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UNWTO COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Fifty-Second Meeting
Katowice, Poland, 14 April 2011

Item 8 of the provisional agenda

GLOBAL CODE OF ETHICS

(B) ELECTION OF AN ALTERNATE MEMBER TO REPRESENT EUROPE IN UNWTO'S
WORLD COMMITTEE ON TOURISM ETHICS

Note by the Secretary-General

In this document, the Secretary-General informs the Members of the procedure for the election of an Alternate Member for the World Committee on Tourism Ethics.

WORLD COMMITTEE ON TOURISM ETHICS

MAIN FEATURES

1. The World Committee on Tourism Ethics (WCTE) is a subsidiary body of the General Assembly of the Organization. It is the highest moral authority in the field of Tourism.
2. The Committee is an independent and impartial body made up of eminent personalities of high moral character and recognized competence who serve in the Committee in a strictly personal capacity. It features a balanced distribution of representatives from the public and private sector with outstanding credentials, including leading figures from the academia and the civil society.
3. The mission of the Committee is to explore and discuss modern-day topics and concerns of ethical nature which are directly affecting behaviours and ways of developing tourism activities and conducting business operations around the world.
4. The central focus of this endeavour is to guide all stakeholders in tourism to adjust their conduct and actions around a series of ethical principles in order to optimise the beneficial effects of tourism and to minimise its negative impact on the environment or on local communities.
5. The Committee reports on a regular basis to both the General Assembly of the UNWTO and to that of the United Nations.

BACKGROUND

6. The World Committee on Tourism Ethics holds its foundation from the *Global Code of Ethics for Tourism* which was adopted by consensus by the General Assembly of the UNWTO in 1999. The Code obtained the official recognition of the United Nations in 2001.
7. The Code of Ethics provides a comprehensive set of basic principles whose purpose is to serve as a frame of reference for the different stakeholders in the tourism sector: governments, industry and travellers alike.
8. The structure of the Code comprises a *Preamble*, the *Principles* (9 articles) and a mechanism referring to the implementation of these principles and to the settlement of disputes by means of an impartial body, the above-mentioned World Committee on Tourism Ethics (Article 10).
9. The Committee was established late 2003, in conformity with the conditions governing the appointment and the terms of reference as stipulated in the Protocol of Implementation (Part 1) of the Code which was adopted by the General Assembly in 2001.

TASKS

10. The tasks assigned by the UNWTO General Assembly to the World Committee on Tourism Ethics are threefold:
 - a. the promotion and dissemination of the Global Code of Ethics;
 - b. the evaluation and monitoring of the implementation of the Code of Ethics; and
 - c. the conciliation for the settlement of differences concerning the application or interpretation of the Code of Ethics.

NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES FOR THE WORLD COMMITTEE ON TOURISM ETHICS

11. The term of the present Members of the World Committee on Tourism Ethics (WCTE) will expire on 31 December 2011.

12. At its last session of 2009, the General Assembly adopted an amendment to resolution A/RES/438(XIV) of 2001 governing the election of the Committee, in order to enable the staggering of the renewal of the Committee, which should begin with the election process scheduled to take place throughout spring 2011. The amendment in Resolution A/RES/577(XVIII) reads as follows:

“The members of the Committee and their alternates are re-elected by half every two years. During the session of the General Assembly in 2011, a total of eleven of the current members of the Committee will have their mandate extended for two more years; while the other eleven members or alternates will be elected for a full mandate of four years”.

13. The current composition of the Committee (enclosed as Annex 1) indicates in bold the name of those Members whose mandate will be extended until 2013, as per Decision DEC/13(IX) of the World Committee on Tourism Ethics (Luxor, Egypt, 15-16 April 2010).

14. Consequently, the election of the other half of the Members of the Committee will take place during the 52nd Meeting of the Regional Commission for Europe, which is held in Katowice (Poland) on 14 April 2011, and the new composition of the Committee is to be submitted to the General Assembly (Gyeongju, Republic of Korea 8-14 October 2011), for final endorsement.

15. **UNWTO Member States are therefore kindly invited to submit nominations for the Committee**, taking into consideration that the nominated candidates should be eminent personalities, independent and impartial, with a high moral character and recognized competencies in a number of fields not necessarily directly related to tourism.

16. Members will also find enclosed a Nomination Form (Annex 2) and Part I of the Protocol of Implementation of the Code of Ethics related to the Committee (Annex 3). The Organization wishes to draw Members' attention to the fact that travel expenses and daily subsistence allowances occasioned by the participation of the candidate in the Committee meetings shall be covered by the nominating authority, and not by UNWTO.

17. The Organization would appreciate receiving the Member States nomination to the Committee at the latest two weeks prior to the 52nd Meeting of the Commission for Europe, in order to enable the Secretariat to circulate the names of all candidates well ahead.

ANNEX 1**WORLD COMMITTEE ON TOURISM ETHICS (2007-2011)****Two-year extension of mandate (2011-2013)**

Chairman: Mr. Dawid de Villiers (South Africa)

Members elected by the Regional Commissions**Africa**

Member: Mr. Deograsias John Mdamu (Tanzania)
Alternate: Mr. Goodie Minabo Ibru (Nigeria) term to be extended until 2013

Americas

Member: Mr. Hermes Navarro del Valle (Costa Rica) term to be extended until 2013
Alternate: Mr. Carlos Gutiérrez (Argentina)

East Asia and the Pacific

Member: Ms. Victoria V. Jasmin (Philippines)
Alternate: Mr. I Gede Ardika (Indonesia) term to be extended until 2013

Europe

Member: Mr. Helmut Krüger (Germany) term to be extended until 2013
Alternate: Mr. Salvatore Veca (Italy)

Middle East

Member: Ms. Laurice Hlass (Jordan)
Alternate: Mr. Mahmoud El-Kaissouni (Egypt) term to be extended until 2013

South Asia

Member: Mr. Iqbal Walji (Pakistan) term to be extended until 2013
Alternate: Mr. Ahmad Mirzalouchak Khoshnevis (Iran, Islamic Republic of)

Members elected by the Associate Members

Member: Mr. Carlos Alberto Silva (Madeira)
Alternate: Mr. Urbain Claeys (Flemish Community of Belgium) term to be extended until 2013

Members elected by the Affiliate Members**Employers**

Member: Ms. Christel DeHaan (Group RCI) term to be extended until 2013
Alternate: Mr. Julio C. Abreu [EFAPCO]

Employees

Member: Mr. Ron Oswald [IUF/UITA] term to be extended until 2013
Alternate: Mr. Norberto Latorre [UTHGRA]

Educational institutions

Member: **Ms. Sietske Gras-Dijkstra (NHTV Breda** term to be extended until 2013
 University of Applied Sciences)
Alternate: Mr. Steve Noakes (Griffith University, Australia)

Non-governmental organizations

Member: **Mr. Norberto Tonini [BITS]** term to be extended until 2013
Alternate: *vacant* (pending designation by Board of AFF)

ANNEX 2**NOMINATION FORM****FOR THE WORLD COMMITTEE ON TOURISM ETHICS**

*(to be completed by the nominating authority on behalf of the candidate
and sent to the UNWTO Secretariat)*

In accordance to the Protocol of Implementation of the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism, Part I, section (b) entitled: World Committee on Tourism Ethics - Body responsible for interpreting, applying and evaluating the provisions of the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism, the following nomination corresponds to the seat allocated to:

- A. Member States/Regional Commissions / ☐
- B. Associate Members / ☐
- C. Committee of Affiliate Members in representation of:
- Employers / ☐
 - Employees / ☐
 - Educational institutions / ☐
 - Non-governmental organizations / ☐

1. Country, territory or organization of nomination:

2. Nominating authority:

Place and date:

3. Full name of candidate: (Mr/Ms)

4. Age:

5. Nationality:

6. Language(s) spoken:

7. Address (postal):

Telephone:

Fax:

E-mail:

8. Present occupation:

8.1 Brief CV indicating professional qualifications, previous jobs and positions held:

9. Relationship with tourism.
Experience/interest in human rights, environment, labour, codes of business practices or other areas addressed by the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism:

* * *

By presenting its candidate, the nominating authority accepts, and the candidate agrees, that the election and appointment will be subject to the "Guidelines for appointing the members of the World Committee on Tourism Ethics" (see attached). Candidates must either be from UNWTO Member States or from Affiliate Members.

Special attention is be drawn to the fact that travel expenses and daily subsistence allowances occasioned by the participation of the candidate in the Committee meetings shall be covered by the nominating authority.

ANNEX 3

A/RES/438(XIV)

WORLD COMMITTEE ON TOURISM ETHICS,
BODY RESPONSIBLE FOR INTERPRETING, APPLYING
AND EVALUATING THE PROVISIONS
OF THE GLOBAL CODE OF ETHICS FOR TOURISM

(as amended by resolutions A/RES/469(XV) and A/RES/577(XVIII))

(a) *A World Committee on Tourism Ethics shall be created comprising twelve eminent persons independent¹ of governments and eleven alternates from the States Members of UNWTO selected on the basis of their competence in the field of tourism and related fields, they shall not receive any orders or instructions from those who proposed their nomination or who elected them and shall not report to them.*

(b) *The members of the World Committee on Tourism Ethics shall be appointed as follows:*

- *six members and six alternate members elected by the UNWTO Regional Commissions, on the proposal of the States Members of UNWTO;*
- *a member and an alternate elected by the autonomous territories that are Associate Members of UNWTO from among their members;*
- *four members and four alternate members elected by the UNWTO Executive Council from among the Affiliate Members of UNWTO representing employers and employees of the tourism industry, educational institutions and non-governmental organizations, after conferring with the Committee of Affiliate Members;*
- *a chairman, who may be a personality external² to the UNWTO from a member State of UNWTO, elected by the other members of the Committee, on the proposal of the Secretary-General of UNWTO.*
- *an observer elected by the Executive Council representing its technical committee responsible for the UNWTO general programme of work under which the implementation of the Code is contemplated.*

The Legal Adviser of the World Tourism Organization shall participate, when necessary, and in an advisory capacity, in the Committee meetings; the Secretary-General shall attend ex officio or may arrange to be represented at its meetings.

On appointing the members of the Committee, account shall be taken of the need for a balanced geographical composition of this body and for a diversification of the qualifications and personal status of its members, from the economic, environmental and social as well as the legal viewpoint; the members shall be appointed for four years and their term of office may be renewed only once; in the event of a vacancy, the member shall be replaced by his alternate, it being understood that if the vacancy concerns both the member and his alternate, the Committee itself shall fill the vacant seat; the Committee shall elect among its nominal members

¹ Not representing government.

² Outside the tourism sector.

a deputy Chairman who shall assume the chairmanship of the Committee if the Chairman's seat becomes vacant..

The members of the Committee and their alternates are re-elected by half every two years. During the session of the General Assembly in 2011, a total of eleven of the current members of the Committee will have their mandate extended for two more years; while the other eleven members or alternates will be elected for a full mandate of four year (amendment introduced by A/RES/577(XVIII)).

(c) *The UNWTO Regional Commissions shall act, in the cases provided for in paragraphs I (d), (g) and (h) below of this Protocol, as regional committees on tourism ethics, under the guidance and supervision of the World Committee on Tourism Ethics, in the understanding that the delegates of States to the Regional Commissions shall act in such cases in their private capacity. (Note: This provision has been temporarily suspended by resolution A/RES/469(XV)).*

(d) *The World Committee on Tourism Ethics shall establish its own Rules of Procedure, which shall apply equally, mutatis mutandis, to the Regional Commissions when these are acting as regional committees on tourism ethics; the presence of two-thirds of the Committee members shall be necessary to constitute a quorum at its meetings; in the event that a member is absent, he may be replaced by his alternate; in the event of a tie in the voting, the chairman shall have the casting vote.*

(e) *When proposing the candidature of an eminent person to serve on the Committee, each Member of UNWTO shall undertake to cover the travel expenses and daily subsistence allowances occasioned by the participation in the meetings of the person whose nomination it has proposed, it being understood that the members of the Committee shall not receive any remuneration; the expenses incurred by the participation of the Chairman of the Committee, also unremunerated, may be borne by the UNWTO budget; the secretariat of the Committee shall be provided by the services of UNWTO; the operating costs remaining payable by the Organization may, wholly or in part, be charged to a trust fund financed by voluntary contributions.*

(f) *The World Committee on Tourism Ethics shall meet in principle once a year; whenever a dispute is referred to it for settlement, the chairman shall consult the other members and the Secretary-General of UNWTO about the expediency of convening an extraordinary meeting.*

(g) *The functions of the World Committee on Tourism Ethics and the UNWTO Regional Commissions shall be the evaluation of the implementation of this Code and conciliation; it may invite experts or external institutions to contribute to its proceedings.*

(h) *On the basis of periodic reports submitted to them by Full Members, Associate Members and Affiliate Members of UNWTO, the UNWTO Regional Commissions shall, every two years, as regional committees on tourism ethics, examine the application of the Code in their respective regions; they shall record their findings in a report to the World Committee on Tourism Ethics; the reports of the Regional Commissions may contain suggestions to amend or supplement the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism.*

(i) *The World Committee on Tourism Ethics shall exercise a global function as a observatory for the problems encountered in implementing the Code and for the proposed solutions; it shall summarize the reports drawn up by the Regional Commissions and supplement them with the information it has collected with the assistance of the Secretary-General and the support of the Committee of Affiliate Members, which shall include, should the need arise, proposals to amend or supplement the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism.*

(j) *The Secretary-General shall refer the report of the World Committee on Tourism Ethics to the Executive Council, together with his own observations, for consideration and transmission to the General Assembly with the Council's recommendations; the General Assembly shall decide what follow-up action to take on the report and the recommendations thus submitted to it, which the national tourism administrations and other stakeholders in tourism development shall subsequently have the task of implementing.*