



**SPECIAL EDITION**

**CORE TOPIC:**

**ROUND TABLE ON PRESENTATION OF THE ACTION PLAN OF THE  
GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN ON IMPROVEMENT OF  
INVESTMENT CLIMATE IN TOURISM SECTOR IN THE REPUBLIC OF  
TAJIKISTAN**



June 26, 2014, a Round Table on Presentation of the Action Plan of the Government of the Republic Tajikistan on Improvement of Investment Climate in Tourism Sector was conducted by Secretariat of the Consultative Council on Improvement of Investment Climate under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan in collaboration with State Committee on Investments and State Property Management of the Republic of Tajikistan and

Committee on Affairs of Youth, Sports and Tourism under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan in the city of Dushanbe.

It should to point out that Action Plan of the Government of the Republic Tajikistan on Improvement of Investment Climate in Tourism Sector was developed in the framework of activity of the Consultative Council on Improvement of Investment Climate under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan and has been approved by Resolution of the Government of the Republic Tajikistan dated May 3, 2014, No 301.

Representatives of the ministries and agencies of the Republic of Tajikistan, heads and representatives of international organization as well as heads of business organizations, associations, more than 60 tourist businesses and also higher education schools' representatives participated in the Round Table.

Mr. Numon Abdujaborov - Head of Secretariat of the Consultative Council opened the Round Table and congratulated participants on Day of National Conciliation as well as wished the people of Tajikistan peaceful sky and prosperous life.



At the round table introductory speeches also have been made by the Deputy Chairman of the State Committee on Investments and State Property Management of the Republic of Tajikistan - N. Abdullayeva and Deputy Chairman of the Committee on Affairs of Youth, Sports and Tourism under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan - R. Shodikov.



Then presentation of the Action Plan of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan on Improvement of Investment Climate in Tourism Sector of Head of Secretariat of the Council was heard by participants.

Presentation was about establishment, direction and results of activity of the Working Group on Improvement of Investment Climate in Tourism Sector, including development of analytical paper “A Model of Tourism Development in Tajikistan” and the Action Plan of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan on Improvement of Investment Climate in Tourism as well as its consideration in the 12<sup>th</sup> session of the Consultative Council.

This Action Plan covers a number of short and medium-term measures of the Government of Tajikistan on improvement of investment and business climate in tourism sector, including servicing at airports and other border crossings, visa issuance and registration of tourists, permits and licenses to tourism companies and tourists, as well as statistics of tourism sector.

It was noted that implementation of the Action Plan has been already started and a range of important works have been made. Particularly regarding to make comply the level of servicing to the requirements of international standards in the international airports of Tajikistan, as well as LLC “International Airport of Dushanbe”, an Action Plan on improvement of services’ level to passengers, establishment of short-course on learning foreign languages and improvement of services to passengers, development and accepting the Rules of attitude of the airport staff, renovation and modernization of airport servicing





equipment, preparation of information on registration of passengers, luggage, security, legal and airport standards in three languages, hung up signs has been accepted and



works in line with this are being continued. Also conditions have been created for placing information points on tourism companies' products and tourism zones of Tajikistan in Tajik, Russian and English.

A separate Action Plan was developed and adopted by Customs Service under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan. This Action Plan covers a range of measures, particularly renovation of customs checking points in the

international airports, assessment of qualification level of servicing structures' employees in the international airports and admit them on the basis of competition, improvement of language skills of customs service's staff, development and applying the appropriate document on friendly attitude of customs service's staff to passengers and participants of foreign economic activity, establishment of special advanced training courses and other measures.

Renovation of internal computer system of border controls bodies of Border Forces Main Department of SCNS has been conducted in the international airport of Dushanbe as well as works on installation of the optical fiber and wireless computer network are implemented.

Relating the providing border controls body with qualified experts a range of comprehensive measures have been implemented. Particularly, an attestation authorized commission was established, and from May, 2012 till August 2013 as well as attestation of staff of border controls body serving in parts of the Border Forces Main Department were conducted.

Also Ministry of Foreign Affairs established a separate window for the services of tourist businesses in the







Consular Department of Ministry that is being operated and made very easy and effective the work of tourist companies.



From the private sector, Director of LLC tourist company “Kafolat” – Mr. Muzaffar Saymudinov had a speech on contribution in implementation of the Action Plan at the round table and expressed private sector’s satisfaction on establishment of a separate window for the services of tourist businesses in the Consular Department of Ministry of Foreign Affairs as well as their willingness for implementation of reforms in the tourism sector.

Regarding the role of development partners in development and implementation of the Action Plan Program Director Framework and Finance for Private Sector Development of GIZ – Mr. Reinhard Woytek delivered speech.

Later a film on national traditions, folk handicrafts, natural resources and opportunities of tourism development in Tajikistan has been showed to participants. Main attention was directed on development of folk handicrafts, ecologic tourism and mountaineering as key priorities of tourism development in the country.

It should be noted that participants had discussion and provided their useful ideas and proposals on effective implementation of the Action Plan of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan on Improvement of Investment Climate in Tourism. It was suggested to take into account east architecture aspects in construction of tourist facilities and to show sincere, honest and tajik relationship during servicing tourists. Participants including tourist businesses receive comprehensive answers to their questions.





Before the end of the Round Table Head of Secretariat of the Consultative Council - Mr. Numon Abdujaborov, Deputy Chairman of the State Committee on Investments and State Property Management of the Republic of Tajikistan - N. Abdullayeva and Deputy Chairman of the Committee on Affairs of Youth, Sports and Tourism under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan - R. Shodikov had final speeches.

In his speech, they called on representatives of relevant ministries and agencies, development partners and private sector to the effective and timely implementation of the Action Plan for prosperity of tourism sector and further improvement of investment and business climate in the country. Particularly in his final speech R. Shodikov announced the winners of competition on the best television programs about tourism in Tajikistan and presented to them certificates and gifts.

#### Information on state of tourism



It should be emphasized that tourism is one of the key sectors providing economic growth. It is growing steadily during last decade on a global basis almost in defiance of economic recession, political upheaval and social change.

According to the global statistics in 2011 the industry contributed \$6.5 trillion to world GDP or 9.1% of the total, and this sector's revenue increased by 116%.

The number of international tourists worldwide increased from 698 million people in 2000 to 1 billion 35 million people in 2012.

Moreover tourism promotes to create new jobs, to develop production and to increase inflow of foreign currency as well as provides good business opportunities for each enterprising person.

Development of tourism has also significant advantages for other relevant sectors. In regard with experts' analyses on average every \$1 spent directly in tourism produces a further \$3 of revenue in ancillary businesses. Also, on average 91 cents of each \$1 spent remains in the local economy.





For the purpose of tourism development and wide attraction of tourists to the tourist and historical destinations of the country much works have been implemented by the Government of the Tajikistan. As a result of undertaken measures visit of foreign tourists to the country are being regularly increased.



However it is not satisfactory yet. Because proposal of tourist destinations by tourist businesses including tourist travels, visiting historical and cultural sights, beautiful nature and their promotion don't arranged in appropriate level.

Therefore it is necessary to continue reforms in the sector and significantly increase the share of tourism in social and economic development of the country.

In line with this, it should be noted that Tajikistan has huge opportunity for development of tourism. Particularly high Pamir Mountains' peaks, Great Silk Road, unique nature and favorable climate, ancient history and culture, unique natural and recreational facilities, mountaineering, highly hospitable culture, provision of personal safety and other factors attract attention of foreign tourists.



Also location of Tajikistan in the heart of Central Asia could serve through its territory for transiting tourists to a number of countries of Europe, South Asia and the Pacific Ocean regions and strengthen its position as a transit

country for development of regional tourism.



Another important issue is to provide high level services for travelers, including tourists in the airports and other borders crossing points of the country. In this direction certain works are implemented by relevant authorities.

According to the experts' forecasts in case of full implementation of Action Plan of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan on Improvement of





Investment Climate in Tourism the direct effects of tourism would increase up to 5% and the indirect effects on other sectors' development would increase up to 15% of GDP by 2020.

*Sincerely Yours,*

*Staff of Secretariat of the Investment Council on  
Improvement of Investment Climate under the  
President of Republic of Tajikistan*

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