## March 1, 2016 - ICPP9 Update

## A. Confirmation Of Meeting Hotel Reservations

- 1. An initial list with the names and passport/ID numbers of all meeting attendees with a paid meeting hotel reservation will be sent to the hotel before the end of this week after which an official confirmation of the hotel booking will be emailed to each participant.
- 2. Included in the above list will be the names of all registered accompanying persons and registered meeting participants who be sharing a room paid for by another participant
- 3. Additional updated lists will be sent to the hotel on a regular basis.

## B. Times Of Specialized Symposia

1. The latest draft schedule of the overall program and the times of the specialized symposia can be found on the home page of the meeting website.

## C. Visa Information For Visiting China

Meeting participants should consult the local Chinese Consulate for up-to-date information on what they need to do about a visa for visiting China. However, the following points should be considered, subject to verification on your end.

- 1. A tourist (L) visa is recommended for participants in need of a visa. To apply for this type of visa you will need to have purchased a round trip airline ticket and have proof of hotel booking in China.
- 2. A visa is not needed for Japanese citizens.
- 3. 144-Hour (6 day) Visa-Free "transit" <u>but only if you leave afterwards to a third country</u>. This policy has been in effect since January 30th, 2016 and is aimed to facilitate international traveler tourism in <u>Shanghai</u>, <u>Jiangsu</u>, and <u>Zhejiang</u>. (You can only fly into and out of Shanghai and Nanjing and you must have a flight ticket to a third country after you leave China).

This policy allows airline passengers from 51 countries or regions to transit in Shanghai, Jiangsu and Zhejiang for no more than 144 hours (six days) without holding a visa and would apply perfectly to attendees who wish to stay for the full meeting and then visit a third country before returning home.

During the "layover period", passengers can move around the three places (Nanjing is in Jiangsu Province) but are not permitted to visit other cities of China. Details can be found at the link below BUT you should verify the facts with your airline and the Chinese Consulate before deciding on this option. http://www.travelchinaguide.com/embassy/visa/free-transit-144hour.htm

D. Formal Letter Of Invitation To Attend Meeting

1. Requests for a formal letter of invitation should be directed to the meeting Chairman or Secretary.