

## **COP29 Declaration on Enhanced Climate Action in Tourism**

**We,** national governments and other stakeholders, including UN agencies, international organisations and financial institutions;

**Recalling** the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Agreement, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Pact for the Future:

*Highlighting* the importance of the tourism sector to achieving the objective of the UNFCCC and the goals of the Paris Agreement;

**Considering** the urgent need for accelerated action in light of the severe impact of the triple planetary crisis on our global capacity to meet the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and relevant climate commitments by 2030;

**Acknowledging** that effective climate action requires collaborative efforts at local, national, regional, and global levels in different sectors;

**Noting with concern** that tourism has been estimated to account for a considerable share of global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions which is predicted to increase;

**Further noting** the impacts of climate change on ecosystems, natural resources, and cultural heritage, while acknowledging the potential of the tourism sector to contribute to global climate efforts through both adaptation and mitigation, and understanding the strong link between tourism and development, and the necessity of transitioning to a climate-resilient, low-carbon future for the sector;

**Recognising** that tourism presents a unique opportunity to advance climate action, particularly in countries where it is a significant source of employment and revenue;

**Stressing the importance** of fostering dialogue, cooperation, experience and knowledge sharing among countries and within the different stakeholders of the sector to advance climate action in the tourism sector;

**Recalling** the aim of the Glasgow Declaration on Climate Action in Tourism launched at the COP26 in November 2021 and the role it plays as a Global Climate Action Initiative

providing tools and an action framework for tourism stakeholders, including national tourism administrations, to accelerate climate action;

**Welcoming** the initiative of the COP29 Presidency to organise the first ever Tourism Thematic Day to be held within the framework of COP29 on 20 November 2024 in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan;

## Hereby declare the following:

We acknowledge the significant vulnerability of the tourism sector to climate change, highlighting the importance of enhancing the sector's effectiveness in climate action to help ensure its sustainable growth and resilience;

We recognise the need for further addressing and considering as appropriate the tourism sector in the design of national climate policy documents, such as nationally determined contributions (NDCs), national adaptation plans (NAPs), technology action plans (TAPs) and long-term low-emission development strategies (LT-LEDS);

We intend where applicable and appropriate to consider effective mitigation measures such as embracing sustainable practices, adopting innovative technologies, using clean energy, enhancing energy efficiency and waste management in tourism facilities, sustaining the conservation and health of ecosystems that serve as carbon sinks, promoting low- and zero-emission transportation options, fostering circular approaches that promote sustainable production and consumption, efficient resource use and minimising the risk of pollution;

We also intend where relevant to enhance adaptation measures related to tourism such as implementing nature-based solutions, ecosystem-based approaches, restoring ecosystems, adopting innovative technologies and promoting sustainable land management practices, with particular attention to the developing countries for which tourism represents a significant contribution to their economies, including Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Least Developed Countries (LDCs);

We recognise the importance of finance, technology and capacity building to deliver and implement national actions to enhance resilience and reduce GHG emissions of tourism thus contributing to Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement;

We underscore our dedication to advancing climate action in tourism through global partnerships and dialogue, considering the perspectives of local communities and

indigenous peoples, migrants, women, children, youth, persons with disabilities, and people in vulnerable situations;

**We pledge** to promote and champion sustainable tourism practices, and efforts to reduce GHG emissions in the tourism sector and strengthen adaptation and resilience efforts within the tourism sector.

**We affirm** our commitment to the objectives of this Declaration and pledge to collaborate towards achieving them.

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## National governments and other stakeholders can endorse this Declaration through:

Any official written communications (letter, note verbale, etc.) to the COP29 Presidency or email to tourism@cop29.az