DRAFT RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL REVISING THE MANDATE OF THE TOURISM COMMITTEE

(Note by the Secretary-General)
C(2011)142

Background

1. The Tourism Committee was created in 1948. The initial mandate of the Tourism Committee dates back to the Ministerial Resolution of 23 July 1960 that led to the creation of the OECD.

2. The mandate was revised for the first time in 2006 following the In-Depth Evaluation of the Tourism Committee [C(2006)182] and expires on 31 December 2011. In 2007, the Council monitored the implementation of the recommendations of the In-Depth Evaluation and welcomed the response by the Committee [C(2007)80 and C/M(2007)11, Item 138]. During the current mandate, the Chair of the Tourism Committee participated in two dialogues with Council, on 12 July 2007 and 17 June 2010.

3. On 4 April 2011, the Tourism Committee approved its revised mandate for the period 2012-16 [CFE/TOU(2011)1/REV1 and CFE/TOU/M(2011)2], for submission to Council. The new mandate, set out in the Annex, is largely based on the current mandate, which the Tourism Committee still considered to be broadly relevant. Minor changes made in the revised mandate bring increased attention to the need to develop integrated governmental approaches in tourism and to issues such as innovation, development, governance and consumer protection [see paragraphs 1 a), b), c) and d), 2 b), c), d) and e), and 3 a) and c)]. The revised mandate builds upon the inputs made by Members and other stakeholders and on policy declarations such as the 2008 Tourism Committee “Riva del Garda Action Statement for Enhancing Competitiveness and Sustainability in Tourism”.

4. On 26 September 2011, the Tourism Committee evaluated the relevance of its subsidiary body, the International Forum on Tourism Statistics [Rule 21 c) of the Rules of Procedure]. In terms of substance, the Tourism Committee made a positive appreciation of the strategic partnerships established (Eurostat, host countries, private sector, universities and international organisations) and the results achieved, which strongly support the implementation of the mandate of the Tourism Committee. In terms of structure, the Tourism Committee agreed to replace its subsidiary body by a Global Forum on Tourism Statistics to reflect its functioning as a network or community of stakeholders, including non-Members, that meets under the aegis of a Committee, often in other Member countries. In light of this discussion, the Tourism Committee approved the mandate of the Global Forum on Tourism Statistics [CFE/TOU(2011)1/REV1/ADD, CFE/TOU(2011)11 and CFE/TOU/M(2011)3 (forthcoming)]. The creation of the Global Forum on Tourism Statistics was confirmed after notification of the External Relations Committee (ERC). It is subject to the rules for Global Forums as set forth in C(2008)208/FINAL, including those on partner country participation.

5. It is proposed that the mandate of the Tourism Committee, as set out in the draft Resolution in the Annex hereto, should remain in force for a period of five years, until 31 December 2016, unless the Council decides otherwise. The draft Resolution would supersede all previous provisions concerning the mandate of the Tourism Committee. The Tourism Committee would return to the Council to propose a revision to its mandate should there be any major developments that warrant such a change.

Proposed Action

6. In the light of the preceding, the Secretary-General invites the Council to adopt the following draft conclusions:

THE COUNCIL

a) noted document C(2011)142;
b) adopted the draft Resolution revising the mandate of the Tourism Committee as set out in the Annex to document C(2011)142, which will enter into force on 1 January 2012.
ANNEX

DRAFT RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL REVISING
THE MANDATE OF THE TOURISM COMMITTEE

THE COUNCIL,

Having regard to the Convention on the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development of 14 December 1960;

Having regard to the Rules of Procedure of the Organisation;

Having regard to the Resolution of the Council concerning the participation of non-Members in the work of subsidiary bodies of the Organisation [C(2004)132/FINAL];

Having regard to paragraph 33 of the Report of the Preparatory Committee;

Having regard to the recommendations of the In-depth Evaluation of the Tourism Committee [C/M(2006)11, Item 142];

Having regard to the Resolution of the Council Concerning the Revision and Renewal of the mandate of the Tourism Committee [C(2006)182];

Having regard to the proposed revision of the mandate of the Tourism Committee [C(2011)142];

Considering that tourism is a significant contributor of wealth and employment to economies;

On the proposal of the Secretary-General;

DECIDES:

1. The Tourism Committee will support Members and, as appropriate, non-Members to:

a) maximise the economic, social and environmental benefits of tourism through medium and long-term strategic development, soundly-developed tourism policy and an integrated governmental approach promoting a greater coherence between tourism and other policies (e.g. education, environment, innovation, labour, safety and security, trade or transport);

b) promote, in a globalisation and decentralisation context, sustainable tourism development as a source of economic growth, job creation and development in both major centres and regional areas;

c) improve the competitiveness and the image of destinations to make them more attractive to the local population, visitors and investors, for the benefit of the whole economy;

d) design, adopt and implement policy reforms in tourism to enhance long-run productivity and growth performance;

e) contribute to the advancement of international co-operation in the tourism sector.
2. To achieve these objectives, the Tourism Committee will be responsible for analysing and developing tourism-related policy recommendations. In the context of this mission, the Tourism Committee will:

   a) prepare tourism policy analysis and evaluation, identify good policy and business practices to meet major challenges, provide policy advice and be a clearing house for information on tourism policy;

   b) share knowledge and experiences to identify best practices on tourism-related policies and strategies, particularly in the areas of competitiveness, consumer protection, e-commerce, governance, innovation, labour, legislation, local development, productivity and skills, SMEs and entrepreneurship, sustainability, trade and taxation;

   c) carry out in-depth tourism industry and market analysis to help Members, non-Members and the travel and tourism industry realise the overall economic, social and environmental benefits of tourism;

   d) improve the measurement of international and domestic tourism services by addressing government and industry information needs; promoting the tourism satellite account; and contributing to the dissemination and effective use of high-quality data on tourism economics for business and policy analysis and decision-making processes, including through the promotion of tourism intelligence networks;

   e) provide a forum for dialogue, innovations and benchmarking on tourism issues and policies and disseminate results through the OECD website, publications and thematic conferences.

3. The actions undertaken by the Tourism Committee should be guided by the following operating principles. The Tourism Committee will:

   a) contribute to implementing the strategic objectives of the Organisation; develop, as appropriate, active links to the Organisation’s horizontal programmes; maintain close working relations with other relevant bodies in the Organisation to complement and support analysis and discuss tourism aspects of questions raised; and, where appropriate, undertake joint projects;

   b) develop partnerships with the private sector and other stakeholders to build a shared vision of strategic developments and, where appropriate, organise forums to explore timely issues and develop policy recommendations;

   c) engage non-Members in support of the OECD’s overall strategy, in accordance with the Global Relations Strategy of the Tourism Committee, and share with them the results of its work;

   d) contribute to the promotion of the importance of tourism in the global economy, cooperate closely with other international organisations active in the field of tourism and work in synergy to ensure that activities are complementary.

4. The Mandate of the Tourism Committee shall remain in force until 31 December 2016.