Tourism development as an actual task of the society

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TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AS AN ACTUAL TASK OF THE SOCIETY

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Annotation: This article examines legislative and legal acts on the development of tourism in the Republic of Uzbekistan, legal and practical reforms in tourism and their results. There are also benefits to tourists visiting the Republic of Uzbekistan, as well as visas and electronic visas. In addition, some countries (USA, China, Malaysia, Spain) examined and analyzed the tourism practice.

Key words: tourism, visa regime, types of visas, regulations, concepts.

Tourism is defined as "travelling to and staying in places outside their usual environment for not more than one consecutive year for leisure, business and other purposes". Tourism is commonly associated with international travel as well as refers to travel to another place within the same country [1].

In the Republic of Uzbekistan, the tourism sector plays a key role in diversifying the national economy, securing employment, preserving cultural heritage and attracting investment. Considering the practice of developed countries, tourism is one of the key components of the country's economic development.

In particular, according to the UN World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), France is the country with the highest level of tourism. There are 37 UNESCO World Heritage Sites in this country, accounting for about 10 percent of the country's GDP. More than 70 million tourists visit the United States annually, and in the industrial states, tourism is a major source of income for the country's budget. At the same time, by 2025, the government plans to raise the budget to $2.5 trillion. There are many things that we may learn from Spain. There are UNESCO World Heritage Sites in 13 cities. Obviously, when the postindustrial societies are at the forefront of economic stability, rational use of such capacities, and resources which is beneficial to the country. The countries such as France, China, USA, Malaysia, Spain, have great experiences in the field of tourism [2].

The positive effects of tourism on a country’s economy include the growth and development of various industries directly linked with a healthy tourism industry, such as transportation, accommodation, wildlife, arts and entertainment. It brings about the creation of new jobs and revenue generated from foreign exchange, investments and payments of goods and services provided. Though improvements in the standard of living of locals in heavily visited tourist destinations is usually little or non-existent, inflation of the prices of basic commodities, due to visiting tourists, is a constant feature of these areas.

Sources of international law are established by states in the process of law-making norms for the implementation of agreed decisions, forms of existence of international legal norms. Traditionally, over the centuries, two sources of international law have been applied – an international treaty and international custom.

Meanwhile, the diplomatic practice of states, international conferences, the functioning of international intergovernmental organizations indicate the birth of new forms of implementation of
international law in the form of acts of international conferences and meetings and acts of international organizations.

When considering the question of the sources of international law, Art. 38 of the Statute of the International Court of Justice, according to which the International Court of Justice, when deciding on disputes referred to it, relies on the following sources of law:

- international conventions establishing the rules recognized by states;
- international custom as an of universal practice recognized in. as a legal norm;
- General principles of law recognized by nations;
- court decisions and the doctrines of the most qualified specialists in public law of various nations as an aid to the definition of legal norms.

The sources of the institute of international tourist law are the results of the process of standard-setting (rule-making) in the form of an international treaty and international custom. For example, the Convention on Customs Relief for Tourists, adopted at the UN diplomatic conference, and its additional protocol on customs relief for tourists concerning the import of tourist information documents and materials of 1954, as well as the Customs Convention on Temporary Import private road vehicles determine the mechanism of legal regulation of national tourism [3].

One of the main reasons for the double increase of foreign tourists in our country by 2018 is the visa regime, the rules of stay in Uzbekistan and the simplification of entrepreneurial activity, the development of infrastructure in tourism and the promotion of tourism potential. In particular, a visa-free regime has been introduced for 18 countries, simplified visa regime for citizens has increased from 12 to 50, introduction of electronic entry visa issuance system, the procedure for issuing visas to Uzbekistan through the territory of Uzbekistan without visas, temporary admission and expulsion of citizens of 101 countries crossing the territory of Uzbekistan was simplified, modest order of temporary registration of foreign citizens in the territory of the republic was fully transferred to the E-MENMON system and the visitor the fact that the order of certification of their homes which is abolished, is a clear proof of that. Foreign investors and enterprises with foreign investments have the right to conclude employment contracts with citizens of any foreign state and persons without citizenship permanently residing outside the Republic of Uzbekistan in order to carry out the investment activity in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Such persons have the right to enter and stay in the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan, having received the relevant multiple-entry visas throughout the period of their employment.

Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated January 5, 2019 "On Additional Measures for Accelerated Development of Tourism in the Republic of Uzbekistan" was adopted [4]. The main purpose of the decree is to create favorable conditions for the development of tourism, primarily in the private sector, to improve the competitiveness and quality of services provided, and to actively promote and integrate domestic tourism in the world market. The Decree has approved the Concept of the development of tourism in the Republic of Uzbekistan (hereinafter – the Concept) between 2019 and 2025 and the Action Plan for 2019. Conceptual targets are as follows:

- improving the normative-legal base in the sphere of tourism activities, implementation of international norms and standards aimed at creating favorable conditions for tourism development;
- development tourism infrastructure and creation of favorable tourist climate;
- development of transport logistics, expansion of internal and external routes, improving the quality of transport services;
- diversification of tourism products and services oriented to different segments of the tourism market;
- development of internal tourism, promoting the activity of subjects of tourism oriented to meet the needs of tourism services within the republic;
- promotion of tourism products in the international and domestic tourism markets, strengthening the image of the country as a safe destination for travel and leisure;
- improving the system of training, retraining and advanced training of the tourism sector.

According to the decree, from 1 February 2019 citizens of 45 countries have been granted a visa-free regime for 30 days from the date of entry into the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Also, citizens of 76 countries have an opportunity to obtain an electronic entry visa as of February 1, 2019. The citizens of 109 foreign countries have the right to obtain a residence permit in the Republic of Uzbekistan. Introduction of categories of additional (non-electronic) entry visas for certain groups of foreign citizens visiting the Republic of Uzbekistan.

German international experts Urs Uncauf and Mattias Dornfeld, in an article titled "Uzbekistan: Political Reform in the Context of Regional Development in Central Asia," published in ostexperte.de on 28 January, point out that the Republic of Uzbekistan's initiative plays an important role in international
relations. "The most populous people in Central Asia the country – in Uzbekistan under the initiative of President Shavkat Mirziyoyev to liberalize the political system, to stabilize the market economy, to integrate into the region and the international arena. Broad reforms are being carried out to ensure that it is in line with international standards [5].

The UK magazine The Travel Magazine this year On January 7, "From 1 February 2019, there are no visas to Uzbekistan for representatives of the British and 44 other countries". Die Presse, a German newspaper, "Uzbekistan is fighting for tourists", another magazine in England - "Lonely Planet" with its unique "Medieval blue dome cities, broadband markets, attractiveness of the Great Silk Road, original architectural samples in Samarkand " he wrote [6].

In order to further improvement of the legal framework of tourism industry, 25 normative-legal acts were developed, about 150 measures aimed at widely promoting the country’s tourism image were taken. In particular, a visa-free regime has been introduced for citizens of such countries as Turkey, South Korea, Japan, France, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Israel, and Tajikistan. An electronic system for full registration of foreign guests has been launched.

It should be mentioned, that from February 1, 2019 additional visa-free regime is established for 45 countries for 30 days from the date of entry into the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan. These countries include Australia, Austria, Argentina, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Vatican, Luxembourg, Hungary, Brunei Darussalam, Greece, Ireland, Iceland, Italy, Canada, Andorra, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Belgium, Denmark, Spain, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Latvia, Lithuania, Mongolia, New Zealand, Portugal, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Malta, Poland, San Marino, Serbia, Slovenia, Croatia, Chile, Romania, Slovakia, the United Kingdom, Brazil, Finland, Montenegro, Czech Republic, Switzerland, Estonia. Also, it should be noted that from January 15, 2019, visa-free regime has been established for 30 days for Germany’s citizens.

In accordance with the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, additional categories of non-electronic entrance visas have been issued for certain groups of foreign citizens visiting Uzbekistan. Accordingly, the following new types of visas will be introduced:

"Vatandosh" – a two-year visa issued on the basis of invitation for former Uzbek citizens and for their family members by their relatives who are considered to be nationals of Uzbekistan;

"Student visa" – is a one-year visa for foreign students enrolled in educational institutions in Uzbekistan. This visa is issued on the basis of the application of ministries of education, departments and organizations of the Republic;

"Academic visa" – is issued for foreigners who wish to pursue scientific research and education in Uzbekistan for a period of 3 months to 2 years, at the request of the Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan, research institutions and higher education institutions;

"Medical visa" – a visa for up to 3 months for citizens of foreign countries who visit Uzbekistan on the basis of the invitation of the treatment-and-prophylactic institutions.

"Pilgrim visa" – is a pilgrimage visa issued for a period of up to 2 months for foreign citizens to study the cultural – historical and religious-spiritual heritage and traditions of Uzbekistan at the request of entities engaged in tourism activity and the Committee on Religious Affairs under the Cabinet of Ministers.

Proposals for the development of the tourism industry in the Republic of Uzbekistan, the promotion of a safe image for tourists and vacationers are as follows:

Firstly, creating favorable conditions for disabled tourists;

Secondly, improving the qualifications and outlook of the tourism sector;

Thirdly, more than 7 thousand historical monuments have been registered in our country. It is necessary to form hotels, “guest houses”, international electronic systems and their location map for tourists.

Fourthly, it is necessary for each tourist to create telephone, internet, Wi-Fi zones, and to draft laws in this regard.

Fifthly, architectural complexes should be emphasized that the world is one of the sacred places of the Muslim world and must be repaired and reconstructed.

Sixth, it is necessary to think about creating favorable conditions for business investors, in particular by providing them with tax and customs benefits and preferences.

In conclusion, it should be noted that the development of the tourism industry, along with the growth of the country's economy, contributes to the employment of the population, the development of the domestic and foreign markets, and the further growth of transport and service.

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