safety reasons.
- **REGULAR TAXI:** Regular white metered taxis are also available at the airport terminal exits and have a fixed flag-down rate and per-kilometer fee.

32. Taxi fare to the hotel (Conrad Manila Hotel Pasay) could be around Php150 to Php500 (\$3 to \$11 USD) varying widely depending on the chosen Taxi type, the terminal of your arrival as your point of origin and the traffic condition, especially for metered taxis.

33. To ensure your safety and to avoid being scammed with unreasonably high fare charges, please refrain from transacting with persons offering taxi services as you exit the Terminal building or as you walk around, even if they claim they are accredited by the airport authorities.

XII. SAFETY

34. While Pasay City is generally safe, participants should stay alert, guard against theft or scams, carry minimal cash, and keep valuables secure. The Bureau of Plant Industry has coordinated with local authorities to increase police presence within a 5 km radius of the Symposium venue for added security.

XIII. TRAVEL AGENCY

35. Participants whose travel was arranged by the Secretariat of the International Treaty may contact Carlson Wagonlit Travel agency. The emergency line out of office hours is +39 06 82075812 and via email faotravel.it@contactcwt.com. Further information is available at: <https://help.mycwt.com/en/articles/1416580-getting-travel-assistance>.

XIV. USEFUL INFORMATION ABOUT THE PHILIPPINES

About Metro Manila

36. The National Capital Region, also referred to as Metro Manila, serves as the political, economic, and educational hub of the Philippines. It is the country's smallest region by land area but has the highest population density, with more than 13 million residents. Pasay City, where the venue is located, is one of the highly urbanized cities in Metro Manila. It has a strategic location along Manila Bay and contains several business districts, shopping centers, and entertainment hubs that support its economic activity.

Language

37. The Philippines has two official languages: Filipino and English. English is widely used.

Time Zone

38. The local time in the Philippines is GMT +8 hours. The country has only one time zone (PHT), which is 8 hours ahead of Coordinated Universal Time (UTC).

Weather

39. The Philippines experiences a tropical maritime climate. In September, temperatures typically range from 25 to 31 degrees Celsius, with average humidity at 77%. September is a rainy season in the country, so please bring an umbrella. For weather updates, refer to the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) website at <https://www.pagasa.dost.gov.ph>.

Currency

40. The local currency in the Philippines is the Philippine Peso (sign: ₱; code: PHP). The current exchange rate for the US Dollar (USD) is 1 USD = PHP 57.45

41. Foreign currency may be exchanged at hotels and in most of the big malls/department stores, banks (requires a passport for changing currency), authorized money changing shops and at the Manila International Airports. Most department stores, hotels and restaurants accept major credit cards including American Express, Visas, and MasterCard but local currency will be needed for daily expenses such as transport and purchasing small items.

Electrical power plug/socket

42. The supply voltage in the Philippines is 220 volts. 110 volts alternating current is also used in some major hotels. If the appliance is single voltage rated, it will need to operate on the same voltage as the supply voltage of the country (e.g. 220 volts). The power plugs and sockets are primarily type A. Some major hotels have Types B and C as well. See the pictures below. For your safety, please check the respective ratings of your devices, and for added convenience, it is advisable to bring an extra adaptor (preferably universal type) to ensure compatibility of your devices with the power outlets available.



**LIST OF HOTELS WITHIN A 5-KILOMETER RADIUS OF THE OFFICIAL VENUE,
THE CONRAD MANILA HOTEL**

NOTE: The room rates provided are estimates and may fluctuate based on the booking date and length of stay.

4-Star Hotels

1. GOLDEN PHOENIX HOTEL MANILA

<https://www.goldenphoenixhotelmanila.com/contact-us.html>

email: reservations@goldenphoenixhotelmanila.com

Telephone: 8683-2888

➤ Proximity to Conrad Hotel
900 m, 12 min on foot or 4 min by car

2. MILLENIUM HERITAGE HOTEL MANILA

<https://www.millenniumhotels.com/en/manila/the-heritage-hotel-manila/?cid=gplaces-the-heritage-hotel-manila>

email:

Telephone: 8854 8888

➤ Room Rates

Deluxe Room – ₱3,800

Millennium Club Room – ₱6,840

Junior Suite – ₱9,250

Executive Suite – ₱10,250

➤ Proximity to Conrad Hotel
2.6 km, 11 min by car (via Grab or Metered Taxi)

3. CITADINES BAY CITY MANILA

<https://www.discoverasr.com/en/citadines/philippines/citadines-bay-city-manila>

email: frontoffice.cbcm@the-ascott.com

Telephone: 8866 8100

➤ Proximity to Conrad Hotel
1.6 km, 8 min by car (via Grab or Metered Taxi)

4. SEDA MANILA BAY PARAÑAQUE

<https://www.sedahotels.com/hotel/view/2/seda-manila-bay-paranaque>

email: manilabay@sedahotels.com

Telephone: 5304 8888

➤ Proximity to Conrad Hotel
2.6 km, 11 min by car (via Grab or Metered Taxi)

3-Star Hotels

1. MICROTEL BY WYNDHAM MALL OF ASIA

<https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/microtel/manila-philippines/microtel-by-wyndham-manila-mall-of-asia/overview?CID=LC:5b3ss9kd80xe5ox:32367&iata=00093796>

email: mallofasia@microtel.ph (8403 3333)

Proximity to Conrad Hotel

750 m, 4 min by car (via Grab or Metered Taxi)

2. TRYP BY WYNDHAM MALL OF ASIA ARENA

<https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/tryp/manila-philippines/tryp-by-wyndham-mall-of-asia-manila/overview>

email:

➤ Room Rates

2 Queen Beds, Premium Cityscape Room – ₱7,500

2 Queen Beds, Premium Bayside Room – ₱8,000

1 Queen and 1 Bunk Bed, Family Room – ₱12,200

1 King Bed, Sunset Suite – ₱13,300

1 Queen 1 Bunk Bed, Family Loft, Bay View – ₱16,400

➤ Proximity to Conrad Hotel

1.8 km, 6 min by car (via Grab or Metered Taxi)

3. 88 COURTYARD HOTEL

<https://88courtyardhotel.com.ph/#2>

email: reservation@88courtyardhotel.com.ph

Telephone: 8558-0188

➤ Room Rates

➤ Proximity to Conrad Hotel

2.5 km, 10 min by car (via Grab or Metered Taxi)

4. BAY PRIME HOTEL

<https://bayprimehotel.com/>

Telephone: 0917 171 1177 / 0918 117 1177

➤ Proximity to Conrad Hotel

2.2 km, 9 min by car (via Grab or Metered Taxi)

5. SEQUOIA HOTEL

<https://sequoiamanilabay.com/>

email: fo.sequoiamanila@gmail.com

Telephone: 8260-1720 / 8367-9176

➤ Room Rates

Deluxe Twin – ₱5,800

Deluxe King – ₱5,800

Deluxe Queen – ₱6,500

➤ Proximity to Conrad Hotel

2.3 km, 10 min by car (via Grab or Metered Taxi)