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Turkistan, 28 September 2021

COMMISSION ON LEGAL AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

EIGHTH MEETING

IMPROVING TOURISM AMONG TURKPA MEMBER COUNTRIES:

IMPACT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND FUTURE PROSPECTS

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Parliamentary Assembly:

Recognizing the fact that the tourism sector is a promising economic infrastructure for the member countries;

Emphasizing the necessity of the development of the tourism network among member countries with common culture, civilization and history;

Underlining the importance of preserving the historical and cultural heritage of the countries and opening them to tourism in order to bring them to the attention of the world;

Considering that development of the transportation facilities among member countries such as providing direct flights from countries represent an important measure for sending tourists to the region and improving access to tourism areas within the country;

Drawing attention to the need for unlimited access to all sorts of information about tourism in member countries;

Acknowledging the importance of health tourism among member countries especially in the Covid-19 pandemic era;

Being Aware of the negative impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the tourism sector in member countries;

Acknowledging that the tourism activities among member countries are not at the desired level especially due to the Covid-19 pandemic;

Conscious of the huge potential with respect to tourism among member countries;

Reaffirming its commitment to develop common policies in order to find solutions to problems in tourism sector among member countries;

Recommends the parliaments of the TURKPA member countries:

to develop:

- a common strategy and action plan for the development of tourism in TURKPA member countries by engaging all other sectors, stakeholders and socio-economic activities in the tourism value chain;
- relevant mechanisms in order to increase mutual tourist flow and attract tourists from third countries;
- common promotion strategies and speed up their efforts for promoting tourism;
- alternative tourism options that can attract the attention of tourists within the scope of sustainable tourism;

to strengthen the institutional capacity by bringing tourism enterprises to a good level in terms of number and quality and providing incentives by the state for this purpose;

to encourage and support international tour operators for attracting more tourists;

to present affordable prices with regard to transportation and accommodation in order to increase tourism;

to establish direct flights between Turkic speaking countries and increase the number of existing ones;

to ensure training of qualified personnel needed by the tourism sector;

to establish mechanisms for exchange of information and experience among representatives of tourism sector;

to encourage mutual participation of respective stake-holders in tourism events organized in member countries;

to promote cooperation among national tourism organizations and relevant stakeholders in health, transport and immigration, with the aim to better coordinate measures to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 in tourism sector;

to establish a database containing relevant data on COVID-19 pandemic in member countries including the vaccination process for the use of tourism enterprises while respecting data protection and privacy;

to create and implement a post COVID-19 Crisis Recovery Plan for tourism sector, which could include enhancing national and regional tourism capabilities, engaging with industry stakeholders to increase business and consumer confidence, exploring creative and innovative solutions to stimulate the tourism sector by using digital technologies, coordinating marketing efforts and joint tourism promotion programs;

On safe tourism:

to develop a common strategy for “Safe Tourism” in order to cope with the challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic and in this context to ensure its implementation in tourism sector in the member countries especially in international tourist movements, preventing operation of tourism enterprises that don’t comply with guidelines of this strategy.