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World Tourism Day: themes for 2012 and 2013 for submission to the General Assembly and selection of the host countries

I. World Tourism Day: proposed themes for 2012 and 2013

1. The General Assembly at its Beijing session (2003) decided that UNWTO, as a specialized United Nations agency, should in the future take into account, as far as possible, when choosing the World Tourism Day (WTD) themes, those adopted for the international years and days declared by the UN.

2. Considering that the UN will be celebrating in 2012 the "International Year of Sustainable Energy for All" and the "International Year of Cooperatives" and in 2013 the "International Year of Water Cooperation", the Secretary-General proposes to the Executive Council to recommend to the 19th session of the General Assembly the following themes for the World Tourism Day celebrations of the next two years:

- 2012: Tourism and Sustainable Energy: Powering Sustainable Development
- 2013: Tourism and Water: Protecting our Common Future

II. Designation of the host countries for World Tourism Day 2012 and 2013

3. By resolution 470(XV), the General Assembly designated Malaysia and Qatar as host countries of World Tourism Day in 2004 and 2005. By the same resolution, the General Assembly endorsed the proposal of the Executive Council and decided that the following geographic order would apply to World Tourism Day celebrations beginning in 2006: 2006 in Europe; 2007 in South Asia; 2008 in the Americas; and 2009 in Africa.

4. The subsequent editions thus corresponded to East Asia and the Pacific and the Middle East. In this regard, and following the recommendations to the Council of the respective Regional Commissions, World Tourism Day 2010 was hosted in China and the World Tourism Day 2011 celebrations were awarded to Yemen.

5. Following the geographic order, World Tourism Day 2012 would be celebrated in Europe and World Tourism Day 2013 in South Asia. In this regard, the respective Regional Commissions will be called upon to propose the 2012 and 2013 host countries for World Tourism Day at the October 2011 meetings. This proposal will be submitted to the 91st session of the Executive Council for recommendation to the 19th session of the General Assembly.