66th Meeting of the UNWTO Regional Commission for Africa

Conference on “Rethinking Tourism for Africa: Addressing global challenges; Promoting investment and partnerships”

Le Méridien Ile Maurice, Pointe aux Piments
Republic of Mauritius
26-28 July 2023

Programme

TUESDAY 25 JULY 2023

66th Meeting of the UNWTO Regional Commission for Africa

14:00 – 18:00 Registration
Venue: Le Méridien Ile Maurice, Pointe aux Piments

15:00 Departure from Le Méridien Hotel to Le Morne
(Ministers and Heads of delegation only)

16:30 – 17:00 Best Tourism Village by UNWTO
- Unveiling of the plate, Le Morne
- Presentation of Plate Old Grand Port
(Ministers and Heads of delegation only)

17:15 – 19:15 Commemoration of the 15th anniversary of Le Morne cultural landscape as a UNESCO World Heritage Site
(Ministers and Heads of delegation only)

19:30 – 21:30 Dinner by invitation only - hosted by Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Mauritius –
(Le Paradis Hotel, restaurant la Ravanne)
(Ministers and Heads of delegation only)
**WEDNESDAY 26 JULY 2023**

**66th Meeting of the UNWTO Regional Commission for Africa**

08:30 – 09:30 **Registration**
(Venue: Le Méridien Ile Maurice, Pointe aux Piments)

09:30 – 10:30 **Official Opening Ceremony**

*Welcome Remarks*
- Hon. Steven OBEEGADOO, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Housing and Land Use Planning, Minister of Tourism, Republic of Mauritius, and Vice-Chair of the UNWTO Executive Council

*Opening Remarks*
- Hon. Siandou FOFANA, Minister of Tourism, Republic of Côte d’Ivoire, Vice-Chair of the UNWTO Executive Council and Chair of UNWTO Africa Commission
- Hon. Ahmed AL KHATEEB, Minister of Tourism of Republic of Saudi Arabia, Chair UNWTO of the Executive Council

*Address*
- Hon. Chileshe Mpundu Kapwepwe, Secretary General of The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)
- The Rt Hon. Patricia SCOTLAND KC, Secretary-General Commonwealth
- Hon. Zurab POLOLIKASHVILI, Secretary-General, World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)

*Keynote Address*
- Hon. Pravind Kumar JUGNAUTH, Prime Minister Republic of Mauritius

10:30 – 10:45 Group photo
10:45 – 11:15 Coffee break
13:30 – 14:30 Lunch break – courtesy of the Ministry of Tourism of the Republic of Mauritius
14:30 – 17:00 CAF Working session cont’d - 66th UNWTO Commission for Africa
17:00 – 17:30 Coffee break
17:30 – 18:45 Final CAF Working session - 66th UNWTO Commission for Africa
20:00 – 23:00 Gala Night – Ruins of Balaclava – Courtesy Business Mauritius
(Head of delegation +2)
Conference on Rethinking Tourism for Africa: Addressing global challenges; Promoting investment and Partnerships

08:30 – 09:30  
**Registration**  
(Venue: Le Méridien Ile Maurice, Pointe aux Piments)

09:30 – 09:40  
**Opening Remarks**  
- Hon. Zurab POLOLIKASHVILI, UNWTO Secretary-General

Session One: Addressing global challenges

09:40 – 10:20  
**Keynote addresses**
- Hon. Steven OBEEGADO, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Housing, and Land Use Planning, Minister of Tourism, Republic of Mauritius, and Vice-Chair of the UNWTO Executive Council

10:20 – 10:40  
**Coffee break**

10:40 – 12:10  
**Ministerial panel session**

MODERATOR: Mrs. Zain VERJEE, Founder & CEO, The ZVG
- Hon. Peninah MALONZA, Cabinet Secretary for Tourism, Wildlife and Heritage, Republic of Kenya
- Hon. Didier MAZENGA MUKANZU, Minister of Tourism, Democratic Republic of Congo
- Hon. Rhodney SIKUMBA, Cabinet Minister of Tourism and Arts, Republic of Zambia
- Hon. Dr. Mohammed Ibrahim AWAL, Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture, Republic of Ghana
- Hon. Lisa S. SINGH, UN Resident Coordinator for Mauritius and Seychelles, United Nations
- Dr. Nazia M Habib, FRSA, Head, Centre for Resilience and Sustainable Development, University of Cambridge, UK

12.10 – 13.30  
**Lunch break - courtesy of the Ministry of Tourism of the Republic of Mauritius**
**Session Two: Promoting Investment and Partnerships in tourism for economic development**


13:45 – 14:00  **Public Private Partnerships - The Mauritian experience**, Mr. Kevin RAMKALOAN, CEO Business Mauritius

14:00 – 14:45  **Keynote addresses**
- **Investment** – Hon. Chileshe Mpundu KAPWEPWE, Secretary General of The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)
- **Partnerships** – Ms. Leila Farah MOKADEM, Director General, Southern Africa Region, African Development Bank
- **Video messages**
  - Mr. Antonio PEDRO, Acting Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa (video)
  - Ms. Victoria KWAKWA, Regional Vice President for Eastern and Southern Africa, World Bank

14:45 – 16:00  **High-level Panel session**

MODERATOR: Mrs. Zain VERJEE, Founder & CEO the ZVG
- Hon. Siandou FOFANA, Minister of Tourism, Republic of Côte d’Ivoire
- Hon. Philda KERENG, Minister of Environment and Natural Resources, Conservation and Tourism, Republic of Botswana
- Hon. Dr Jean Chrysostome NGABITSINZE, Minister of Trade and Industry, Republic of Rwanda
- Ms. Amanda SERUMAGA – Resident Representative, United Nations Development Programme
- Mr. Mamadou Serifo JAQUITE, Commissioner in charge of Human Development, West African Monetary and Economic Union (UEMOA)

16:00 – 16:30  **Coffee Break**

16:30 – 17:00  Presentation and Adoption of *The Mauritius Declaration: A New Path for Africa Tourism through Global Partnerships and Investment*

- Hon. Steven OBEEGADO, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Housing and Land Use Planning, Minister of Tourism, Republic of Mauritius, and Vice-Chair of the UNWTO Executive Council
- Hon. Zurab POLOLIKASHVILI, UNWTO Secretary-General

**Session led by**
- Mr. Mohammad Salim JOOMUN, Senior Chief Executive, Ministry of Tourism, Republic of Mauritius
- Ms. Elcia GRANDCOURT, UNWTO Regional Director for Africa
17:00 – 17:10  
**Closing remarks**

- Hon. Zurab POLOLIKASHVILI, Secretary-General, World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)
- Hon. Steven OBEEGADOO, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Housing and Land Use Planning, Minister of Tourism, Republic of Mauritius, and Vice-Chair of the UNWTO Executive Council

17:30 – 19:30  
*Cocktail/finger buffet* - *courtesy of the Ministry of Tourism of the Republic of Mauritius*  
(*venue Le Méridien, Ile Maurice, Pointe aux Piments*)

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**FRIDAY 28 JULY 2023**

09:00 – 17:00  
**Optional tours** - courtesy of the Ministry of Tourism of the Republic of Mauritius

**End of all events**

In compliance with the United Nations system’s environmental protection policy, the working documents **will not be distributed on paper** at the venue of the event. Therefore, **the delegates are requested to bring with them copies of the documents.**