



State Tourism Agency
of the Republic of Azerbaijan

Organization of Islamic Cooperation

OIC/11-ICTM/BAKU/DEC

Original: English

**BAKU DECLARATION
ADOPTED
BY
THE ELEVENTH ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF
TOURISM MINISTERS**

**Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan
27th -29th June 2022**

Baku Declaration
Eleventh Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers
Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan, 27th-29th June 2022

1. We, the Ministers in charge of Tourism of the Member States of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the Heads of Delegation participating in the Eleventh Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers (ICTM), held in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan on 27th -29th June 2022,
2. Valuing the leading role of the OIC in consolidation the efforts in order to strengthen the cooperation for the mutual interest of Member States in the economic, social, cultural, educational and other vital fields,
3. Inspired by the OIC-2025: Programme of Action adopted by the Thirteenth Session of the Islamic Summit Conference, held in Istanbul, Republic of Türkiye, on 14th -15th April 2016,
4. Taking note of the relevant resolutions, declarations and tourism programmes adopted by the Islamic Summit Conferences, the Council of Foreign Ministers and the Islamic Conferences of Tourism Ministers aimed at strengthening cooperation among the Member States in the area of tourism,
5. Reiterating the relevance of sustainable tourism to the actualisation of OIC poverty eradication strategies and policies and as a potential contributor to sustainable development,
6. Reiterating that Islam is a religion of Peace and advocates such principles as appreciation of human values, tolerance with regard to religion and races and peaceful coexistence of all nations,
7. Recognizing that the economic development and tourism potential of the Member States might be affected by terrorism, conflicts, territorial occupation, natural disasters, epidemics and economic crises,
8. Recognizing the strong interlinkage between tourism and many other sectors of national economies, as well as the vital role the tourism can play in integrating the economies of the Member States.

Declare the following:

9. Recognize the important role of tourism for intercultural exchanges, preservation and popularization of Islamic historical and cultural heritage, promotion of better

knowledge and mutual understanding among civilizations, as well as the role the tourism can play in overall improvement of the image of Islam.

10. Incorporate the tourism development in the national development plans of the Member States in order to ensure the peoples' right to travel and to leisure recognized by the international community.
11. Join efforts towards increasing the tourism flow and development of transport routes among the Member States and strengthening cooperation in multimodal destination services in this regard.
12. Create favourable environment for and elaborate investment projects of intra- and inter-regional scope in the sector of tourism and related activities and fulfill their realization, inter alia, through wide dissemination of necessary information for broader attraction of relevant OIC and international financial institutions and private sector for partnership in their implementation.
13. Call on Member States, IsDB Group and other funding institutions, bilateral and multilateral development assistance bodies, enterprises and institutions of the private sector and concerned OIC institutions to actively participate in the Second Donors' Conference to be organized in 2023 in a bid to mobilize resources for the implementation of the Regional Project on Sustainable Tourism Development in a Network of Cross-Border Parks and Protected Areas in West Africa.
14. Also call upon the Member States to actively participate in tourism fairs and exhibitions held in OIC countries in order to promote development of the tourism market.
15. Congratulate the State of Qatar for the upcoming World Cup football championship as it will be the first such event to be held in one of the OIC Member States which will contribute to the Recreational Tourism sector in the Islamic World.
16. Pay special attention to policy of promotion and development of youth tourism, including establishment of national committees on youth tourism in the Member States, and creation of necessary affordable facilities towards this end.
17. Strengthen policies for the development of health, eco, rural, cultural and other types of tourism that would embrace the principles of sustainable tourism, contribute to conservation and protection of natural and cultural heritage, and serve economic and social development of and poverty reduction in local communities of the Member States.
18. Implement projects aimed at sustainable tourism development of coastal and other areas in Member States.

19. Establish and implement policies at all levels aimed at sustainable human resource development in the area of tourism and promote greater exchanges among the relevant educational institutions of the Member States.
20. Note the detrimental impact of external factors towards tourism activities in all Member States and urge all parties to exercise of the peoples' right for leisure and travel, in accordance with the norms and principles of international law, particularly those related to the territorial integrity and inviolability of internationally recognized borders of a state.
21. Strongly condemn the illegal exploitation of natural resources and the destruction of eco system and urban infrastructure, especially cultural and historical monuments in the liberated territories of Azerbaijan by Armenia, as well as the deliberate destruction of Islamic cultural and historic monuments in the territory of Armenia.
22. Decide to explore the possibility of involving the private sector organizations of the member states to participate in the infrastructural development projects in the newly liberated territories of the Republic of Azerbaijan.
23. Call upon the relevant OIC subsidiary, specialized and affiliated organs or institutions and invite the private sector to support the development of tourism for the sake of its greater contribution to economic and social development of the Member States.

Issued in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan on 29th June 2022