OEA/Ser.W

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 18 February 2021

 Original: Spanish

NOTE FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF PARAGUAY FORWARDING PROPOSED TOPICS AND GUIDELINES FOR THE TWENTY-FIFTH INTER-AMERICAN CONGRESS
OF MINISTERS AND HIGHER AUTHORITIES OF TOURISM AND REQUESTING
COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSAL

***PERMANENT MISSION OF PARAGUAY***

***TO THE***

***ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES***

N° 132-21/MPP/OEA

*Subject: XXV Tourism Congress – Request for comments*

The Permanent Mission of Paraguay to the Organization of American States (OAS) presents its compliments to the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development and has the honor to forward herewith a document containing the proposed topics and guidelines for the *XXV Inter-American Congress of Ministers and High-Level Authorities of Tourism*, submitted by the delegation of Paraguay to the Second Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Tourism (CITUR) in November 2020.

Accordingly, this Mission is requesting the Secretariat’s assistance in having said proposal shared with the other countries and to receive comments thereon **by March 12, 2021**.

The Permanent Mission of Paraguay to the Organization of American States avails itself of this opportunity to convey to the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development renewed assurances of its highest consideration.

Washington, D.C., February 12, 2021

To the

Executive Secretariat for Integral Development

Washington, D.C.

**SECOND REGULAR MEETING OF THE** OEA/Ser.W/XIII.8.2

**INTER-AMERICAN COMMITTEE ON TOURISM (CITUR)** CIDI/CITUR/doc.4/20

November 19 and 20, 2020 19 November 2020

Virtual MeetingOriginal: Spanish

PROPOSED THEME AND GUIDELINES FOR THE

 XXV INTER-AMERICAN CONGRESS OF MINISTERS AND
HIGH-LEVEL AUTHORITIES OF TOURISM

Presented by the delegation of Paraguay

Given that one of the purposes of the Second Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Tourism (CITUR) is to agree on the theme for the next ministerial meeting—to be held in Asunción, Paraguay, in 2021—and to provide the Secretariat with guidelines for drafting the annotated agenda, the delegation of Paraguay submits the following proposal for consideration by the Second Regular Meeting of CITUR:

XXV INTER-AMERICAN CONGRESS OF MINISTERS AND HIGH-LEVEL AUTHORITIES OF TOURISM OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES (OAS)

**Proposed theme: “COVID-19 AND THE RECONSTRUCTION OF TOURISM”**

**Five axes or secondary topics:**

1. Standardization of biosafety protocols in OAS member countries
2. Steps to be taken for the recovery of employment in tourism
3. The role of the State in mitigating the negative effects of the COVID-19 pandemic
4. Financial mechanisms to be used to capitalize tourism businesses
5. Incentives for airlines to recommence operations in OAS member countries
6. Awareness campaigns to rebuild people’s confidence in undertaking travel

**Specific objectives:**

1. Increased flexibility in the application of biosecurity protocols in OAS member countries.
2. Identification and implementation of the most timely and efficient measures for the reactivation of employment in tourism and the capitalization of tourism businesses.
3. Commitment of OAS member countries to support the tourism sector with public policies to mitigate the negative effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.
4. Awareness campaigns to build people’s confidence in traveling again.
5. Support for airlines in recommencing operations in OAS member countries.

**Date:** October 2021

**Place:** Asunción, Paraguay

**Format:** Plenary sessions, exchange of good practices, ministerial dialogue, networking opportunities.

**Special considerations:** Identify effective solutions to mitigate the negative effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

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