11th General Assembly
of the International Conference of Asian Political Parties

Documents
for the 2nd Meeting of the
Tourism Promotion and Inter-City Cooperation Council (TOPIC)
(16:30-17:30, 19 November, 2022)

1. Program 1
2. List of Speakers 2
3. Terengganu Statement of the 1st Meeting of TOPIC (Terengganu, Malaysia, 13-16 December 2019) 3
4. Terms of Reference for TOPIC 7

ICAPP Secretariat

Tentative Program of the 2nd Meeting of the
Tourism Promotion and Inter-City Cooperation Council (TOPIC)

As of 10 November 2022

Saturday, 19 November

16:30 **Opening Remarks** by _____

16:40 **Presentations** (5 minutes each) by Representatives of Political Parties within the framework of the main theme of "The Role of Political Parties in Strengthening Dialogue for Global Peace, Prosperity and Cooperation"

17:20 **Discussions on, and adoption of**, the Draft "Istanbul Statement for the 2nd TOPIC"

17:25 **Closing Remarks** by _____

17:30 **Adjournment** of the Meeting

List of Speakers
at the 2nd Meeting of the TOPIC Council
(19 November 2022)

As of 9 November 2022

Keynote Speech by H.E. Mehmet Nuri Ersoy, Minister of Culture and Tourism of Republic of Türkiye, delivered in the 4th Plenary Session

16:30 Opening Remarks by _____

16:40 Presentations by Representatives of Political Parties

- Hon. Cüneyt Yüksel, Deputy Chairperson of the Foreign Affairs Department of *AK Parti* of Türkiye
- Hon. Dr. Najeeb Al Dobai, Member of Parliament (*Majlis al-Nuwaab*), Chairperson of the Foreign Committee of Yemeni Congregation for Reform, Yemen
- Ms. Selina Sultana, Advisor for Environmental Affairs of *Janalok,* Worker's Party, Bangladesh
- Mr. Mardani Ali Serah, Head of Technology, Industry and the Environment Division of Prosperous Justice Party (PKS), Indonesia
- Mr. Azhari Eltigani Awadelseed Ahmed, Secretary-General Assistant of Council of African Political Parties (CAPP), Sudan
- Mr. Md. Harun Or Rashid, Assistant Office Secretary of Central Executive Committee of National Social Party of Bangladesh, *Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal-JASOD,* Bangladesh
- Hon. Dr. Nalinda Wajiramal Jayatissa Walakada Appuhamilage, Member of Central Committee of *Janatha Vimukthi Peramnua* (*JVP*), former Member of Parliament, Sri Lanka

17:20 **Discussions on, and adoption of**, the Draft "Istanbul Statement for the 2nd TOPIC"

17:25 **Closing Remarks** by _____

17:30 **Adjournment** of the Meeting

Terengganu Statement

1. We, the leaders and representatives of over (25) political parties and political groups from Asia, gathered here in Terengganu, the tourist city of Malaysia, for the First Meeting of the (TOPIC) Council. The meeting, hosted by Parti Islam Se-Malaysia (PAS), the United Malays National Organization (UMNO), and the State of Terengganu on 13-16 December, 2019 and actively supported by the UMNO Party, was held to discuss relevant issues relating to tourism and inter-city cooperation with a focus on the following themes:

   - The Roles of Political Parties for Promoting Close Cooperation for Sustainable and Dynamic Tourism;
   - Cooperation in the Tourism Sector to Generate Human Resources, Job Opportunities, and a Spill Over Effect in Education and Healthcare; and
   - Supporting Smart Inter-City Technology for an Innovative Tourism Community
   - Facilitating the Development of Niche Tourism "The 7 Summit Mountaineering Expedition Initiative for Peace and Integration."

2. We recalled the UN General Assembly Resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015 on *Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, which adopted the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the UN General Assembly Resolution 70/193 of 22 December 2015, which proclaimed 2017 the *International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development* that aims to raise awareness among decision-makers and the public of the part that sustainable tourism can play for development, and encourages the UN system and all other actors to support sustainable tourism at all levels as an effective means to contribute to sustainable development.

3. We witnessed that the Terengganu region has great potential for local tourism as an international attraction and supported the program of YAB Dato' Seri Dr. Ahmad Samsuri Mokhtar (Terengganu Chief Minister) to be recognized and promoted as an international tourism destination by UNESCO and the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) and the ICAPP.

4. We affirmed that tourism is a vital instrument for the achievement of the 17 SDGs and beyond as it can stimulate inclusive economic growth, create jobs, attract investment, fight poverty, boost the livelihoods of local communities, and generate human resources, jobs opportunities, and a spillover effect in terms of education and healthcare. We also supported cooperation for smart inter-city technology for an innovative tourism community, welcoming the efforts of the UNWTO to help reduce poverty levels through the development and promotion of sustainable forms of tourism.

5. We hereby agreed to cooperate as follows:

   (The Roles of Political Parties for Promoting Close Cooperation for Sustainable and Dynamic Tourism)

1) We, representing our respective political parties in each Member country, will develop together with local authorities, national governments and other relevant stakeholders, an integrated and holistic approach to tourism policy in order to leverage the sector's positive impact and multiplying effect for people, planet and prosperity, thus capitalizing on its value as a key contributor to the achievement of sustainable and dynamic tourism;

2) We will continue to engage in wholehearted efforts in Asia and the Pacific focusing on a number of critical issues such as: travel facilitation, or reducing barriers to growth; infrastructure needs-ensuring that transport and other infrastructure is adequate to meet the growing demand for tourism; enhancing air connectivity; and promoting sustainable development;

3) We recognize that timely and systematic measurement of the economic, environmental and social impacts of tourism on destinations is essential for supporting decision-making and the effective use of the generated information in making informed policy decisions at all levels;

4) We are committed to encouraging national governments together with local authorities and other relevant stakeholders to enhance the part that tourism plays in the realization of the SDG national strategies through the establishment of institutional frameworks and mechanisms that allow for the active participation of all stakeholders at all territorial levels, including the private sector and local communities, in the process;

5) We will aim to engage in coordinated efforts, together with national and local authorities, the private sector, and communities, to promote a greater understanding of the value of partnerships as an implementation tool towards fostering sustainable development through the promotion of tourism in Asia.

(Cooperation in the Tourism Sector to Generate Human Resources, Job Opportunities, and a Spill Over Effect in Education and Healthcare)

1) We recognize that since tourism is one of the fastest growing sectors in the world economy, particularly in Asia and the Pacific, it can play an important role in generating human resources, job opportunities, and a spillover in education and healthcare and in strengthening people-to-people relations, contributing to breaking down trade barriers and boosting trade between Asia and other continents;

2) We share the common view that national governments together with local authorities and other relevant stakeholders should work together and harness the power of public-private partnerships in tourism, spurring market competitiveness, creating employment and income generating opportunities - in particular for disadvantaged groups -thereby enhancing socio-economic development;

3) We believe national governments together with local authorities and other relevant stakeholders should promote innovation in tourism products, business models and management, actively share relevant experience, and promote the transformation and upgrading of the tourism sector;

4) We emphasized the importance of policies to promote greater investments in education and training, harnessing the capacity of tourism to create jobs, to achieve sustainable development and to enhance social progress and peace; and

(Supporting Smart Inter-City Technology for Innovative Tourism Community)

1) We emphasized the responsibility of national governments together with local authorities and other relevant stakeholders to support inclusive growth for tourism development and foster investment in infrastructure and technology that serves to enhance resource efficiency, mitigate climate change and decouple economic growth from resource use and environmental degradation;

2) We recognize the importance of addressing the challenges arising from rapid urbanization and developing a regional smart cities ecosystem to harvest the opportunities associated with the ongoing digital and 4thindustrial revolution;

3) We also take note of the growing need for cooperation among the ICAPP Members to build an innovative tourism community in Asia by maximizing the positive impact of smart cities projects on citizens' lives, and minimizing the negative impact of urbanization such as city congestion, water and air pollution, loss of green areas, poverty, lack of mobility and transportation, rising inequalities, urban-rural disparities, lack of security and safety for the people;

4) We will continue to promote technological innovation for application in the tourism industry by exploring the exchange of information on achievements and joint research and innovation opportunities, jointly improve innovative capacity, and actively pursue cooperation in various fields of smart city development, including digital technology and innovative energy solutions such as renewable energy, energy efficiency, and clean technology applications;

(Facilitating the Development of a Niche Tourism "The 7 Summit Mountaineering Expedition Initiatives for Peace and Integration")- Special topic

1) We acknowledge that the 7 mountain summits in our continent that bring people around the World together for peace, integration and harmony by achieving distinct strategic positions in the mountain tourism markets, implying and adopting a multi-level and multi-stakeholder approach including local communities, governments, political decision-makers, private sectors as well as NGOs.

2) We promote the 7 summit mountain tourism activity with distinctive characteristics and attributes that are inherent to a specific landscape, topography, climate, biodiversity (flora and fauna) and local community that encompasses a broad range of outdoor leisure and sports activities.

3) We will launch *The 7 Summit Mountaineering Expedition Initiatives for Peace and Integration at Terengganu TOPIC* to get togetherness and synergize in conjunction with Mount Kinabalu, Malaysia as the attraction in promoting mountain tourism and is the one of the most hiked mountains in the South-East Asian region.

6. We expressed our profound gratitude to the people and the Government of Malaysia for their strong commitment to ensure the resounding success of the first Meeting of the

TOPIC Council. Our special thanks go to Hon. Dato' Seri Dr. Shahidan, Member of the ICAPP Standing Committee and Member of Parliament of the United Malays National Organisation (UMNO), Hon. Dato' Seri Dr. Ahmad Samsuri bin Mokhtar, Chief Minister of Terengganu, The Terengganu State Government, and Parti Islam Se Malaysia (PAS), the staff of the UMNO and Terengganu State for their full support for this historic gathering.

7. We also reaffirmed our deep appreciation to the ICAPP Standing Committee led by Hon. Jose de Venecia, ICAPP Founding Chairman and Chairman of the ICAPP Standing Committee, and to the ICAPP Secretariat led by Secretary General Park Ro-byug, for the invaluable role and excellent preparations in organizing the meeting and reaffirming the importance of our continued beneficial cooperation with political parties and groups from Asia.

8. The (Draft) Terms of Reference for the ICAPP TOPIC Council need to be reviewed (Annex).

Adopted unanimously on this 14th day of December 2019 in Terengganu, Malaysia

Terms of Reference

ICAPP Tourism Promotion and Inter-City Cooperation (TOPIC) Council

※ *Adopted at the 37th Meeting of the ICAPP Standing Committee on 11 June 2022.*

1. Objectives

The ICAPP TOPIC Council will pursue the following objectives for the promotion of tourism:

(1) To develop the roles and objectives of the political parties for promoting close cooperation for sustainable and dynamic tourism which will consolidate friendship among the people in the ICAPP Member countries through tourism;
(2) To promote prosperity in the ICAPP Member countries through marketing tourist destinations and the development of new tourism areas;
(3) To contribute to developing human resources and tourism sectors and generating job opportunities as well as creating spill-over effects in education and healthcare;
(4) To encourage strong and effective democratic local self-government in the ICAPP Member countries;
(5) To ensure cooperation in developing and supporting the smart city programs on technology application and capacity building for a more livable democratic and innovative city community;
(6) To develop policies, programs and initiatives for tourism promotion and inter-city cooperation within the framework of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs), demonstrating values and objectives of the ICAPP.

2. Members

The ICAPP TOPIC Council will be composed of the following members:

(1) Members of the ICAPP Standing Committee;
(2) Representatives of the local governments and the tourism promotion agent whom the ICAPP Standing Committee Members and the ICAPP Secretariat will consult and decide to invite

3. Election of the Bureau

(1) The ICAPP TOPIC Council will elect <u>two Co-Chairpersons from the ICAPP Standing Committee and/or heads of the local governments</u>.
(2) The term of office will be one term for two years.
(3) The ICAPP Member country who hosts the meeting may be given priority to serve as a one-term Chairperson after the hosting of the meeting.

4. Meetings

(1) The Meeting of the ICAPP TOPIC Council will be held at least once a year.
(2) The ICAPP Standing Committee Members, representatives of cities, and Organizations of Tourism Promotion will be invited.

5. Host Responsibility

(1) The host of the meeting shall bear the costs of logistical arrangements including accommodation and conference facilities as well as domestic transportation for the participants.
(2) The participants will be composed of the members and guests that the host and ICAPP Secretariat agree to invite.

6. Coordination with the Secretariat

(1) The Bureau of the ICAPP TOPIC Council shall closely coordinate with the Secretary General of the ICAPP in arranging all activities.
(2) The joint statement and outcome booklet of the meeting, if any, will be drafted by both the ICAPP Secretariat and the host, and circulated to all participating delegations two weeks before and after the meeting.
(3) Participating members are encouraged to submit to the ICAPP Secretariat two weeks before the meeting their proposals on the statement that they want to be reflected in the joint statement.

/END/