

To

Ms Amrita Gupta, Research Officer
A214, 2nd Floor, Agni Block,
Desertification Cell/Green India Mission,
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change,
Indira Prayakaran Bhawan, Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi -110003

Subject:- Security Clearance for hosting the event CoP-14 of UNCCD from 29th August to 14th September, 2019 at India Expo Mart in Greater Noida.

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to refer to your letter no 35/17/2018-DC/COP-14 dated 07.06.2019 & e-mail dated 11.06.2019 on the above mentioned subject and to convey this Ministry's '**no objection**' in principle for holding the event and obtaining **Conference Visa** for foreign participants (**except from Pakistan, Afghanistan, Sudan, Iraq, Pakistan origin & Stateless person**) in the above mentioned event(s) subject to usual checks as prescribed.

2. The organisers are also requested to obtain Political clearance from Ministry of External Affairs and necessary clearance from various other authorities **including state police authorities from Law & Order point of view** in connection with the event. Movement of participants to prohibited areas, sensitive and defence locations is restricted.

3. **The foreign participant should submit online application for visa at www.indianvisaonline.gov.in immediately.**

4. Indian Missions abroad are authorized to issue Conference Visa to delegates on production of an invitation letter from the organizer(s), a copy of this letter and a copy of the communication from the Ministry of External Affairs conveying political clearance subject to re-verification relating to Blacklist/LOC and any criminal records of participants.

5. **However, Visa for participants from (1)Afghanistan (2)Iraq (3)Pakistan (4)Sudan (5)Foreigners of Pakistani origin and (6)Stateless persons can be issued only after MHA Clearance. Therefore, online application for Visa must be made at least 60 days in advance. Simultaneously, information about the participants from these countries should also be made available to the Foreigners Division, Ministry of Home Affairs in the format given below:**

Format for furnishing information

S.No	Name	Father's / Husband's Name	Date of Birth	Place of Birth	Nationality & Passport No.	Date of Issue	Place of Issue	Date of Expiry	Online visa application Number	Address in country of residence

(Note: All fields are mandatory)

6. If the number of participants from/of the above mentioned countries is more than 15, the information should be provided in soft copy (in excel (x.l.s) format) in CD (in Triplicate) also.

7. Applications/list of participants from the above mentioned countries not submitted in time are liable to be summarily rejected.

8. **Ministry of Home Affairs has launched an online event clearance platform (<https://conference.mha.gov.in>) for grant of security clearance for organizing an event. Necessary instruction in this regards is annexed as Annexure-'A' for reference and future compliance. It is further intimated that no request for grant of security clearance for conduct of events in offline mode will be entertained after 30.09.2018."**

Yours faithfully



Gopesh Kumar

Section Officer

(GOPESH KUMAR)

अनुमति अधिकारी

Section Officer

गृह मंत्रालय

Ministry of Home Affairs
भारत सरकार, नई दिल्ली
Govt. of India, New Delhi

Ministry of Home Affairs on 02nd May, 2018 has launched online Event Clearance Platform (<https://conference.mha.gov.in>) for grant of online security clearance to the conference/seminar/workshop being organized in India by a Ministry or Department of the Government of India, State Governments or UT Administrations, Public Sector Undertakings, Central Educational Institutions, Public Funded Universities or private institutions or NGOs. The organizers are required to register themselves and apply for grant of the security clearance using the online system. A detailed FAQ, Dos, Don'ts and User Manual are available at the website for better understanding of the user. No offline/physical application form requesting for grant of Security Clearance will be entertained now onwards.

2. The organizers are required to approach the Ministry of Home Affairs for grant of security clearance to organize conference/seminar/workshop in India only in the following two categories:

- (i) If any participant is from Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iraq, Sudan, foreigners of Pakistani origin and Stateless persons (PRC Category) and
- (ii) Any participants of conferences /seminars/workshops are required to visit 'Restricted' or 'Protected' areas in India, or areas affected by terrorism, militancy and extremism etc. viz. Jammu & Kashmir and the North Eastern States (Other than States of Manipur, Mizoram and Nagaland)