

**Guidance documents in support of the framework for the
International Year of Sustainable and Resilient Tourism 2027**

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**National Committees – Role, Functions and Working Arrangements under the
International year of Sustainable and Resilient Tourism 2027 (IYSRT 2027)**

This note provides complementary guidance on the role, functions and working arrangements of National Committees established in the context of the International Year of Sustainable and Resilient Tourism 2027 (IYSRT 2027). It should be read in conjunction with the overall framework and guidance documents for the International Year and is intended to support Member States in organizing national-level coordination and delivery, in line with their institutional contexts and priorities.

I. Purpose of National Committees

According to the Guidelines for International Years (ECOSOC Resolution [1980/67](#)), there should be ordinarily national committees or other mechanisms for preparing for, conducting, and following up the international year at the national level.

This guidance is reinforced by UN General Assembly resolution ([A/RES/78/260](#)), which recognizes sustainable and resilient tourism as a cross-cutting driver of sustainable development, calls for its promotion by all stakeholders, and encourages leveraging the International Year as a catalyst to advance sustainable development. The resolution highlights tourism's contributions to economic growth, poverty reduction, decent work, sustainable consumption and production, and responsible resource use. It also underscores the sector's role in biodiversity conservation, cultural understanding, social inclusion-including the empowerment of women, youth, Indigenous Peoples and local communities - and rural development, while emphasizing the need for coordinated, value chain-wide action to ensure sustainability and resilience.

To this effect, National Committees are envisaged as national-level coordination platforms to support the preparation, observance and follow-up of the International Year of Sustainable and Resilient Tourism 2027.

National Committees shall play a central role in ensuring effective coordination among governmental and non-governmental actors, aligning and harmonizing activities undertaken in the context of the International Year and communicating internationally agreed priorities and messages to stakeholders at national and local levels. Throughout 2027, National Committees will form the backbone of Member State engagement with the International Year.

It should be noted that such National Committees are not intended as global governance or decision-making bodies, nor do they replace existing national institutions or coordination mechanisms. Rather, they are to provide a flexible and scalable means for Member States to organize engagement with the International Year, ensure coherence across activities undertaken at national and local levels and contribute, on a voluntary basis, to regional and global exchanges of experience and learning.

II. Key Objectives of National Committees for the IYSRT 2027

In support of the objectives of the International Year of Sustainable and Resilient Tourism 2027, National Committees may, taking into account national priorities and institutional contexts, focus on the following objectives:

- raise public awareness of the contribution of sustainable and resilient tourism to broader development processes, including social inclusion and community empowerment;
- facilitate dialogue and coordination around measures that strengthen tourism business ecosystems, including discussion of enabling conditions for SMEs, investment and access to finance, where relevant;
- support reflection on legal, policy and institutional frameworks that enable sustainable and resilient tourism development, without prejudice to national decision-making processes;
- encourage leadership development, skills enhancement and youth engagement related to the future of tourism, including through forward-looking and innovation-oriented approaches;
- contribute to the generation and consolidation of national and regional evidence, good practices and policy dialogue relevant to future global frameworks; and
- support structured consultation and learning processes that may inform broader reflections on resilience, sustainability and tourism in the context of the post-2030 development agenda and future multilateral processes.

National Committees are not expected to address all objectives listed above. The selection and scope of objectives remain at the discretion of each Member State and should reflect national capacities, priorities and existing policy frameworks.

III. Role and Functions

Within the framework of the IYSRT 2027 and in accordance with applicable guidance, National Committees are generally expected to:

- Coordinate the preparation, implementation and follow-up of national activities related to IYSRT 2027;
- Develop a strategic action plan aligned with the objectives of the International Year;
- Authorize and register events, initiatives and activities undertaken under the International Year at national and local levels, in line with agreed guidance and criteria;
- Ensure alignment of activities with the objectives, principles and messaging of the International Year;
- Mobilize and engage relevant stakeholders across government, the private sector, civil society, academia and international partners;
- Promote awareness and advocacy on the contribution of sustainable and resilient tourism to sustainable development;
- Facilitate capacity-building and knowledge-sharing in support of the tourism sector; and
- Provide structured inputs, summaries and reflections to UN Tourism to support regional and global processes and reporting related to the International Year.

In particular, National Committees may authorize, coordinate and oversee activities undertaken at national and local levels, in line with national guidance and the objectives of the International Year. Such activities may include:

- coordinate the development and dissemination of nationally focused outreach and promotional materials including digital content linked to the official IYSRT 2027 platforms;

- organize or endorse meetings, conferences and events addressing national and local priorities related to sustainable and resilient tourism;
- support communication and awareness-raising initiatives, including engagement with national media, consistent with the overall messaging of the International Year;
- facilitate capacity-building and training activities for tourism and related-sector stakeholders, including through the dissemination of guidelines, tools and resources;
- support collaboration with academic and research institutions to strengthen evidence, data collection and analysis relevant to resilience and sustainability in tourism;
- encourage multi-stakeholder dialogue on policy-relevant issues linked to sustainable and resilient tourism, without prejudice to formal national policy-making or legislative processes;
- document activities, initiatives and outputs carried out during the International Year, including examples of good practice and lessons learned;

The above list is indicative and non-exhaustive.

National Committees may also contribute to the preparation of national summaries or reflections at the conclusion of the International Year, focusing on activities undertaken and key insights generated, in line with guidance provided by UN Tourism.

For the purposes of the International Year, National Committees, or as appropriate, may apply differentiated approaches to the authorization and oversight of activities, taking into account their nature and intended purpose. In particular, a distinction may be made between communication and public engagement activities, and policy-oriented, capacity-building or standards-related activities, which may be subject to different levels of criteria, documentation and follow-up.

IV. Establishment of National Committees

National Committees should be inclusive and reflect the diversity of actors involved in tourism and related policy areas at a national level, while maintaining clear leadership and accountability for coordination, authorization and reporting functions. They should be anchored in, or formally convened by, the ministry or authority responsible for tourism, to serve as the primary contact for UN Tourism and to support coordination of the National Committee.

National Committees should be inclusive and made up of actors at the national level such as:

- the ministry or authority responsible for tourism, serving as the national focal point;
- relevant public institutions, including those responsible for environment, culture, finance, climate change, water management, land use and local government;
- private sector associations;
- civil society organizations and NGOs, including those addressing decent work and poverty eradication through tourism;
- legal, academic and research institutions with relevant expertise;
- representatives of local communities and other relevant stakeholders;
- United Nations Country Teams, including the Office of the Resident Coordinator, where appropriate, and in line with national arrangements.

The size, composition and working modalities of National Committees should remain flexible and proportionate, reflecting national capacities, institutional contexts and the scope of activities undertaken under the International Year.

Where appropriate, Member States may build on existing inter-ministerial, inter-agency or multi-stakeholder coordination mechanisms, rather than establishing new bodies specifically for the International Year.

V. Working Arrangements

For the purposes of the International Year of Sustainable and Resilient Tourism 2027, Member States are invited to establish appropriate working arrangements to enable National Committees to carry out their coordination, authorization and reporting functions effectively.

Member States may consider the following steps:

1. identifying and convening relevant public and non-public stakeholders, ensuring balanced representation and effective partnership arrangements;
2. establishing, as appropriate, national guidance and procedures for the registration, authorization and monitoring of activities undertaken under the International Year;
3. defining practical modalities for documentation and reporting of activities and outcomes to UN Tourism, in line with guidance provided at global level; and
4. where appropriate, involving the United Nations Country Team and integrating activities related to the International Year into relevant national and UN work programmes.

National Committees are encouraged to adopt pragmatic and proportionate working methods, including the preparation of a light action plan or activity framework for the International Year, reflecting national priorities and capacities.

VI. Coordination, Communication and Secretariat Support

National Committees are responsible for coordinating national-level activities undertaken in the context of the International Year of Sustainable and Resilient Tourism 2027, and for ensuring their alignment with applicable national and international guidance, objectives and principles. They are expected to establish appropriate arrangements for the identification, authorization, monitoring and documentation of events and activities including verification of compliance with agreed guidance and criteria.

Information on activities undertaken should be consolidated and validated at national level and transmitted to UN Tourism in an aggregated and structured manner, in line with guidance provided at international level, for the purposes of regional and global overviews, reporting and collective learning.

In line with national arrangements, National Committees may coordinate the use of the IYSRT 2027 name and logo at the national level, in accordance with official UN Tourism guidelines. This does not extend to the use of the name, emblem or official seal of UN Tourism or of the United Nations, which remains subject to prior written authorization. A partner portal will support registration of organizations, logo authorization requests, and the upload of activity information, enabling transparent and scalable participation. The National Committee should maintain a central register of all authorized users, and any further dissemination should require explicit approval or adherence to predefined guidelines to prevent misuse, reputational risks, or dilution of the logo's meaning.

National Committees shall not, in any manner whatsoever, use the name, emblem or official seal of UN Tourism or the UN, or any abbreviation of the name of UN Tourism or the UN, in connection with its activities for the IYSRT 2027 or otherwise without the prior written permission of UN Tourism. Under no circumstances shall authorization be provided to use the name, emblem or official seal of UN Tourism or the UN, or any abbreviation of the name of UN Tourism or the UN, for commercial purposes.

The UN Tourism Secretariat provides overall coordination, international guidance and technical support for the International Year, including common principles, templates and reporting formats. This support complements national leadership and ownership and does not entail the centralized management or validation of individual events or activities.

Through these arrangements, National Committees serve as the primary interface between national implementation and international consolidation, ensuring effective two-way communication and structured contribution to regional and global processes.

VII. Funding National Committees

The UNGA resolution [A/RES/78/260](#) proclaiming the International Year of Sustainable and Resilient Tourism 2027 stresses that the costs of all the activities that may arise from the implementation of the International Year should be met through voluntary contributions. The resolution also encourages all States, the United Nations system, and other stakeholders to seize the International Year as an opportunity to promote actions at all levels - including through international cooperation - and to advance sustainable and resilient tourism as a driver for sustainable development. National governments are encouraged to allocate budgetary resources to selected activities, enhancing their engagement and enabling greater impact at the national level.