

Social Program

Welcome Reception

Date & Time: July 13, 2006 18:30~20:30

Place: Asia Pattaya Beach Hotel

Free of charge for all participants and accompanying persons

All participants and accompanying persons are welcome to join the elaborate cocktail reception including entertainment to enjoy a festive and relaxing evening.

Conference Tour

Date & Time: July 16, 2008 8:30 ~ 21:00

Place: Sanctuary of Truth and Nong Nooch Tropical Garden

Free of charge for all participants and accompanying persons

The Sanctuary of Truth is a gigantic wooden construction which covers the area of 32 acres and this wooden sanctuary is the biggest in Thailand. The top point of the building is about 105 meters high. It was constructed to withstand the wind and sunshine on the seashore at Rachvate Cape, Banglamung District, Chon Buri Province. The building was constructed according to ancient Thai ingenuity and every square inch of the building is covered with wooden carve sculpture. The purposes of decoration with wooden carve sculptures are to use art and culture as the reflection of Ancient Vision of Earth, Ancient Knowledge, and Eastern Philosophy. With in this complex, visitors will understand Ancient Life, Human Responsibility, Basic Thought, Cycle of living and Life Relationship with Universe.

The tour also takes you to sight seeing around **Nong Nooch Tropical Garden** to see the largest variety of orchids in Thailand. More than 670 native species and hybrids are kept here for breeding and research purposes. **The Garden** represents a concerted effort to manage plant species in cultivation. The garden and other participating institutions work together to preserve long-term genetic diversity in cultivated populations as well as propagate highly endangered species. Moreover, the garden supports long-term field efforts and comprehensive *ex situ* conservation programs world wide.

Presently, **Nong Nooch Tropical Garden** is well known to those who want to take part in an impressive Thai Cultural Show and find the largest and most beautiful botanical garden in Southeast Asia. More than 2,000 visitors from around the world visit this garden daily for their enjoyment. The garden is also dedicated to education, preservation, research as well as the conservation of its vast palm collection and other tropical plants.

Since its debut as a tourist attraction, **fascinating Thai culture and traditional dances** are presented daily in the theater within the garden compound. Besides traditional shows, visitors will have an opportunity to see other performances such as religious ceremonies, martial arts, and **the elephant show** – one of the most popular attractions there. The shows are presented 3 or 4 rounds daily, featuring elephants with special skills in playing football, dancing, and even interacting with tourists.

Lunch will be served at a restaurant in the Sanctuary of Truth while traditional dinner will be arranged at the Nong Nooch Tropical Garden.

For more information, please visit the following websites.

<http://www.sanctuaryoftruth.com/>

<http://www.nongnoochtropicalgarden.com/en/index.asp>

Farewell Conference Dinner

Date & Time: July 18, 2008 18:30~21:00

Place: Asia Pattaya Beach Hotel

Free of charge for all participants and accompanying persons

The Conference dinner will be a special event to close the 10th ICOC. During the dinner you will enjoy traditional Thai music and dance.