

«Approved»
Emomali Rahmon
President of the Republic of Tajikistan
Chairman of the Consultative Council

Signature
«18th » of December 2013

MINUTES
of the 12th Session of the Consultative Council on Improvement of Investment
Climate under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan
December 13, 2013

The Session was attended by Consultative Council members and the invited responsible person.

Session Agenda:

1. Update on process of implementation of decisions of the Consultative Council on Improvement of Investment Climate under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan including monitoring results of applying the Law of the RT “On Permitting System”;
2. Presentation of analysis’ results and Draft Action Plan of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan on Improvement of Investment Climate in Tourism;
3. Submission of Draft Action Plan of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan on Improvement of Tajikistan’s Indicators in the Doing Business Report of the World Bank Group;
4. Proposing one of the issues of Draft Agenda for the next Session of the Consultative Council.

Regarding the first issue a report of the Council’s Executive Secretary - Mr. Qodiri Qosim was heard who submitted comprehensive information on process of implementation of decisions of previous Consultative Council’s sessions.

It was outlined that the decisions adopted by the Council were in general implemented by relevant ministries and agencies. In particular, with the purpose of effective implementation of the Law of the Republic of Tajikistan "On Public-Private Partnership" in accordance with decrees of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan the Council of Public-Private Partnership and State Enterprise of Project Implementation Unit on Public-Private Partnership Projects were established as well as the Authorized State Body for Public-Private Partnership was determined.

For the purpose of full and in time implementation of decisions of 10-th and 11-th Council's sessions a Draft Law of the Republic of Tajikistan "On State Protection and Support of Entrepreneurship in Tajikistan" was developed by State Committee for Investment and State Property Management of the Republic of Tajikistan together with the Secretariat of the Council and submitted for consideration of the country Government.

Concerning the second issue of the Session the Head of Secretariat of the Council, the Head of the Working Group on Improvement of Investment Climate in Tourism sector – Mr. Zavkidjon Zavkiev had a speech and presented the results of the activity of the Working Group established by the instruction of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan, Chairman of the Consultative Council, His Excellency Emomali Rahmon on conducting analysis and suggesting recommendations for further development of tourism.

An analytical paper "A Model of Tourism Development in Tajikistan" with comprehensive recommendations and a Draft of the Action Plan of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan on Improvement of Investment Climate in Tourism developed on its basis were submitted as the results of effective activity of the Working Group by Head of the Working Group.

On this issue Chairman of the Consultative Council, the President of the Republic of Tajikistan, His Excellency Emomali Rahmon expressed that Tajikistan has a huge tourism resources arising out of the presence of various historical and cultural sites, unique recreational locations, mountaineering and other advantages gifted by nature.

Therefore a range of actions have been taken in Tajikistan to develop tourism. However, this cannot satisfy us. Particularly, proposal of tourist destinations and their promotion, the level of service at airports and other border crossing points, simplified and easy rules and procedures for obtaining visas, permits and licenses, tourist registration, statistics and information of the tourism sector require fundamental improvement.

Relatively complete use of these resources it should be taken a number of measures in accordance with the submitted Action plan.

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.

On the third issue Head of Association of Micro Financial Organizations of Tajikistan - Mr. Farhod Akbarov gave a speech and presented a Draft of Action Plan of the Government of the Republic Tajikistan on Improvement of Tajikistan's Indicators in the Doing Business Report of the World Bank Group. He emphasized in his presentation that this Action plan was developed by the Secretariat of the Consultative Council in cooperation with the private sector and covers a range of activities for all ten indicators of the Doing Business Report.

It was assured that effective implementation of the Action Plan of the Government of the Republic Tajikistan on Improvement of Tajikistan's Indicators in the Doing Business Report of the World Bank Group will give a new impulse to increase international ranking of the Republic and business development.

With regard to the last issue of the Session agenda the Council's Executive Secretary - Mr. Qodiri Qosim made a report.

The Council's Executive Secretary in his speech provided information about the issue of Draft Agenda for the next Session of the Consultative Council on establishment of secondary market for securities and a stock exchange in Tajikistan. The Chairman of the Council, the President of the Republic of Tajikistan was asked to give instruction for establishing a working group on conducting research and providing proposal on establishment of secondary market for securities and stock exchange in Tajikistan, which will be consists of the representatives of ministries and other relevant departments as well as private sector with the support of development partners.

Also the Director General of OJSC "Pamir Energy" - Mr. Daler Jumaev, the Head of European Bank for Reconstruction and Development Representative Office in Tajikistan - Mr. Ulf Hindstrom, the Director of Tourist Company "Kafolat" - Mr. Muzaffar Saymuddinov, Ambassador of the United Kingdom to Tajikistan – Mr. Robin Ord-Smith, a Head of the International Finance Corporation Office in Tajikistan - Mr. Christopher Miller participated in discussions of the Session's issues and made useful suggestions.

In his final speech, The Chairman of the Council, the President of the Republic of Tajikistan expressed his opinion regarding the issues discussed in the Session and gave the following instructions and recommendations to relevant agencies, officers in charge and development partners' representatives:

1. Committee on affairs of Tourism, Youth and Sport:
 - a) jointly with the relevant ministries and agencies with support of development partners undertake timely measures for identifying 4 tourist centers and make them appropriate to the modern requirements, develop and promote competitive tourist product portfolio in the country, phased transition from system of licensing tourist businesses to the quality advice and assessment scheme for them;
 - b) establish a working group consisting representatives of ministries and agencies, private sector and with support of development partners to develop Draft Law of the Republic of Tajikistan "On Tourism" in a new edition and submit it for consideration in defined time.
2. Ministry of Transport, Custom Service, Border Forces Main Department of State Committee of National Security, Antimonopoly Service, international airports of the republic, domestic airline companies undertake necessary measures in cooperation with representatives of foreign airline companies regarding to the implementation of following actions:
 - a) make the level of servicing in the airports, in airplanes and border crossing points comply with requirements of international standards;
 - b) retool computers, computers software and other equipment for customer services at the international airports of the republic, including purchase and install of equipment and special integrated computer software that register tourists on arrival and departure through the airports and land borders and automaticaly disseminates such information to all security and statistic bodies (i.e. border, custom, immigration and statistic bodies);

- c) establish an independent commission on assessment of the qualification level of servicing structures' employees in the international airports and border crossing points and admit new employees on the basis of competition.
 - d) conduct technical evaluation of prices of flight tickets .
 - e) increase international airline routes and strengthen the country's position as a transit country on this basis.
3. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Committee on Affairs of Tourism, Youth and Sport and Statistics Agency undertake necessary timely measures concerning the review of various systems of visas, introduce an electronic system for submission of documents by tourists for obtaining visas, establish a one-stop window for the services of tourist businesses in the Consular Department of the MFA.
 4. State Committee on Investment and State Property Management of the Republic of Tajikistan:
 - a) jointly with Secretariat of the Consultative Council on Improvement of Investment Climate under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan submit Draft Action Plan of the Government of the Republic Tajikistan on Improvement of Investment Climate in Tourism for consideration of the Government of Tajikistan in accordance with the defined procedures;
 - b) jointly with Secretariat of the Consultative Council on Improvement of Investment Climate under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan develop Draft Action Plan of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan on Improvement of Tajikistan's Indicators in the Doing Business Report of the World Bank Group taking into account private sector and development partners' suggestions and submit it for consideration of the Government of Tajikistan in accordance with the defined procedures;
 - c) jointly with the relevant ministries and agencies undertake necessary measures for effective activity and achieve significant results by the Council and Project Implementation Unit on Public-Private Partnership Projects and Fund on Support of Entrepreneurship;
 - d) provide control over full applying legislation on regulating permit system.
 5. Relevant ministries and agencies undertake necessary measures for coordinating the sectoral legislation to the requirement of the Law of the Republic of Tajikistan "On Permit System" regarding the introduction of electronic system for submission of permitting documents and improving activity of the Unified State Registry of Electronic Permitting Documents and coordinate their activities in this direction with State Committee on Investment and State Property Management of the Republic of Tajikistan.
 6. Ministry of Education and Science, Committee on affairs of Tourism, Youth and Sport undertake measures regarding the training highly skilled professionals in tourism sector abroad, including through offering the Presidential quotas.

7. National Bank of Tajikistan jointly with Ministries of Finance, Economic Development and Trade, State Committee on Investment and State Property Management establish a working group consisting of representatives of the relevant ministries and agencies, private sector and with support of development partners to conduct a comprehensive analysis on establishment of secondary market for securities and a stock exchange in Tajikistan and submit the results with concrete proposals to the forthcoming Session of the Council.
8. It is recommended to the development partners that:
 - a) provide more assistance on making customer services of the international airports of the country and borders crossing points to comply with international standards;
 - b) provide practical support for effective implementation of an Action Plan of the Government of the Republic Tajikistan on Improvement of Investment Climate in Tourism and an Action Plan of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan on Improvement of Tajikistan's Indicators in the Doing Business Report of World Bank Group;
 - c) organize short term courses and trainings for professionals of tourism sector in countries with good experiences in tourism development.

Executive Secretary,
Head of State Committee on Investment
and State Property Management
Republic of Tajikistan

Signed

Qodiri Qosim

Head of Secretariat of the Consultative
Council on Improvement of Investment Climate
under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan

Signed

Zavkidjon Zavkiev