



WORLD COMMITTEE ON TOURISM ETHICS

WHAT IS THE WORLD COMMITTEE ON TOURISM ETHICS?

Established in 2003, the World Committee on Tourism Ethics (WCTE) is an independent and impartial body under the aegis of the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), a specialized Agency of the United Nations responsible for the promotion of responsible, sustainable and universally accessible tourism.

The Committee is a subsidiary organ of the UNWTO General Assembly to which it reports on a regular basis.

MANDATE

The WCTE is mandated to raise awareness, promote and monitor the implementation of the UNWTO Global Code of Ethics for Tourism.

The Code, endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly, addresses the socio-economic, cultural and environmental aspects of tourism and aims to guide all stakeholders in the development of sustainable and responsible tourism.

The WCTE may also research and issue reports, recommendation and observation on ethical matters related to tourism, and propose and approve text of conventions and other legal instruments on specific issues related to the Code provisions.

VISION

The WCTE vision is to uplift the ethical dimension of tourism as a fundamental pillar of sustainable tourism development.

OBJECTIVES

WCTE works to promote and ensure the inclusion of socially responsible policies and fair practices in tourism development among all stakeholders – governments, companies, host communities and tourists.



PRIORITIES FOR 2021-2025

In addition to the long-term goal of advancing responsible and ethical tourism, the current WCTE has identified the following priority areas of work for its 2021-2025 mandate:

1. Decent Work, Inclusive Growth and Community Empowerment
2. Technology and Digital Platforms
3. Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability
4. Social Sustainability and Intercultural Dialogues

COMPOSITION

The present Committee* was appointed by the 23rd General Assembly in September 2019 and the 24th UNWTO General Assembly in December 2021 and is constituted of eight permanent and three alternate members in addition to the Chairperson. All Members of the Committee serve in their personal capacities. The office of the Chairperson is currently held by Dr. Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, the former Executive Director of UN Women and former Deputy President of South Africa.

* Members of the WCTE: Chairperson, Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka; Members: Mayada Belal, José Ignacio Besga Zuazola, Luis Fernando Jiménez Guzman, Susan Longley, Lawal Mohammed Marafa, Hiroaki Matsuura, Daniela Otero and Gabriela Tigu; Alternate members: Günnur Diker, Shahid Hamid Fih and Marina Novelli.