

20th session of the UNWTO General Assembly

Guidelines for Participation in the General Debate Tourism and Air Transport Policies

Following Information Note No.1 (A/20/Note Inf.1) it is recalled that heads of delegation wishing to make statements during the General Debate are requested to contact the Secretariat to place their names on the speakers' list so that the Debate may be organized as satisfactorily as possible.

According to decision CE/DEC/4(XCV) of the 95th session of the Executive Council (EC), the Council has supported the three priorities set forth by the Secretary-General, namely a) travel facilitation; b) taxation; and c) connectivity.

In this framework, the General Debate of the 20th session of the UNWTO General Assembly will be dedicated to connectivity, namely to the relation between tourism and air transport policies.

For the purpose of a fruitful and lively participation in the Debate, the Secretariat proposes that delegations focus their interventions within the framework of the link between tourism and air transport policies, in some of the following issues:

- Measures and initiatives developed in your country to increase connectivity and competitiveness in terms of air access?
- How do tourism and air transport policies coordinate in your country?
- What are the main opportunities and challenges facing air transport development – infrastructure, taxes and levies, visa facilitation and regulation – in your country and how those impact tourism development and competitiveness?
- Like in other cases such as visa facilitation, improved connectivity implies a strong coordination between the ministries responsible for tourism and air transport. What are the main challenges your country faces in ensuring that national air transport and tourism policies are aligned?
- What actions/priorities should UNWTO advocate for in terms of promoting closer links between air transport and tourism policies at the international and national levels?

Delegations wishing to take the floor during the General Debate are kindly requested to contact Ms. Zhanna Yakovleva (zyakovleva@unwto.org) by Friday, 9 August, indicating "General Debate" in the subject.

The Secretariat will place their names on the speakers' list on a 'first come, first served' basis so that the Debate may be organized as satisfactorily as possible. In view of time constraints, it is essential to limit the speaking time of each head of delegation to a maximum of five minutes.

Although there will be simultaneous interpretation of the Debate into the five official UNWTO languages (English, French, Spanish, Arabic and Russian), in accordance with General Assembly resolution 56(III), it will not be possible to translate written speeches made during the meetings of the General Assembly or of other bodies.