



Address: Office of Olympiad,
No 34, Rasoulzadeh street,
Tehran, Iran. 19166958 53
Tel: + 98 21 22 003 486
Fax: + 98 21 22 003 487
E-mail: secretary@ipho2007.ir
Website: <http://www.ipho2007.ir>

Fourth Circular

May 14, 2007

38th International Physics Olympiad Isfahan, Iran

13- 22 July, 2007

The 38th IPhO is not too far away. We are delighted to announce that the preparations for examinations, visits, excursions, the site at Isfahan University of Technology (IUT), and social events are all progressing well.

We are privileged to announce that Professor Stephen Hawking, the eminent physicist, will be the guest of honour of IPhO2007.

The Organizers have sent out a film entitled "Life in Iran" by air mail to contact persons of all participating countries which should have reached the destinations by now.

The formal invitation letters were also sent by air mail to all Ministers of Education or relevant IPhO responsible organizations of all countries that have registered in IPhO2007 primarily, around 22 April, 2007.

The following is the list of 80 countries that have already sent the confirmation forms - some of which have completed final registration. We thank you for your prompt responses.

Albania	Croatia	India	Mexico	Slovakia
Afghanistan, IR ♦♦	Cuba	Indonesia	Moldova, Rep.	Slovenia
Armenia	Cyprus	Iran I.R.	Mongolia	Spain
Australia	Czech Republic	Ireland	Montenegro	Sri Lanka
Austria	Denmark	Italy	Nepal ♦	Suriname
Azerbaijan	Estonia	Japan	Netherlands	Sweden
Belarus	Finland	Kazakhstan	Nigeria	Switzerland
Belgium	France	Korea (south)	Norway	Tajikistan
Bolivia	Georgia	Kuwait	Pakistan	Thailand
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Germany	Kyrgyzstan	Poland	Turkey
Brazil	Ghana	Laos	Portugal	Turkmenistan
Bulgaria	Great Britain	Latvia	Romania	Ukraine
Cambodia	Greece	Liechtenstein ♦♦	Russia	Uruguay ♦
China P.R.	Hong Kong	Lithuania	Saudi Arabia	USA
Chinese Taipei (Taiwan)	Hungary	Macedonia	Serbia	Uzbekistan ♦♦
Colombia	Iceland	Malaysia	Singapore	Vietnam

♦ New Participating Countries

♦♦ Observers only

Registration and Arrival Information

All contact persons should have received their USERNAME, PASSWORD, and the instruction for formal registration and Arrival Information by now. The contact person is to register each participating individual from the respective country. The deadline for submitting the Registration Form was set 15 May, 2007 according to the statutes. Some IPhO member countries have announced that they can not meet the deadline because of late team selections. Here, we would like to ask all countries to register as soon as they select their team; since the procedure for obtaining visas may be rather lengthy.

Please contact us if you have sent the “Confirmation for Participation Form” but have not received your username and password. Also note that deadline for Arrival Information will be announced later.

During the arrival period which is from 17:00h July 12th until 24:00h July 13th, 2007 the Organizing Committee receives all participants at 3 contact points listed below:

1. Tehran, Mehrabad Airport (THR) -international and domestic flight terminals
2. Tehran Imam Khomeini International Airport (IKA)
3. Isfahan, Shahid Beheshti Airport (IFN) - international and domestic flight terminals

All participants will then be transferred to their lodgings by bus. It takes 5, 4, and 1 hours respectively from the above three contact points to the lodgings.

Participants who enter Iran earlier than arrival period or by land or at any other place than the above-mentioned contact points are expected to join the Organizers at one of the contact points, during the arrival period. However, they should inform the Organizing Committee of the date and port of entrance.

Visa

All foreign nationals need Entry Visa to Iran. A part of the information on the Registration Forms will be used by IPhO2007 organizers to fill up visa forms. We will contact our Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and then will inform you to proceed. Please note that every participant should have a valid passport for at least six months when registers.

Fees and Expenses

All participating countries are encouraged to contribute a voluntary fee of US\$3,500 or 2600 Euros (for 2 leaders and 5 students). This will cover meals, accommodation, and official social events during the period of the Olympiad (13-22July, 2007). The Organizing Committee will not bear the cost of transportation for the team members, observers, or visitors from their own country to or from Iran.

Observers and visitors have to pay the official fees, i.e. US\$1200 or 900 Euros for observers and US\$1100 or 800 Euros for visitors. Observers are allowed to attend all Olympiad meetings, including the meetings of the International Board, but without the right to vote and discuss.

All payments should be made upon arrival in Isfahan in cash Euros or US Dollars.

Accommodations

Leaders, observers, and visitors will be staying in Kowsar International Hotel and the newly built Aseman Hotel. Both hotels are 5 minutes from famous historical sites of the city of Isfahan and are located on either side of the river *Zayandehrood*. Contestants will stay in Isfahan University of Technology (IUT) - boys in dormitories and girls at the guest house.

Computers and Voting System

Computers and printers will be provided at the discussion hall. The voting system will be on-line. Every team is provided with a PC installed with multi-language programs through Microsoft XP and Word 2003. Standard keyboards will be made available. However, you are encouraged to bring your own keyboard or laptop PC. If your laptop is equipped with USB port and LAN card, you may easily use it instead of PC on your desk.

Some Practical and Useful Information about Iran

Clothing: According to the laws and regulations of Iran travellers are expected to wear decent clothing upon their arrival and during their stay in Iran.

Gentlemen are not allowed to wear short trousers.

Ladies are required to observe their *hijab*, that is to cover up hair, arms, neck, and legs at all time when in public.

Drugs and Alcoholic Drinks: Drugs and Alcoholic drinks are forbidden in Iran. You are not allowed to bring them with yourself. While in Iran you will not be served any kinds of alcoholic drinks.

Weather: Weather is expected to be hot and dry in Isfahan during the month of July. The average of maximum temperature is 37°C & Minimum 19°C then, with almost no chance of rain. There is ample sunshine during the day and significant temperature difference in shade. Lodgings, IUT auditorium, discussion and examination halls, and buses are air-conditioned, and some excursions to cooler places are being planned.

Week days: Weekend is Friday in Iran. Banks, post offices, travel agencies, and schools are closed on Fridays and Thursday afternoons (usually after 12:00). Many other government offices are closed on both Thursdays and Fridays.

Electric Power: Electric power is 220 volts and 50Hz in Iran. Power sockets (outlets) are 2-pin (European).

Mobile Phone: Participants from many countries can use their own mobile phones, through roaming service in Iran. Roaming calls is a service offered by most mobile service providers that allows users to use their phone if they are not in their home coverage area. Please refer to "Practical Information" on our web site to see the list of mobile phone service providers of your country that accept roaming calls from Iran.

International Phone Cards: The international scratch phone cards are cheap and readily available in Iran.

Credit Cards: International credit cards cannot be used in Iran, though many currencies, especially Euros and US Dollars, may be exchanged easily.

Currency: The monetary unit in Iran is "Rial"; but in daily conversation Tooman (equivalent to 10 Rials) is used. Bank notes of 100; 200; 500; 1,000; 2,000; 5,000; 10,000; and 20,000, 50,000 Rials are in circulation. US\$1 corresponds approximately to 9,200 Rials (920 Toomans).

Money Exchange: Participants may easily exchange Euros, US Dollars, and UK Pounds in a bank at Isfahan University of Technology or in free market in Isfahan.

Contacts and IPhO2007 web-page

The circulars, news, tentative program, and more information on Iran, the venue (IUT), and IPhO can be found on our web site: <http://www.ipho2007.ir>, which will be updated regularly. Please let us know if there are any suggestions or questions that may help us improve IPhO2007. For enquiries please feel free to contact Ms. Taraneh Shimi:

secretary@ipho2007.ir

Fax: + 98 21 22 003 487

Tel: + 98 21 22 003 486

Mobile phone: + 98 912 59 89 749

We look forward to seeing you in Isfahan;

Yours sincerely
Prof. M. Sepehry-Rad



Chairman, IPhO2007