5. Implementation of the General Programme of Work:

a) Global activities: 2012-2013

I. Introduction

1. This report is a complement of the reports on the implementation of the programme of work presented during the 20th session of the General Assembly in Victoria Falls, Zambia/Zimbabwe (A/20/5(I)(b), A/20/5(I)(b) Annex and A/20/5(I)(b) Annex Add.), as well as of the two UNWTO Annual Reports (2012 and 2013).

2. It gives the details of activities undertaken by the Organization during the second semester of 2013.

The report is presented along the Organization’s two strategic objectives: competitiveness and sustainability.

II. Competitiveness

A. Publications

3. **UNWTO World Tourism Barometer, Volume 11:**

   (a) August 2013: This Advance Release is presented on the occasion of the UNWTO 20th General Assembly. It includes an analysis of preliminary results for international tourism for the first half of 2013 based on arrivals and receipts data reported by destinations around the world, as well on international tourism expenditure data for source markets around the world.

   (b) October 2013: This issue includes an analysis of preliminary results for international tourism for the period January-August 2013 based on arrivals and receipts data reported by destinations around the world. Furthermore, it includes an outlook for the period September-December based on feedback from the UNWTO Panel of Experts and air transport bookings data from business intelligence tool ForwardKeys.
December 2013: This issue includes an analysis of preliminary results for international tourism for the period January-September 2013. It is based on arrivals and receipts data reported by destinations around the world, as well expenditure data reported by major tourism source markets. Furthermore, this issue includes data on hotel performance and the meetings industry.

4. **Tourism in the Americas – 2013 edition**: This publication, produced in Spanish and English, aims to identify the main trends shaping tourism in the Americas over the last years while bringing to light important national case studies in key areas such as air transport development, visa facilitation or regional tourism.

5. **UNWTO Tourism Highlights – 2013 Edition**: Available in English, French and Spanish, the brochure presents a concise overview of international tourism in the world based on the results for the year 2012.

6. **STSA Issue Paper Series**:
   (a) **Governance for the Tourism Sector and its Measurement**: This Paper describes the concept of governance in the tourism sector and proposes a basic approach for its measurement and monitoring (by Citlalín Durán Fuentes).
   
   (b) **Regional Tourism Satellite Account**: This Paper proposes an outline for the development of a Tourism Satellite Account (TSA), the main measurement of tourism’s economic impact, at the regional level (by Agustín Cañada).
   
   (c) **The Economic Impact of Tourism, Overview and Examples of Macroeconomic Analysis**: This Paper discusses the advantages and disadvantages of existing macroeconomic analysis tools, in understanding tourism’s role in the economy beyond the Tourism Satellite Account (TSA) to include besides direct effects, also the consideration of indirect and induced effects (by Douglas C. Frechtling).

7. **Tourism visa openness report: Visa facilitation as means to stimulate tourism growth**: This report is based on the results of UNWTO surveys of visa policies around the world conducted since 2008. It shows the link between the different policies and procedures for visas, as well as for other important travel documents such as passports, with the development of tourism.

8. **The Impact of Visa Facilitation in APEC Economies**: This new research study, jointly commissioned by UNWTO and WTTC for the APEC High Level Policy Dialogue on Travel Facilitation in Bali, Indonesia (1-2 October 2013), is a positive step in quantifying the possible impact of visa facilitation in the APEC economies. It will surely support the advocacy efforts of APEC economies in advancing visa facilitation as a powerful instrument of regional integration and development.

9. **Translations of previous publications**:
   (a) **Demographic Change and Tourism** (Spanish)
   
   (b) **Toolbox for Crisis Communications in Tourism** (Arabic, French)
   
   (c) **Handbook on Tourism Product Development** (Spanish)

B. Technical events

10. **Thirteenth meeting - Committee on Statistics and the Tourism Satellite Account** (July 2013, UNWTO Headquarters, Madrid, Spain).
11. **UNWTO/EHL Altai Krai Hospitality Management Strategy** (20-28 July, Altai Krai, Russian Federation): As a follow-up to the successful EHL/UNWTO Silk Road Strategy Challenge in 2012, UNWTO cooperated with the Altai Region of Russia to send the winning Strategy Challenge graduates from the École hôtelière de Lausanne (EHL) to work with local tourism authorities, private sector stakeholders and students in developing a hospitality management strategy for the region, focusing on health and wellness. UNWTO and the EHL graduates ran a series of interactive capacity-building workshops involving over 200 local participants.

12. The **6th UNWTO International Meeting on Silk Road Tourism** highlighted the increasing interest in developing cultural routes associated with the Silk Road and succeeded in raising the profile of tourism along this emblematic route. The event was jointly organized by UNWTO, the China National Tourism Administration (CNTA) and the People's Government of Gansu Province (August 2013, Dunhuang, China).

13. **UNWTO/WTM Silk Road Bloggers Trip to Armenia**: On 8-14 September, the Republic of Armenia hosted the winners of the Silk Road Bloggers Ch@llenge, an event, launched at WTM 2012, designed to enhance the online and social media presence of the Silk Road. Sponsored by the National Competitiveness Foundation of Armenia, the winning bloggers were invited to blog their way around Armenia and share their recommendations on how Silk Road destinations can organize effective and innovative bloggers' trips.

14. **2013 Global Tourism Economy Forum** (17–19 September, Macau, China): UNWTO co-organized the [Ministerial Round Table](#) in collaboration with the Global Tourism Economy Research Center (GTERC), themed “How to Make 1.8 billion international tourists a reality by 2030”, as well as signed an Agreement on Joint Research on Tourism Trends in Asia and the Pacific.

15. **UNWTO.TedQual Worldwide Event 2013**: Connecting the Needs of Employers, Professionals and Higher Tourism Education Institutions to Build a More Sustainable Tourism Sector (UNWTO HQ, Madrid, Spain, September 2013).

16. The **2nd UNWTO Global Summit on City Tourism, “Innovative strategies for improving competitiveness and the development of new business models”** (Moscow, Russian Federation, September 2013) set the stage for the second phase of the “Cities” project initiated by UNWTO in 2012.

17. **UNWTO Regional Course at Mexico “Gastronomy as a Tool for Tourism Competitiveness”** (Playas de Rosarito, Baja California, Mexico, October 2013). The course aimed to provide knowledge, skills and tools as well as a forum for debate and reflection on the various development and communication strategies in relation with gastronomy.

18. **ETC-UNWTO E-marketing Masterclass: Optimise your skills in developing, integrating, evaluating E-marketing strategy and tactics** (Zadar, Croatia, October, 2013). The master class was the occasion for the official launch of the brand new ETC-UNWTO “Handbook on e-marketing for tourism destinations – fully revised and extended version 3.0”.

19. **World Tourism Conference 2013: Global Tourism: Game changers and pace setters** (Melaka, Malaysia, October 2013). The key objectives of this conference were to discuss current and relevant issues of the tourism industry. Key areas for discussion were (a) Beyond Mass Tourism, (b) Innovative Marketing and (c) Directions for Tourism Product Development.

20. The **UNWTO/PATA Forum on Tourism Trends and Outlook** (October, 2013, Guilin, China) was organized under the theme of “New Knowledge, Practices and Challenges”. It was the 7th edition of the joint research initiative organized with PATA.
21. UNWTO and the Government of Cambodia jointly organized the **Regional Conference on Tourism Development in Cultural and Natural Heritage Sites** (November 2013, Siem Reap, Cambodia). The objectives of the conference were to showcase the cultural, natural and historical richness and heritage of the Asian Region and to present case studies and country experiences on successful policies, guidelines for sustainable sites management preservation and strategies for cultural tourism development.

22. The **T.20 Ministers’ meeting** in London agreed to continue placing visa facilitation as a priority in the aim of stimulating economic growth and generate more jobs through of tourism. (London, United Kingdom, 4 November 2013).

23. Improving air connectivity through a closer coordination of tourism and aviation policies to ensure the sustained growth of the tourism sector and of air transport was the commitment stemming from the annual **UNWTO & World Travel Market (WTM) Ministers’ Summit: “How to bridge the gap between tourism and aviation policies”** (London, United Kingdom, 5 November 2013).

24. The **Social Silk Road** (WTM London, United Kingdom). Aimed at Silk Road destinations and stakeholders, this interactive session assessed the potential of social media to raise awareness and drive tourism development along the historic routes by focusing on the strategies and best-practice examples currently being implemented by the industry.

25. The **3rd International Conference on the Measurement and Economic Analysis of Regional Tourism MOVE 2013** (Medellin, Colombia, November 2013). The Conference was organized within the conceptual framework of the International Network on Regional Economics, Mobility and Tourism (INROuTe).

26. The World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) and “Escuela de Organización Industrial” (EOI) with support of Malaga Valley are organizing a **joint seminar on “Employment in Tourism – Realizing its Full Potential”** (Malaga, Spain, November 2013). The participants explored the field of employment in tourism by discussing evidence-based policy, best practices, and innovations related to employment issues in tourism.

27. The **UNWTO Knowledge Network Symposium & Tedqual Information Seminar** (Hong Kong S.A.R., China, November 2013). Held in the School of Hotel and Tourism Management at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, the Symposium provided a unique opportunity for tourism educational institutions at all levels to come together and to discuss and share their experiences in promoting capacity building in tourism through research, education and training.

28. The **3rd International Conference on Tourism and Media: exploring new tourism communication formats** (2-3 December 2013, Estoril, Portugal). Centred around the theme, “How new media is shaping the news”, the Conference addressed, among others, the issues of tourism in today’s media coverage, the new media environment, the emergence of bloggers as influential news sources, and the transversal impact of technology on all communication formats.

29. The **First UNWTO Conference on the Global Observatory of Sustainable Tourism and 2nd Annual Working Meeting of UNWTO Sustainable Tourism Observatories in China** (11–13 December, Madrid, Spain): these events were held in order to expand the Initiative of Sustainable Tourism Observatories under the auspices of UNWTO and consolidate observatories in China. Five observatories are currently in operation in China (Yangshuo, Huangshan, Zhangjiajie, Chengdu and Kanas), all managed by the Monitoring center based in Sun Yat-sen University in Guangzhou, China.
30. UNWTO in cooperation with the State Department of Tourism of the Ministry of Economy of Lithuania, held the 2nd annual Amber Road Conference on “Creation of Amber Destinations and further Development of the World Amber Road” on 18 December 2013, in Vilnius (Lithuania). The conference officially created the Amber Road Committee, which aims to identify the priorities and the specific to be carried out for the development of the Amber Road Project.

III. Sustainability

A. Publications

31. **Tourism Stories. How tourism enriched my life**: this publication is the first in a series of books that sets out to capture and showcase how tourism can change people’s lives and how people can change their future and that of their communities.

32. **Sustainable Tourism Governance and Management in Coastal Areas of Africa**: this research study conducted in nine African countries revealed mechanisms for improving sustainable tourism governance and management in coastal areas. It pointed to the need for strengthening policy frameworks and providing effective governance structures for sustainable coastal tourism. It is published in French and English.

33. **UNWTO High-level Regional Conference on Green Tourism – Final Report**: this report includes the conclusions and key presentations of the eponymous Conference held in 2012 in Thailand, which aimed to present national experiences on how sustainable tourism development and green economy can accompany sustaining economic development in Asia and the Pacific.

34. **Sustainable Tourism for Development**: this guidebook, published in French and English, aims at establishing an operational policy framework which enables the European Union and other development institutions to include sustainable tourism development in their programme cycles.

35. **Roadmap for Development**: this roadmap outlines a UNESCO/UNWTO strategy for visitor management, site presentation and promotion along two specific Silk Road Heritage Corridors crossing China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. Published following the UNESCO/UNWTO Silk Road Heritage Corridors Workshop in Almaty in October, this document is available in both English and Russian.

36. A joint study by UNWTO, WTO and OECD entitled **Aid for Trade and Value Chains in Tourism** was launched, demonstrating the importance of tourism’s spill-over effect to the rest of the economy. The publication was developed a result of tourism being identified by WTO as one of five key sectors at its 4th Global Aid-for-Trade (AfT) Review in 2013.

37. **Report of the 2nd UNWTO International Congress on Ethics and Tourism – Quito, Ecuador, 11 and 12 September 2012** (English): this report includes the presentations and conclusions of the Congress.

38. **Report of the International Conference on Tourism as an Inducer of Development, Social Inclusion and Regional Integration – Fortaleza, Brazil, 28 and 29 November 2011** (English, Spanish and Portuguese): this report includes the presentations and conclusions of the Conference.

39. Translations of previous publications:

   (a) **Tourism and Intangible Cultural Heritage** (Spanish)
(b) Challenges and Opportunities for Tourism Development in Small Island Developing States (French)

B. Technical events

40. ST-EP Forum on “Ten Years ST-EP Initiative: Turning Tourism into an Engine for Socio-Economic Growth” (Victoria Falls, 27 August 2013). The objective of the Forum was to share experiences gained and successes achieved in the ST-EP Initiative and to draw lessons on how to turn the tourism sector into an engine for socio-economic growth. Presentations were made of selected ST-EP projects and a panel of experts debated which lessons can be drawn from the ST-EP Initiative. The Forum was organized within the framework of the UNWTO General Assembly and attended by over 70 representatives from various Member States.

41. Over 150 participants from 30 countries gathered in St Denis, La Reunion, at the UNWTO/Government of France Conference on Sustainable Development of Tourism in Islands, and called for tourism to be placed as a key element in the debate on sustainable development in Islands (Réunion Island, France, 11-13 September 2013).

42. World Tourism Day 2013 (27 September 2013, Maldives). In line with the 2013 United Nations International Year of Water Cooperation, the 2013 theme for World Tourism Day is Tourism and Water: Protecting our Common Future. As the most widely celebrated global day for tourism, it represents a unique opportunity to raise awareness of tourism’s role in water access and shine a spotlight on the sector’s contribution to a more sustainable water future.

43. UNESCO/UNWTO Silk Roads Heritage Corridors Workshop (7-8 October 2013, Almaty, Kazakhstan). The workshop aimed to define a tourism management roadmap for two UNESCO Silk Road Heritage Corridors crossing China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. Tourism and heritage experts called for more effective visa systems to support tourism development.

44. First Euro-Asian Ski Resorts Conference (Almaty, Kazakhstan, October 2013). The objective of the Conference was to acquire an overview to further develop and expand the international ski tourism market in order to ensure its steady and sustainable growth.

45. Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on ‘Sustainable Tourism: Ecotourism, Poverty Reduction and Environmental Protection’ at UN Headquarters in New York, United States, 29-30 October 2013. The UN Division for Sustainable Development (DSD) organized the meeting in cooperation with the Government of Morocco, the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) and the UN Environment Programme (UNEP). The meeting contributed to joint advocacy efforts in positioning the tourism sector in the Global Development Agenda and an opportunity to discuss milestones achieved, such as the inclusion of tourism in the LDCs agenda as part of the IPoA stemming from LDC IV in Istanbul (2011) and the two paragraphs on sustainable tourism in the Rio+20 Outcome document “The Future We Want” (2012), as well as the 10YFP on sustainable consumption and production.

46. International Conference on Spiritual Tourism for Sustainable Development, (Ninh Binh City, Vietnam, November 2013). The event explored ways in which living culture, traditions and beliefs can be integrated into tourism while respecting the four pillars of sustainability: environmental, economic, social and cultural.

47. The World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), The UNWTO.Themis Foundation and the Ministry of Tourism of Côte d’Ivoire jointly organized a UNWTO capacity building regional course in Côte d’Ivoire on Tourism Policy and Strategy for francophone ECOWAS countries (Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire, 9 December 2013). This course was intended for decision-makers of National Tourism Administrations with expertise in the design and implementation of policies and strategic sectoral plans for tourism development.
C. Other activities and initiatives

48. The **UNWTO recommendations on “Accessible Tourism for All” (2013)** have been approved and endorsed by the General Assembly. Updated from the 2005 version, the recommendations outline a form of tourism that involves a collaborative process among stakeholders to enable people with access requirements to function independently through universally designed tourism products, services and environments. These recommendations were developed within the framework of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities of 2007.

49. The **ST-EP International Organization** was presented to countries interested in joining as founding members on the occasion of the World Travel Market (London, United Kingdom, 6 November 2013). The creation of the new Organization follows the decision of the 20th UNWTO General Assembly, to transform the existing ST-EP Foundation into a full-fledged international organization, to be headquartered in the Republic of Korea.

50. In recognition of the importance of tourism as a key export sector for Least Developed Countries (LDCs), UNWTO has been granted **observer status to the Board of the Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF)**, an initiative created to support trade as the engine of economic growth and socio-economic development in LDCs. UNWTO, which has collaborated with the EIF in various forms since 2010, particularly through the Steering Committee on Tourism for Development (SCTD), is the eighth organization to join the partnership. UNWTO participation in the EIF Board and its collaboration with the SCTD should help to increase Aid for Trade resources for an integrated approach to tourism development in LDCs.

51. The **20th Session of the UNWTO General Assembly** (Victoria Falls, Zambia/Zimbabwe, 24-29 August 2013). 120 delegations of UNWTO Members States, 49 full ministers and 700 delegates participated in the event. It included, among others, (a) two Executive Council sessions (96th and 97th), (b) the meetings of the six regional Commissions, (c) one meeting of the Programme and Budget Committee, (d) the first meetings of the renewed Committees on Sustainability and on Competitiveness, (e) the 11th Meeting of the Board of Directors of the UNWTO ST-EP Foundation, and (f) One ST-EP Forum: “10 Years of ST-EP Initiative: Turning Tourism into an Engine for Socio-Economic Growth”.

52. An **Exposition of Photography from Lithuania** was co-organised with the Embassy of Lithuania in Madrid, at UNWTO Headquarters on 24 September 2013, on the occasion of the Presidency of Lithuania of the Council of the European Union. The European Ambassadors as well as representatives of the tourism private sector participated in the event.
Progress Report on the implementation of the Programme of Work:

Global activities 2014-2015

I. Introduction

a) This report presents the activities undertaken by the Organization during the first quarter of 2014. It is presented along the Organization’s two strategic objectives: competitiveness and sustainability.

II. Competitiveness

A. Events

b) Fourteenth meeting - Committee on Statistics and the Tourism Satellite Account (UNWTO Headquarters, Madrid, Spain, 14 January 2014).

c) VII Tourism Leadership Forum of EXCELTUR: Tourism, a Key Driver to Support the Country Brand (FITUR Madrid, Spain, 21 January 2014): UNWTO joined the Alliance for Excellence in Tourism (EXCELTUR) in organizing this forum, which gathered tourism leaders from the public and the private sector worldwide and aimed to raise awareness of tourism’s contribution to the external reputation of a country and the development and consolidation of its welfare.

d) The 2013 UNWTO Awards Ceremony took place during FITUR (Madrid, Spain, 22 January 2014); the next day the UNWTO Knowledge Network Symposium showcased the awardees’ accomplishments.

a. UNWTO Ulysses Prize for Creation and Dissemination of Knowledge: Dr. Tej Vir Singh

b. UNWTO Award for Lifetime Achievement: Mr. Richard Quest

c. UNWTO Ulysses Awards for Innovation in Tourism:

i. Public Policy and Governance: Responsible Tourism Project at Kumarakom, Department of Tourism, Government of Kerala, India

ii. Enterprises: Arromanches 1944, Biplan, France

iii. Non-Governmental Organizations: From Charity to Social Entrepreneurship, Borneo Ecotourism Solutions and Technologies (BEST) Society, Malaysia

iv. Research and Technology: 3D AR Visual Portal, DSP Studio & Momentum Studio, Croatia

e) FITUR Green 2014 – Innovative and Sustainable Management: A Commitment to the Tourist (FITUR Madrid, Spain, 22 -24 January 2014): Organized by the Instituto Tecnológico Hotelero (ITH), UNWTO and FITUR in collaboration with the Habitat Futura Group, FITUR Green examined the role of organizations, companies, government agencies and tourists in the creation, development and growth of sustainable tourism destinations. UNWTO participation at FITUR Green included roundtables
on the topics of Innovation for Sustainable Tourism and Sustainability and Competitiveness, as well as the presentation of the project “Towards Zero Energy Hotels”.

f) Visa facilitation and air connectivity are key areas to address in order to fully seize Africa’s steadily rising tourism performance and foster sustainable development in the region, concluded the 5th Investment and Tourism Business Forum for Africa (INVESTOUR), an initiative held every year on the occasion of FITUR (Madrid, Spain, 23 January 2014).

g) Ministerial Discussion Forum on the Future of Tourism in the MENA Region (FITUR Madrid, Spain, 23 January 2014): Organized jointly by UNWTO and Casa Árabe, the Forum focused on future prospects of Tourism in the Middle East and North Africa, as well as on strategies and measures to accelerate and consolidate tourism recovery, sustain growth, boost competitiveness and promote investment in the region.

h) At the 21st Anniversary of SATTE (South Asia’s major fair organized by UBM - UNWTO Affiliate Member) UNWTO coordinated a series of thematic sessions that focused on Tourism 2030, global marketing for ecotourism, and a high-level panel discussion on tourism for development (29-31 January 2014, New Delhi, India).

i) 4th Silk Road Ministers’ Meeting on Visa Facilitation (ITB, Berlin, Germany, 5 March 2014): The Meeting brought together Ministers of Tourism and high officials from 23 countries to discuss how to advance visa facilitation on the Silk Road in 2014-2015 and beyond. At the meeting, which was attended by over 100 delegates, UNWTO released a new visa openness report on the Silk Road countries.

j) Presentation of the UNWTO prototype Madrid Precious Time (ITB, Berlin, Germany, 5 March 2014): This is a pioneering project developed by the UNWTO Affiliate Members to promote innovative strategies of product development in cities. The project aims to create new and more specialized products with high added value, addressing niche markets and upgrading the quality of the visitor experience.

k) 3rd Silk Road Tour Operators’ Forum (ITB, Berlin, Germany, 6 March 2014): This year’s Tour Operators’ Forum was dedicated to the flourishing Asian section of the Silk Road. Aimed at tourism stakeholders active throughout the historic routes, the Forum assessed the performance and profile of some of the destinations driving the region’s growth, and provided a business platform for approximately 80 outbound and inbound operators to network and build partnerships. Additionally, as part of UNWTO’s ongoing promotion of the Silk Road at ITB Berlin, two Globe Trekker episodes on the Silk Road, the result of a joint collaboration between UNWTO and Pilot Productions, were screened daily at the ITB Cinema.

l) Seminar on IT Technologies and Innovative Marketing Tools in the Modern Tourism Industry (Moscow, Russian Federation, 17 March 2014), organized by the Federal Agency for Tourism of the Russian Federation in cooperation with UNWTO. The event showcased the importance of the technological development in travel and tourism and how tourism destinations adopted IT Technologies to position themselves in the global tourism map.

B. Publications

m) UNWTO World Tourism Barometer and Statistical Annex, Volume 12:

a. January 2014: This issue presents full year results for international tourism in 2013 based on preliminary data for international overnight visitors reported by destinations
around the world. This analysis is complemented by data on receipts from and expenditure on international tourism for the first part of 2013. Furthermore, this issue includes an outlook for 2014 based on current trends and the assessment by the UNWTO Panel of Tourism Experts.

b. March 2014: This issue include a comprehensive analysis of the 2013 international tourism receipts, as well as the top destinations by international tourist arrivals and receipts, and top source markets by international tourism expenditure. It also offers an overview of air transport and hotel performance. Furthermore, preliminary results are included for international tourism in the first months of 2014.

n) The report *Tourism Visa Openness Report for the Silk Road Countries*, available in English and Russian, presents a global vision of travel facilitation in the world, complemented by a specific analysis of this important issue along the Silk Road.

o) March 2014: *WTM Social Media Report – The Silk Road*: As a follow-up to *The Social Silk Road*, a social media event organized by UNWTO and Travel Perspective at WTM London 2013, this online report focuses on the social media permeation of the Silk Road countries.

p) The *UNWTO-WTTC Report on the Impact of Visa Facilitation in ASEAN Member States*: The report supports the efforts of further advancing visa facilitation as a powerful instrument of regional integration and socio-economic development and concludes with a presentation of case studies of visa policy changes from the region.

q) Deriving from the most comprehensive statistical database available on the tourism sector, the *Compendium of Tourism Statistics - 2014 Edition* provides statistical data and indicators on inbound, outbound and domestic tourism, as well as on the number and types of tourism industries, the number of employees by tourism industries, and macroeconomic indicators related to international tourism. It presents data for 203 countries from 2008 to 2012, with methodological notes in English, French and Spanish.

r) *The Yearbook of Tourism Statistics - 2014 Edition* complements the Compendium and focuses on data related to inbound tourism (total arrivals and overnight stays), broken down by country of origin. It presents data for 197 countries from 2008 to 2012, with methodological notes in English, French and Spanish.

s) *Chinese Outbound Travel to the Middle East and North Africa*: This study looks into Chinese travel preferences and destination choices, their perceptions of MENA countries and their travel behaviour, while providing recommendations on how to market MENA destinations in the Chinese market in view of the main travel trends of China.

t) *Handbook on E-marketing for Tourism Destinations – Fully revised and extended version 3.0*: The Handbook is part of the UNWTO/ETC joint research programme and provides practical information on latest trends and developments in mobile marketing and social media, as well as detailed insight into the measurement of effective e-marketing strategies using the latest technologies.

u) *Tourism Legislation in the Americas*: This publication, available only in Spanish, compiles tourism legislation from 19 countries of the Americas. It provides an overview of the concepts, visions, actors, promotional criteria as well as the rights and obligations of tourists and the different public and private organizations in the sector.

v) *Tourism management and promotion in the Americas*: State participation through National Tourism Administrations (NTAs) has been central to the evolution, management and consolidation of
the tourism sector. The study, available only in Spanish, shows how NTAs are organized, their objectives and priorities, and the promotion mechanisms they use.

w) **Tourism and New Technologies**: The dynamism of travel and tourism is partly explained by the change in the profile of tourists and by the use of new information and communications media, such as the Internet, social networks and television. This publication, available in Spanish and English, brings together the views expressed by different experts on the subject at the seminar held in San Jose, Costa Rica, in 2013.

x) **Affiliate Members Regional Report, Volume III: Working Together in Europe – A Shared Leadership**: The report, which included the valuable contribution of 43 European countries and major Affiliate Members, presents a highly valuable and up-to-date regional analysis of the tourism sector throughout Europe. It reflects their assessment on key current and short-term trends, market development priorities, public-private cooperation initiatives, investment ambitions in hard and soft infrastructure, modalities for cooperation and the role that UNWTO can play in these collaborative endeavours.

C. Initiatives

y) **VeRoTour Project**: UNWTO established a new partnership with the Council of Europe Venice Office and the Veneto Region of Italy to develop a pilot maritime tourism initiative along the Venetian routes of the Silk Road. The project aims to develop transnational thematic tourism products, and enhance competitiveness and sustainability along the western link of the Silk Road.

z) **QUEST**: Upon the request of a number of Member States and Affiliate Members, the Secretary-General decided to revitalize the certification initiative through a revised format, methodology and brand. A Think Tank of destination management professionals was held in Madrid in 2013 to outline the context and principles of the new initiative, now called QUEST.

III. Sustainability

A. Events

aa) **International Seminar on Tourism Destinations Management in Cultural Heritage Sites** (Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, 17-18 February 2014): The Seminar gathered an extensive compendium of case studies and good practices mainly from the Americas Region and offered information on governmental actions, public-private partnerships and community initiatives.

bb) **Tourism as a Key Sector for Development in Island States** (Nassau, Bahamas, 19-20 February 2014): The Conference built up on the conclusions of the Conference on Sustainable Development of Tourism in Islands held in Reunion Island in September 2013 and served as guidance to National Tourism Authorities and the international community as an input to the Third International Conference on SIDS, scheduled to convene in September 2014, in Samoa.

cc) **13th meeting of the World Committee on Tourism Ethics** (WCTE) and first meeting of the body with its new composition (Madrid, Spain, 26 February 2014): The Committee set up its priorities for the coming four years, including the following areas of action (a) preventing the exploitation of children in all its forms; (b) combating trafficking related to tourism; (c) curbing poaching and the illegal trading of wildlife; (d) securing accessible tourism for all; (e) promoting fair models of all inclusive holidays; and (f)
discouraging unfounded ratings on travel portals which may impact the reputation of companies and destinations.

dd) Launch of the UNWTO/UNODC/UNESCO Anti-trafficking Campaign: Your actions count – help fight trafficking! (ITB, Berlin, Germany, 5 March 2014): UNWTO, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) have joined forces to engage tourists in the global fight against the illicit trafficking involving human beings, wildlife and fauna, cultural artefacts, drugs and counterfeit goods. Campaign website: www.bearesponsibletraveller.org

ee) UNWTO/UNESCO Silk Road Heritage Corridors Meeting (ITB Berlin, Germany 5 March 2014) UNWTO and UNESCO launched the project’s Roadmap for Development together with Ministers and Deputy Ministers of the five countries involved—China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan—and planned ongoing activity in the lead-up to a possible Serial Nomination of two Silk Road Heritage Corridors on the World Heritage List in 2014.

ff) UNWTO African Tourism Ministers’ Meeting on Anti-Poaching (ITB, Berlin, Germany, 6 March 2014): The growing threat posed by poaching on wildlife and the tourism sector in Africa and how to jointly address this issue from the tourism sector side was the focus of the UNWTO African Tourism Ministers’ Meeting.

gg) 29th Meeting of the World Tourism Network on Child Protection (ITB, Berlin, Germany, 7 March 2014): This year’s Special Session focused on media partnerships. Some of the topics discussed included cooperation formats between the media and tourism stakeholders, ethical challenges in reporting on children and youth, and the media’s contribution to curbing child exploitation in tourism. The reporting session served, as usual, as an open platform for exchanging good practices.

hh) Private Sector Commitment to the UNWTO Global Code of Ethics for Tourism: To date, 242 tourism enterprises and associations spread over 34 countries across the world have pledged to promote and implement the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism by signing the Private Sector Commitment.

B. Publications

ii) International Handbook on Tourism and Peace: Launched by UNWTO and the University of Klagenfurt, with the support of the Government of Austria, the Handbook offers a comprehensive collection of perspectives on tourism and peace from leading international specialists with topics ranging from sustainable development and conflict resolution to eco-tourism and heritage preservation and includes several case studies.

jj) The Manual on Accessible Tourism for All: Public-Private Partnerships and Good Practices is the first UNWTO technical publication in the field of accessible tourism, which has been co-produced with the Spanish ACS Foundation. It features the inclusion of both cultural and natural heritage assets into the accessible tourism value chain as well as the technical knowledge necessary for making tourism infrastructures and attractions accessible. The publication is currently available in Spanish and in electronic format only.

kk) 15 years of the UNWTO World Tourism Network on Child Protection: A Compilation of Good Practices: The 15th anniversary of the UNWTO World Tourism Network on Child Protection was marked by this publication, which demonstrates the variety of strategies and actions that have been taken around the world to protect children from exploitation in tourism. The 16 initiatives featured in the compilation were selected from more than 170 presentations and reports delivered at Network meetings since 1997.