



## **Office of Laity and Family**

### **Federation of Asian Bishop's Conferences**

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June 7, 2012

Dear Participants of AsIPA General Assembly VI

Greetings of peace! Here is very important information about visa, exposure and other matters. Kindly have a deeper look of this information. You will receive more details such as preparation of country report and some tips on your trip to Sri Lanka etc., in the following information fliers.

In the meantime we wish you a very peaceful and safe preparation for joining the assembly. We invite you to pray for a fruitful assembly. Thank you.

With cordial best regards,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

**Bibiana Joo-hyun Ro**

Executive Secretary

FABC-OLF-AsIPA (BEC) Desk

**Fr. Eric C. Fernando**

Sri Lanka National Director

for Small Christian Communities

# Information **GA- 6** Sri Lanka

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No. 1

**ASIPA GENENRAL ASSEMBLY VI**  
Chintana Centre, Nainamadama, Sri Lanka,  
October 18 -24, 2012

## 1. VISA

- This information is very important for obtaining Visa to enter into Sri Lanka and to participate in the Assembly. **Without proper Visa no one will be allowed** to participate in the Assembly. The Government of Sri Lanka has offered us many facilities to participate in the Assembly without much complications of Visa. Kindly cooperate with us to process your Visa on time.
- Once we get **all the Passport Information of all the participants on the application form from AsIPA Desk** we will submit them to the **Sri Lanka Immigration**. (Delay in sending the information will affect the others too. So, without **delay send your application form to AsIPA Desk by June 10<sup>th</sup>**.)
- After the processing, Sri Lanka Immigration will provide each one a **Document**. After receiving the Personal Documents of each Participant, we will send the **scanned Document** to each one by e-mail. You have to take a print out of that Document and **bring it with you when you arrive** in Colombo.
- This is an Important Document. Showing this document at the Airport Immigration, you will be **issued the necessary Visa** for the participation in the Assembly. (Please don't apply for Tourist Visa, without going through this process. With Tourist Visa, no one will be allowed to participate in the Assembly.) Besides **no Visa Fee** will be charged for the participants. (Tourist Visa – US \$ 20 minimum)
- This Document will be **sufficient for check-in** at the departing Airport and **boarding** in the flight.
- There will be a **AsIPA HELP DESK at the arrival area** and the special counter for AsIPA Participants at the Airport Immigration.

## 2. Exposures

- **During the Assembly** one day (**October 21<sup>th</sup>** Sunday) is allocated for exposure and we will visit the SCCs in Chilaw, Kurunegala dioceses and Archdiocese of Colombo (Organized by the Hosting Diocese).
- We are offering **Extra Exposures to SCCs in different dioceses** (Jaffna, Mannar, Trinco/Batticaloa, Kandy etc.) if requested by the participants may be arranged after the Assembly, i.e. **from October 26<sup>th</sup>** onwards. It is an opportunity to see the SCCs in different places and its processes. Preference of participants such as places they wish to visit, number of days etc. to be included in **the PERSONAL REQUEST FORM**. For this Extra Exposure, the participants have to take care of all the expenses of the exposure.

## 3. Excursion (optional)

- Government organized and sponsored **Excursion**, one day trip, on **October 25<sup>th</sup>**, to the North, after the Closing of the Assembly on the 24<sup>th</sup>. They will take us by a special luxury bus to the North. We will come back to the venue (departure place) by late night on 25<sup>th</sup>. In that case, you can fly back to your country only on October 26<sup>th</sup>.

If you want to stay overnight there, we can arrange your accommodation for October 25<sup>th</sup> night. But you have to pay for the stay.

All those like to use this opportunity and visit North (former war zone) must **indicate it in the PERSONAL REQUEST FORM** attached.

## 4. Set of questions are for the organizational purposes.

- For Customs Clearance purposes specify clearly if you are bringing with you **Equipment for Translation** to be used at the Assembly and taken back. Kindly inform us early. It will avoid problems in the Sri Lanka Customs. We will get prior permission for it.
- We will be also producing a **Liturgy Guide book** with many songs that could be sung during the Eucharistic celebration and prayers. Kindly send us **before August the Hymns you have in your language**. Kindly type and send the hymn in your script and the English transliteration also. You can send one or two hymns in your language. Don't forget to include the fonts for printing. Also, send it by a PDF File too.

## 5. Information for booking your flight

- **Arrivals** - Participants are recommended to arrive by noon on October 18<sup>th</sup>.
- **Departures** - The assembly ends with closing Mass on October 24<sup>th</sup> in joining Sri Lanka national SCCs rally followed by lunch at 13:00. You may depart in the afternoon, after 13:00, on October 24<sup>th</sup>. Those who will join Excursion or Extra Exposure after the Assembly can arrange your departures according to your own schedule.

Thank you so much for your attention and cooperation. Please see **the PERSONAL REQUEST FORM attached and send it to the local organizers in Sri Lanka**.

# AsIPA GENENRAL ASSEMBLY VI

Chintana Centre, Nainamadama, Sri Lanka, October 18 -24, 2012

## PERSONAL REQUEST FORM

Kindly fill these details and **send to the local organizers in Sri Lanka by e-mail till July 25, 2012.** Please tick where appropriate or put a circle around your preferred answer. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate contact **the local organizers.**

**Contact Person and Send to: Ms. Rohini Mendis, Secretary, Organizing Committee in Sri Lanka**  
Email: [asipaga6@gmail.com](mailto:asipaga6@gmail.com) Fax: 94-312225664  
Office Telephone: 94-11-4932321 Mobile: 94-722333305  
Address: GA6 Office, C/o. AsIPA National Secretariat, No.19, Balcombe Place, Colombo 8, Sri Lanka

### **PART I**

Family Name (as shown in the Passport): \_\_\_\_\_

Given Name (as shown in the Passport): \_\_\_\_\_

I am laity ( ) / religious sister ( ) / priest ( ) / (arch) bishop ( )

Diocese: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail : \_\_\_\_\_

### **PART II**

- i. The Government is offering a One Day Trip (Free Excursion) to the North (Former war zone) on October 25<sup>th</sup>. Would you like to participate on it?

Yes ( ) / No ( )

**If Yes:** Only One Day Trip on October 25<sup>th</sup> ( )

Stay overnight there and leave on October 26<sup>th</sup> ( )

- ii. Are you interested in participating in Extra Exposure to SCCs in different dioceses after the Assembly from October 26<sup>th</sup> onwards?

Yes ( ) / No ( )

**If Yes:** After the Assembly (Date you wish: from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_)

Any preferred Diocese: Jaffna ( ), Mannar ( ), Trinco/Batticaloa ( ), Kandy ( ),

Other dioceses ( )

- iii. Are you brining along with you any Communication Equipment such as Translation equipment? (\*On behalf of your country, one person can answer it.)

Yes ( ) / No ( ) / A representative of team (country) will inform it ( )

**If Yes:** the total number of units of a receiver - ( ) units