Hello Youth Advocates!

This is the official Event Information Package of the 5th SEAYN Annual meeting that will be held in Chair’s country-Philippines with meaningful youth action; Youth Empowerment in community (YEC) by using the newly developed YEC module in Manila, Philippines this coming September 4-8, 2017.

The South East Asia Youth Network (SEAYN), a sub-network to APYN has a special characteristic as a youth network by ensuring equal participation of NS staff and Youth leaders in it. By nominating their NS youth staffs and youth leaders (volunteers) to be members of the SEAYN, each NSs in the SEA region follows the SEAYN terms of reference which its annual meeting will be the main decision-making body hosted by the Chair’s NS, officially endorsed by the Southeast Asia Leadership Meeting held in Singapore in March 2014.

IFRC Bangkok office has developed a YEC module designed for Youth volunteers’ meaningful action in communities. This module is the youth-led programme aiming to inspire a positive change of mindset, attitude and behaviour of community/school by innovative solutions to the social, cultural, economic and environmental challenges in the communities across the country and finally to strengthen the bonds between peers, community people and Red Cross Society.

This module has been tested in several NSs in Southeast Asia as pilots. Especially Cambodia, Lao and Vietnam are already implementing this module and several NS practitioners and IFRC staff have provided technical support to its content and process. This module will be the 2nd module as the SEAYN initiative following the YSS module in 2016. This will be a benchmark for the SEAYN since it can equip with two modules designed for youth friendly programme in a powerful way to change their communities and educational centres into peaceful and resilient ones.
ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

The IFRC Bangkok CCST will arrange for your return flight ticket departing for Manila, Philippines on 3rd September 2017 from your country of residence and leaving Manila on the 9th September 2017. Delegates are not allowed to request for extension of their stay, however, if personally decided, shall cover own expenses for accommodation and flight ticket rebooking. You will arrive either at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) Terminal 1, 2 or 3 – IFRC Staff and/or Red Cross Youth – Philippines Staff/Volunteers will be waiting at the following stations for pick up:

- Terminal 1 - Arrival Extension Area (Under Letter Z)
- Terminal 2 - Bay 14
- Terminal 3 - Bay 5

(Kindly look for Red Cross Insignia/Uniformed Personnel). Airport transport to the Legend Villas Hotel, Mandaluyong City will also be arranged by the Philippine Red Cross, and you will be billeted directly from airport to the hotel. Please be prepared to wait for some time as the transport follows a specific schedule.

ACCOMODATION

The PRC-RCY Department will also arrange for the accommodation and billeting of the official participants of the event. All rooms are on a twin or triple-sharing basis, which will be pre-assigned by the organizers. Throughout the programme, all participants will be staying at the Legend Villas Hotel, Mandaluyong City.

For the programme schedule, all Sessions & Meeting will be carried out in the PRC National Headquarters, Mandaluyong City.

A 13-minute walk from Boni train station, this polished hotel is also 5 km from Glorietta shopping mall and 14 km from the oceanarium at Manila Ocean Park. The subdued rooms feature parquet floors and wood furnishings, as well as cable TV, free Wi-Fi and minibars. Family rooms sleep up to 4 guests, and 2-level suites add kitchenettes, plus living and dining areas. Upgraded suites also have Jacuzzis. A complimentary breakfast buffet is served in the warmly decorated restaurant. Other amenities include an outdoor pool and a hot tub, plus an exercise room.

Address: 60 Pioneer corner Madison Streets, Mandaluyong, 1550 Metro Manila, Philippines
Phone: +63 2 702 2700
INSURANCE

Travel Insurance will be purchased together with your airline tickets. All delegates will be covered by Medical & Accidental insurance throughout the duration of your stay in Manila, Philippines.

COMMUNICATION AND INTERNET FACILITIES

We advise that you purchase a local SIM card at the airport, or any telecommunication shop. The country code for Philippines is +63. Free Wireless Internet Service is available at Legend Villas Hotel.

ELECTRICITY SUPPLY AND WALL ADAPTERS

Electricity in Philippines is 220 Volts, alternating at 60 cycles per second. If you travel to Philippines with a device that does not accept 220 Volts at 60 Hertz, you will need a voltage converter.
CURRENCY

The Philippine Peso (PhP) is the currency in the Philippines. It is best to exchange your money from your origin before going to Manila. However, FOREX booths are available in our airport arrivals.

BANKING FACILITIES

Most Automated Teller Machines (ATM) accepts ATM cards from other ASEAN countries. Do inform your banks that you are travelling to Philippines if you plan to use or debit or credit cards. Take their numbers with you, just in case of emergencies.

Please carry a reasonable amount with you. Under the Philippines Currency Exchange Control, you are allowed to bring a maximum amount of USD 10,000 and any amount of foreign currency and if amount exceeded it is subject to declaration to customs when you arrived to and depart from Manila.

WHAT TO BRING

Travel light. We suggest one large backpack or equivalent trolley plus a daypack for community immersions. The Philippine Red Cross will not be responsible for valuables left behind or taken to the community activities.

Here is a checklist of 7 important things you need to include:

1. Rainproof jacket or cap for weather disturbances
2. Appropriate clothing attire (See dress codes as attached)
3. Small daypack/rucksack with daily necessities
4. Insect repellent, antibacterial wipes and personal first aid kits (if needed)
5. Personal Supplies (such as towels and toiletries)
6. Medications
7. Pocket Money (for your personal spending)
SAFETY & SECURITY

While Manila is generally safe, please exercise caution while withdrawing money from the banks or ATMs. Avoid walking alone in isolated places in the evenings. Never leave your valuables unattended at all times and places. Do take extra care of valuable items e.g. jewelries, laptop, cameras, mobile phones, I-pads, and such. In the unlikely event that you feel threatened, please inform your coordinators, facilitators or fellow volunteers.

DRESS CODES

Philippines is known for its warm and humid climate, so cotton clothes are the best. Participants must wear ONLY smart casual attire / Red Cross Red Crescent National Society Shirt throughout the programme sessions. However for the field site visits, the dress code is smart casual, of which volunteers are encouraged to wear something comfortable or wear their Red Cross Red Crescent National Society Shirt. The SEAYN Chair urges the members that will attend the 5th South-East Asia Youth Network Annual Meeting to wear Formal Attire during the two day meeting. During recreational hours, sportswear is encouraged. Bikinis and swimming trunks for swimming are not allowed.

Please also bring formal attire (suit) for official functions, as well as your national costume for the Cultural and/or Closing ceremony. [There will be a Cultural Night during the Welcome Dinner prepared by the Philippien Red Cross, please prepare a 2 minute pitch performance representing your Country.

FILIPINO FOOD

Philippines is well-known for a variety of food to choose from, but below is a sampling of the food you can expect on campus or at the sites.

Please remind the Philippine Red Cross for any special dietary requirements due to medical conditions, such as diabetic, lactose intolerant, allergies to peanuts, coconuts etc., as these items are often used as ingredients in many local dishes.

We will try our best to accommodate requests, but we cannot guarantee availability due to unforeseen circumstances i.e. local conditions, especially for those who are strict vegetarians, who may have a problem avoiding animal products altogether. Therefore, please bring particular items you would like to have with you for your own comfort.
PHILIPPINE CULTURE

Although Philippines is a multi-cultural society, the people are more or less conservative in many aspects of their lives. Almost 70% of the population are Christians, 20% Muslims & 10% of other nationalities. Philippines is predominantly Christian country but Islam, Buddhism, Taoism & Hinduism is well represented in the country. Volunteers should show respect to the local people by observing etiquette in general. While Philippines is quite modern in its development, Filipinos are generally modest and quite reserved in their public behaviours. Over romantic behaviours are normally not well-tolerated.

CLIMATE IN THE PHILIPPINES

Daily temperature average 27 degrees. Daytime temperatures rise above 30 degrees year round and night temperatures rarely drops below 20 degrees. Certain level of protection against the sun is required i.e. hat, UV lotion SPF25 and above. Rainfall in the month of September is expected; therefore, wet weather clothing is essential.

HEALTH FACILITIES

Kindly inform PRC Staff about medical conditions you are experiencing. Should you need medical treatment, PRC will bring you to the nearest panel hospital.

MEDICAL ADVISE

Health conditions vary from country to country, thus, it is imperative that you consult your local travel health clinic. You should seek medical advice before traveling to Manila and ensure that all appropriate vaccinations are up-to-date.
EMERGENCY HOTLINES

Health conditions vary from country to country, thus, it is imperative that you consult your local travel health clinic. You should seek medical advice before traveling to Manila and ensure that all appropriate vaccinations are up-to-date.

- **Philippine Red Cross (PRC)**
  - Trunkline : 143
  - Hotline : (02)-527 – 0000

- **National Emergency Hotline**
  - Hotline : 911

- **Philippine National Police (PNP)**
  - Hotline : 722-0650
  - Text Hotline : +63917847777

- **Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP)**
  - Hotline : (02) – 426-0219

STAY CONNECTED:
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