

Agenda item 7(b)

**Report of the Committee on Matters
Related to Affiliate Membership**

CE/118/7(b) rev.1
Madrid, 12 May 2023
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Executive summary

The purpose of this document is to inform the Executive Council on the main outcomes of the 3rd meeting of the Committee on Matters Related to Affiliate Membership (CMAM), held virtually on 11 May 2023:

- the Committee was reported on the latest developments and activities of the Affiliate Membership;
- the Committee was informed about the evolution of the implementation of the strategy for a quality-oriented and geographically balanced expansion of the Affiliate Membership, approved by the Executive Council during its 117th session (November 2022);
- pursuant to the provisions of Article 6(i) of the Charter of Affiliate Membership, the Committee was updated on the status of the UNWTO Affiliate Membership;
- in accordance with the provisions of Article 6(g) of the Charter of Affiliate Membership, the Committee reviewed, validated, and submitted for approval by the 118th Executive Council, sixteen (16) candidatures to affiliate membership received since the previous Executive Council.
- the Committee was informed about the procedure for the election of the members of CMAM for the term 2023-2027, that will be carried out during the upcoming Regional Commissions.

DRAFT DECISION¹

Agenda item 7(b)

Report of the Committee on Matters Related to Affiliate Membership
(document CE/118/7(b) rev.1)

The Executive Council,

Having examined the report of its Committee on Matters Related to Affiliate Membership (document CE/118/7(b) rev.1), which met in virtual format on 11 May 2023, under the chairmanship of Spain,

1. *Endorses* the Report of the Committee;
2. *Decides* to provisionally admit as new UNWTO affiliate members the sixteen (16) entities listed in Annex I of this report, pending ratification by the General Assembly at its 25th Session;
3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to present the abovementioned 16 new Affiliate Members provisionally admitted to the General Assembly, at its 25th Session, for its ratification.

and

4. *Encourages* the Committee to continue to monitor the progress of the strategy for a quality-oriented and geographically balanced expansion of the membership;

¹This is a draft decision. For the final decision adopted by the Council, please refer to the Decisions document issued at the end of the session.

I. Introduction

1. The Committee on Matters Related to Affiliate Membership (CMAM) held its third meeting on 11 May 2023, in virtual format, under the chairmanship of Spain, with the participation of:

CMAM full members²:

- Croatia
- China
- Côte d'Ivoire
- Mexico
- Spain
- Saudi Arabia

Representative of the Affiliate Members:

- Chair of the Board of Affiliate Members - Asociación Empresarial Hotelera de Madrid (AEHM), Spain

Invited Affiliate Member:

- Croatian National Tourist Board

UNWTO Secretariat:

- Director of the Affiliate Members Department

II. Activities of the Affiliate Membership

2. In accordance with Article 6(b) of the Charter of Affiliate Membership, the members of CMAM received the 2022 Report of the Affiliate Members Activities which provides a comprehensive overview of the involvement and collaboration of our Affiliate Members with the Organization. The 2023 Affiliate Members Programme of Work was shared with the Members of the Committee and they were informed about the latest development and activities of the Affiliate Membership since the last meeting of the CMAM. In line with this, Croatian National Tourist Board was invited to present the main outcomes of the 2nd World Sports Tourism Congress organized in Zadar (Croatia), activity included in the Programme of Work for the Affiliate Members for 2023.
3. The UNWTO Secretariat presented the main inputs received by Affiliate Members through the survey launched in December 2022 to collect contributions from the Affiliate Members for the 2024-2025 UNWTO Programme of Work and Budget.

III. Progress report on the implementation of the quality-oriented and geographically balanced expansion of the UNWTO Affiliate Membership

4. The UNWTO Secretariat presented the first assessment of the evolution of the implementation strategy for the promotion of a quality-oriented and geographically balanced expansion of the UNWTO Affiliate Membership.
5. The Committee took note of the evolution of the quality expansion on regions and countries which are underrepresented in terms of AMs.

IV. Updating the CMAM on the status of the Affiliate Membership

6. The Secretariat presented to the members of the CMAM updated information on the status of the Affiliate Membership.
7. **Total number of AMs.** As of the date of this document, the total number of Affiliate Members of the Organization is 460.
8. **Voluntary withdrawals.** Since the 117th Session of the Executive Council, four (4) entities have voluntarily ceased to be Affiliate Members in accordance with Article 35(3) of the Organization's

² To be updated after the meeting

Statutes. In addition, two (2) Affiliate Members have terminated their membership in the Organization, as these entities have ceased to exist.

9. **Upcoming withdrawal of the membership due to arrears.** Considering that the period of arrears resulting in the termination of membership as an Affiliate Member was reduced from four to two financial years due to the entry into force of the legal framework approved at the 24th General Assembly, it is expected that around 40 Affiliate Members will cease their membership at 1 July 2023, unless they agree with the UNWTO on a plan for rescheduling their payments, in accordance with the applicable rules.
10. The Committee appreciated the efforts of the Organization towards achieving a quality Membership composed of trustworthy and active Members, fully committed to the values, rules, and obligations of the UNWTO.

V. Review and endorsement of 16 new candidatures for Affiliate Membership

11. The Committee reviewed the 16 (sixteen) candidatures for Affiliate Membership listed in Annex I, whose documentation had previously been duly shared by the Secretariat for the examination of the CMAM.
12. The Committee appreciated the diversity of profiles and the relevance of the 16 (sixteen) entities that are candidates to be admitted as UNWTO affiliate members, has decided that all the 16 reviewed applications meet the criteria established for admission and, consequently, decided to submit for consideration by the Executive Council the recommendation to provisionally admit as new UNWTO affiliate members the sixteen (16) entities, pending ratification by the General Assembly at its 25th Session.

VI. Process of the Election Members of the CMAM for the term 2023-2027

13. The UNWTO Secretariat informed the members of CMAM about the procedure for the election of the members for the term 2023-2027.
14. Since the mandate of the present members of the Committee expires at the 25th Session of the General Assembly, the Executive Council shall appoint the 9 (nine) Full Members of the CMAM for the four-year mandate 2023-2027 at its 120th Session, which will take place right after the 25th Session of the General Assembly.
15. The UNWTO Secretariat informed that in accordance with the applicable legal framework³, and considering the current regional distribution of the UNWTO Affiliate Membership—with Europe being the region with the highest number of AMs and the Americas being the region with the second highest number of AMs— the 2023 Regional Commissions are called to recommend to the Executive Council, at its 120th Session, the 9 (nine) Member States proposed to form part of the CMAM for the mandate 2023-2027, according to the following geographical distribution:
 - Africa: 1 member
 - Americas: 2 members⁴
 - East Asia and the Pacific: 1 member
 - Europe: 3 members⁵
 - Middle East: 1 member
 - South Asia: 1 member

VII. Next meeting

16. The members of the Committee decided to hold the next meeting of CMAM virtually one week before the 25th UNWTO General Assembly (Samarkand, Uzbekistan). The Chair of the CMAM proposed to hold the meeting on Tuesday 10th October,

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³ Provisions of Article 7 of the Charter of Affiliate Membership

⁴ As the region with the second highest number of AMs

⁵ As the region with the highest number of AMs

Annex I: List of the entities to be admitted as UNWTO Affiliate Members

1. Arcadia Vineyards LTD. (*Türkiye*)
2. Blue Purple Vail LLC (*United States of America*)
3. Empresa Pública para la Gestión del Turismo y del Deporte de Andalucía, S.A. (*Spain*)
4. European Boating Industry (*Belgium*)
5. European Cultural Tourism Network – ECTN (*Belgium*)
6. EXPOURENSE - Fundación de Feiras e Exposicións de Ourense (*Spain*)
7. Guilin Tourism University (*China*)
8. International School Sport Federation (*Belgium*)
9. Mabrian Technologies S.L. (*Spain*)
10. Observatorio Turístico Sostenible del Estado de Querétaro (*Mexico*)
11. Trinusa Travelindo (*Indonesia*)
12. Responsible Borneo (*Malaysia*)
13. Sarawak Tourism Board (*Malaysia*)
14. Toposophy Limited GR (*Greece*)
15. Trakya Kalkınma Ajansı / Trakya Development Agency (*Türkiye*)
16. University of Skopje (*North Macedonia*)