

34TH CAP-CSA JOINT MEETING

CONCEPT NOTE ON AGENDA ITEM 7:

Policy Discussion: Member States' Updates on Tourism Recovery and Restarting Tourism

INTRODUCTION

International tourism is steadily continuing its recovery since the beginning of 2022, and with a much better performance compared to the weak start to 2021. This comes in the aftermath of the most devastating period in its history because of COVID-19 in 2020.

UNWTO's statistics show that international tourist arrivals worldwide more than doubled in January 2022 compared to 2021, recording 18 million more visitors which amount to the total increase for the whole of 2021.

But while all world regions enjoyed a significant rebound in January 2022 compared to the low levels of January 2021, with Europe registering (+199%), the Americas (+97%) Middle East (+89%) and Africa (+51%); **Asia and the Pacific recorded a 44%** year-on-year increase because several destinations remained closed to non-essential travel resulting in the largest decrease in international arrivals over 2019 (-93%).

Coupled with many Covid-related travel restrictions still in place, the Russian offensive on Ukraine poses new challenges to the global economic environment and risks hampering the travel recovery which is still slow and uneven.

AIM OF THE POLICY DISCUSSION

Against this backdrop, item 7 of the 34th CAP-CSA provisional agenda is intended to give members the platform to update each other on their tourism recovery efforts, share their experiences regarding the policies that have helped them to reopen their borders to international tourism as well as their challenges in accelerating recovery.

Discussion points will thus focus on the following:

1. Members short term prospects for tourism recovery in their country/in the region
2. Highlights of members tourism recovery efforts, including policies that have contributed to easing restrictions on reopening borders to international tourism
3. Challenges being faced in members' efforts to restart international tourism.

FORMAT

- UNWTO's Chief of Tourism Market Intelligence and Competitiveness will moderate this session.
- Each member will have 3 minutes to deliver an intervention, and this will be done in an alphabetical order.
- The floor will be open for general discussions afterwards