UNWTO Commission for Europe
Sixty-first meeting
Chisinau (Republic of Moldova), 6 June 2017

DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE UNWTO COMMISSION FOR EUROPE
AT ITS SIXTY-FIRST MEETING
Chisinau (Republic of Moldova), 6 June 2017

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2. DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE COMMISSION

CEU/DEC/1(LXI)

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA
Agenda item 1 (document CEU/61/Prov. Agenda)

The Commission,

Adopts the agenda of its sixty-first meeting.

CEU/DEC/2(LXI)

COMMUNICATION OF THE CHAIRMAN
Agenda item 2 (document CEU/61/2)

The Commission,

Having heard the communication of its Chairman,

Thanks him for it;

1. **Appreciates** the work done regarding the three targets set by the Chairman namely:
   a) to contribute to the further development of Europe as the top tourist destination in the world;
   b) to strengthen the position of UNWTO European Member States;
   c) to increase the role, importance and relevance of UNWTO in Europe;

2. **Congratulates** Switzerland for conducting and leading a working session on “Projects to overcome the core challenges of European tourism”, on 20 September 2016 in Bern, Switzerland, with the participation of the European members States, with the aim to identify the most important challenges for European tourism and to define actions for the UNWTO Programme of Work 2017-2019;

3. **Thanks** Switzerland for actively participating in the Steering Committee for the IY2017 and for supporting the idea to host the closing ceremony of the International Year for Sustainable Tourism for Development in Geneva in December 2017;

4. **Notes with interest** the insights provided on Switzerland’s tourism policy, particularly relating to the three key topics: entrepreneurship, framework conditions and digitalization;

5. **Thanks Switzerland** for its active cooperation with the UNWTO Secretariat.

CEU/DEC/3(LXI)

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
Agenda item 3 (document CEU/61/3)

The Commission,
Having heard the presentation of the Secretary-General,

1. Thanks him for it;

2. Welcomes the detailed update on the tourism results for 2016 and encouraging prospects for 2017 despite challenges;

3. Takes note with satisfaction that Europe is keeping its position as the number one tourist destination in the world, but nevertheless, calls upon more efforts to be done with regard to safety and security issues which are affecting Europe in general and some European destinations in particular,

4. Welcomes the work of the Organization regarding the progress achieved in the implementation of its priorities namely:
   a) Promoting safe and seamless travel;
   b) Enhancing the role of technology in tourism; and
   c) Placing sustainability at the heart of tourism development and promoting the role of sustainable tourism in development.

5. Notes with satisfaction the success of the “Open Letter on Travel and Tourism Campaign”, which 87 leaders (27 countries in Europe) have joined by June 2017, and encourages Member states to pursue their prioritization of tourism as a key tool for socio-economic development;

6. Supports the work of the Secretariat for the 2017 International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development and encourages UNWTO Member States to participate actively in its celebration;

7. Welcomes the official opening of the UNWTO Geneva Liaison Office, which will contribute to underlining the importance of tourism in the global development and trade agenda of the United Nations;

8. Appreciates the work of the Secretariat in mainstreaming tourism at the level of the European Union, and its reinforced relations with its various institutions such as with the European Commission, European Parliament and with the Committee of the Regions;

9. Congratulates UNWTO for the significant progress made on the Measuring Sustainable Tourism initiative, which has been highly welcomed and supported by the 48th Session of United Nations Statistical Commission;

10. Thanks the Secretary-General for its report on the re-organisation of the Secretariat and the financial and administrative situation of the Organization.

CEU/DEC/4(LXI)

REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GENERAL PROGRAMME OF WORK
Agenda item 4 (Document CEU/61/4)

4.a Programme of Work: Global Activities

The Commission,

Having heard the report of the Executive Director for Programme and Coordination on the implementation of the General Programme of Work (August 2016 – February 2017),

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World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) - Captain Haya 42, 28020 Madrid, Spain. Tel: (34) 91 567 61 00 / Fax: (34) 91 571 37 33 - omt@unwto.org / unwto.org
1. **Thanks** him for the detailed information and takes note of the activities carried out by UNWTO between the period of August 2016- February 2017;

2. **Thanks** the Member States for their cooperation in the implementation of the General Programme of Work;

3. **Appreciates** the work of the Secretariat in sharing knowledge, experiences and best practices via capacity building activities and numerous international events hosted by Member States;

4. **Congratulates** the Secretariat for the successful organization of the launching of the International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development during FITUR, in January 2017;

5. **Welcomes** the successful expansion of the UNWTO International Network of Sustainable Tourism Observatories (INSTO), as a crucial tool for monitoring the tourism development and ensuring the sustainability of the tourism sector;

6. **Supports** the work of the Secretariat regarding dissemination of data, research and guidance in the form of publications;

7. **Calls on** the Secretariat to enhance its collaboration with the UNWTO Affiliate Members and on research in particular.

**4.b Programme of Work for Europe – Regional activities**

The Commission,

Having heard the presentation of the Regional Director for Europe on the Programme of Work for Europe - Regional Activities:

1. **Thanks** her for the detailed and informative presentation and **notes with interest** the activities carried out to achieve a closer regional cooperation, in particular those relating to knowledge sharing and capacity building;

2. **Supports** the work of the Regional Programme in mainstreaming tourism in the European political agenda through the delivery of the Open Letter for Tourism and the signing of the Private Sector commitment to the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism;

3. **Welcomes** and **encourages** the increased involvement of European member States in the committees and working groups of the Organization;

4. **Encourages** the Regional Programme to continue its activities in line with the priorities identified by the European Member States, and **highlights** particular themes such as using culture as a tool for tourism in rural areas, and how to develop compelling products to prolong the tourism season;

5. **Congratulates** the Organization for its continuous efforts in hosting trainees and officials on loan from the European Member States and encourages them to present candidates;

6. **Welcomes** the ongoing implementation of the Ad-hoc Grant Agreement with the European Commission DG GROWTH on “Enhancing the Understanding of European Tourism”, **notes** with satisfaction the successful organization of the 1st International Western Silk Road Workshop (Greece) and the 3rd International Congress on Ethics and Tourism (Poland) within the framework of the agreement, and **expresses** its satisfaction on the publication of the European Union Short-Term Tourism Trends, a useful instrument for the member States;

7. **Takes note** of a new Memorandum of Cooperation signed with the Council of Europe;

8. **Welcomes** the increased collaboration with the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) as well as with the Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States (the Turkic Council), reflecting the continued interest of
the Organization in better understanding and addressing the issues of most concern to the Members at a sub-regional level;

9. **Encourages** the Regional Programme for Europe to continue engaging in sub-regional initiatives and supports, in this regard, the activities carried out and foreseen in 2017;

10. **Thanks** the team of the Regional Programme for Europe for its diligent work and assistance to the Members.

### 4.c Update on Affiliate Members Activities

The Commission,

**Having heard** the report of the Executive Director for Member Relations on the update on Affiliate Members activities:

1. **Thanks** him for his remarks;
2. **Acknowledges** that Affiliate Members of the Organization constitute an enormously valuable asset for projecting and broadening the principles and image of UNWTO worldwide;
3. **Takes note with satisfaction** of the growing number of private sector entities joining the Affiliate Members’ Programme, representing a variety of economic sectors;
4. **Supports** the Organization in its efforts to multiply its partnerships with external institutions, especially with the private sector, as an effective tool to expand UNWTO’s reach and sphere of influence, as well as a constructive way for increasing its resources;
5. **Welcomes** that the UNWTO Awards for Excellence and Innovation in Tourism have become a flagship event for the global tourism sector;
6. **Notes with satisfaction** the growing interests of Member States’ participation in the various networks and prototypes, and **congratulates** the Affiliate Members programme for the results achieved in connection with the Gastronomy Network and the Wine tourism prototype;
7. **Notes with interest** the informative and practical reports prepared by UNWTO and numerous Affiliate Members and encourages the Affiliate Members to continue contributing with their best practices;
8. **Supports the reform** of the Rules of procedure of the Affiliate Members.

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**CEU/DEC/5(LXI)**

**UPDATE ON COMMITTEES**

**Agenda item 5** (document CEU/61/5)

The Commission,

**Having heard** the presentations by the members of the different Committees:

1. **Thanks** France for its valuable and detailed presentation on the work of the Programme and Budget Committee;
2. **Thanks** Lithuania for its valuable and detailed presentation on the work of the Committee for Tourism and Sustainability;
3. **Thanks** Italy for its valuable and detailed presentation on the work of the Committee on Tourism and Competitiveness;
4. Thanks Austria for its valuable and detailed presentation on the work of the Committee on Statistics and the Tourism Satellite Account;

5. Appreciates the active support of the European Member States, and in particular of Croatia, in revitalizing the contribution of the various committees to the work of the Organization.

Update on the ST-EP Initiative
Agenda item 6 (document CEU/61/6)

The Commission,

Having heard the presentation of the Chairperson of the ST-EP Initiative:

1. Thanks her for the detailed report on the various projects implemented in Europe;

2. Welcomes the progress made in transforming the ST-EP Foundation into a fully-fledged new International ST-EP Organization;


REPORT OF THE DRAFT UNWTO CONVENTION ON:
Agenda item 7 (document CEU/61/7)

7.a The Protection of Tourists and the Rights and Obligations of Tourism Service Providers

Having heard the report of the Executive Director for Programme and Coordination on the Protection of Tourists and the Rights and Obligations of Tourism Service Providers:

1. Thanks him for the detailed overview provided;

2. Appreciates the important work of the Secretariat in the finalization of the convention;

3. Thanks Member States and entities for participating in the public survey conducted by the Secretariat between August - December 2016;

4. Notes the comments of the Member States regarding the importance of close cooperation with the European Union and the necessity for further talks and coordination between the Member States and participating entities;

5. Welcomes that the process remains open for comments and allows for more time for required national administrative processes to be followed;


7.b Report on Tourism Ethics

The Commission,
Having heard the remarks from the Secretary-General and the presentation of the representative from Azerbaijan regarding the UNWTO Convention on Tourism Ethics:

1. Thanks them for the detailed information;

2. Asks the Secretariat to continue disseminating on a regular and timely basis all the relevant information regarding the ongoing work on the Convention;

3. Encourages Member States to approve the Guidelines for the adoption of the draft Framework Convention on Tourism Ethics at the upcoming General Assembly.

Having heard the presentation of the representative of the World Committee on Tourism Ethics:

1. Appreciates the important work carried out by the Committee;

2. Welcomes the growing number of private sector entities signing the Private Sector Commitment to the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism;

3. Calls on the Committee to continue its excellent work on this important topic.

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CEU/DEC/8(LXI)

PROGRAMME OF WORK 2018-2019
Agenda Item 8 (document CEU/61/8)

8.a Draft Programme of Work and Budget of the Organization for 2018-2019

The Commission,

Having heard the presentation of the Executive Director for Programme and Coordination:

1. Thanks him for the detailed and useful information;

2. Notes with satisfaction the unique opportunity represented by the International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development 2017 (IY2017), as well as the top prioritization by UNWTO Members of the concept of “Tourism for Development” in helping to shaped the efforts of the Secretariat to work in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

3. Takes note that the proposed 2018-2019 budget is based on having zero nominal growth in the Members’ contributions for 2018 over their 2017 contributions and a 4% increase in the 2019 contributions over 2018.

8.b Results of the Bern brainstorming meeting

The Commission,

Having heard the presentation of the Chairperson, Switzerland:
1. **Thanks** him for the detailed and useful information, reflecting the analysis and discussions carried out at the brainstorming session in Berne, in September 2016;

2. **Notes with satisfaction** that the project proposals emanating from the Bern meeting align very closely with the priorities of the General Programme of Work 2018-2019;

3. **Congratulates** the Chairman and the Regional Director for Europe for their work and leadership in this regard, and **welcomes** that the Organization will take steps to ensure that the issue area on Fostering Business Environment will be addressed appropriately;

4. **Welcomes** the efforts already being made by the Organization – as presented by the Regional Director of Europe – to address the project proposals from the Bern meeting.

5. **Urges** Member States to consider how they may contribute to these projects, and in particular that those member States with special experiences or knowledge in certain areas take a lead in initiatives.

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CEU/DEC/9(LXI)

**GENERAL DEBATE**

**INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF SUSTAINABLE TOURISM FOR DEVELOPMENT IN 2017**

**Agenda item 9 (document CEU/61/9)**

The Commission,

**Having** participated in the general debate on “International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development In 2017” (IY2017):

1. **Thanks** the Secretary-General for his remarks and for moderating the debate;

2. **Thanks** the Member States for their active participation and for their numerous and interesting activities presented during the general debate, which will undoubtedly contribute to the success and visibility at global scale of the IY2017;

3. **Welcomes** the growing number of Special Ambassadors, which as of June 2017 comprises nine high-profile individuals;

4. **Welcomes** the excellent work carried out on the Travel.Enjoy.Respect consumer campaign, including the IY2017 promotional videos, the IY2017 website and available campaign materials, and the Responsible Traveller Tips.

5. **Appreciates** the excellent work of the Secretariat and the Steering Committee of the IY2017 with regard to the effective implementation and celebration of the Year and **calls on** the Member States for continued and active participation;

6. **Thanks** the sponsors and partners for their valuable contributions, a vital and fundamental source for the successful realization of the IY2017;

7. **Welcomes** the progress made in the preparation of the Tourism for Development Flagship Report and the “Tourism and the Sustainable Development Goals: Journey towards 2030” report, and **encourages** Member States to contribute to the Flagship Report discussion paper with their feedback and case studies;
8. Acknowledges and supports that the IY2017 must be leveraged for a long-term perspective, i.e. that the spirit of the Year must continue past the end of 2017.

CEU/DEC/10 (LXI)

PREPARATIONS FOR THE 22nd SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Agenda item 10 (document CEU/61/10)

The Commission,

Having taken cognizance of document CEU/61/10 and of the information provided by the Executive Director for Programme and Coordination:

1. Thanks the Organization for the preparations underway for the hosting of the 22nd session of the General Assembly in Chengdu, China (11-16 September 2017);

2. Supports the submission of the candidature of the Russian Federation to host the 23rd session of the General Assembly in Saint Petersburg, in 2019, and notes that as such this should meet the requirements of the Resolution of the General Assembly A/20/5 (II)(i), Paragraph 9(b).

3. Is informed that Argentina has also submitted its candidacy to host the 23rd session of the General Assembly.

4. Takes note that the decision on the venue of the 23rd session will be taken at the 22nd session in Chengdu, China.

CEU/DEC/11 (LXI)

PLACE OF WORLD TOURISM DAY IN 2018 (EUROPE)

Agenda item 11 (document CEU/61/11)

The Commission,

Having taken cognizance of document CEU/61/11 and of the information provided by the Secretary-General:

1. Thanks Hungary for submitting its candidacy to host the World Tourism Day in Hungary, in 2018;

2. The Commission for Europe as a whole supports the candidacy of Hungary to host the World Tourism Day in Hungary in 2018.

CEU/DEC/12 (LXI)

OTHER MATTERS

Agenda item 12
PLACE AND DATE OF THE 62nd COMMISSION MEETING FOR EUROPE
Agenda item 13 (document CEU/61/13)

The Commission,

Having taken cognizance of document CEU/61/13 and of the information provided by Secretary-General:

1. Takes note that the 62nd Meeting of the Commission will be held in Chengdu (China), in the framework of the 23rd session of the UNWTO General Assembly.

2. Thanks the Ministry of Regional Development of the Czech Republic for reconfirming the Czech Republic’s willingness to host the 63rd meeting of UNWTO Commission for Europe in Prague in 2018;

3. Supports the candidacy of the Czech Republic to host the 63rd meeting, with the final decision to be taken at the 62nd meeting of the Commission for Europe.

4. Thanks the Ministry of Tourism of Croatia for presenting Croatia’s candidacy to be Chair of the UNWTO Commission for Europe for the period of 2017-2019 and its willingness to host the 64th meeting of the UNWTO Commission for Europe in 2019;

VOTE OF THANKS TO THE HOST COUNTRY

The Commission,

Addresses its warmest appreciation to the Tourism Agency of the Republic of Moldova for its warm hospitality and the optimal arrangements made for the holding the Sixty-First meeting of the UNWTO Commission for Europe and the Gala Evening celebrating the International Year of Sustainable Tourism Development 2017; in Chisinau. (Republic of Moldova)
### 3. PARTICIPANTS IN THE SIXTY-FIRST MEETING OF THE UNWTO COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

#### LIST OF PARTICIPANTS / LISTE DE PARTICIPANTS

## I. EUROPEAN FULL MEMBERS / MEMBRES EFFECTIFS EUROPÉENS

### AUSTRIA/ AUTRICHE

- **Mrs. Julia MAUK**
  - Expert, International Tourism Affairs
  - Federal Ministry Of Science Research and Economy

### AZERBAIJAN/ AZERBÁİDJAN

- **Dr. Nazim SAMADOV**
  - Deputy Minister of Culture and Tourism
  - Ministry of Culture and Tourism

### BULGARIA/ BULGARIE

- **Ms. Irena GEORGIEVA**
  - Deputy Minister
  - Ministry of Tourism
  - **Ms. Elvira MISHEVA**
    - Expert International Relations and Investments in Tourism
    - International Cooperation and Tourism
    - Ministry of Tourism

### CROATIA/ CROATIE

- **Ms. Olivera SHEJBAL**
  - Assistant Minister
  - Directorate for Quality Management, International Cooperation and EU
  - Ministry of Tourism
  - **Ms. Blanka BELOŠEVIĆ**
    - Head of Department of International Cooperation
    - Ministry of Tourism

### CYPRUS/ CHIPRE

- **Mrs. Olga THEOCAROUS-PAPAGEORGIOU**
  - Tourist Officer, Strategic Planning and Research
  - Cyprus Tourism Organization

### CZECH REPUBLIC/RÉPUBLIQUE TCHÈQUE

- **Mrs. Renata KRÁLOVÁ**
  - Director of Tourism Department
  - Ministry of Regional Development
  - **Ms. Denisa PROŇKOVÁ**
    - Tourism Specialist
    - Ministry of Regional Development
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<td>FRANCE/ FRANCE</td>
<td>Mr. Michel DURRIEU</td>
<td>Director of Tourism Department</td>
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<td>Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development</td>
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<td>GEORGIA/ GEORGIE</td>
<td>Mr. Zurab POLOLIKASHVILI</td>
<td>Ambassador of Georgia to Spain, Nominee for the post of Secretary-General of the UNWTO</td>
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<td>Mr. George CHOGOVADZE</td>
<td>Head</td>
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<td>Georgian National Tourism Administration</td>
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<td>GERMANY/ ALLEMAGNE</td>
<td>Mrs. Gisela WILL</td>
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<td>Ms. Eftychia Christina AIVALIOTOU</td>
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<td>HUNGARY/ HONGRIE</td>
<td>Mr. Oliver FODOR</td>
<td>Chief Advisor of International Relations</td>
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<td>Prof. Alessandra PRIANTE</td>
<td>Head of International Relations – Multilateral (UNWTO, OECD, Europe)</td>
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<td>Ministry of Culture and Tourism</td>
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<td>H. E. Rimantas LATAKAS</td>
<td>Ambassador of the Republic of Lithuania in Moldova</td>
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<td>Mr. Ramūnas BUROKAS</td>
<td>Vice-Minister</td>
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<td>Ms. Lidija BAJARUNIENE</td>
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<td>Mr. Renaldas CIUZAS</td>
<td>Head of Tourism Policy Division</td>
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<td>MONACO</td>
<td>Ms. Marie-Laure MARQUET</td>
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MONTENEGRO/ MONTENEGRO
Mrs. Milena LUKIC
Head of Cabinet
Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism

POLAND/ POLOGNE
Mr. Tomasz DZIENDZIURA
Head of Planning and International Cooperation in Tourism Unit – Department of Tourism
Ministry of Sport and Tourism

PORTUGAL/ PORTUGAL
Mrs. Catarina PINTO
Advisor – International Affairs
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Ms. Alexandra SAMCOV
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External Relations, European Integration and Protocol Unit
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ROMANIA/ROUMANIE
Ms. Cristina Ionela TARTEATA
State Secretary
Ministry of Tourism
Ms. Andreea SEVERA
Deputy General Director
Ministry of Tourism
Mr. Mihai MITROI
Counselor of the Minister
Ministry of Tourism

RUSSIAN FEDERATION/FEDERATION DE RUSSIE
Mr. Oleg SAFONOV
Head
Federal Agency for Tourism
Ms. Inna ROMANCHENKO
Counsellor of International Organisations
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Mrs. Nana GVICHIYA
Deputy Chairperson
Committee for Tourism Development of Saint Petersburg

World Tourism Organization - a Specialized Agency of the United Nations

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<td>Ms. Olga MUGATINA</td>
<td>Director General</td>
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<td>San Marino/San Marino</td>
<td>Mr. Mauro MAIANI</td>
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<td>Mrs. Renata PINDZO</td>
<td>Deputy Minister for Tourism</td>
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<td>Mrs. Vera JANKOVIC</td>
<td>Senior Adviser for International Cooperation</td>
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<td>Mr. Christoph SCHLUMPF</td>
<td>Scientific collaborator</td>
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Foreign Relations and EU Coordination
Ministry of Culture and Tourism

Ms. Basak ONSAL DEMİR
Expert-Coordinator – Foreign Relations and EU Coordination
Ministry of Culture and Tourism

Ms. Deniz OZTURKMEN
UNWTO Focal Point, Expert – Foreign Relations and EU Coordination
Ministry of Culture and Tourism

UKRAINE/ UKRAINE
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VII. ORGANIZATIONS AND ENTITIES/ORGANISATIONS ET ENTITÉS

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