

## Project

### “SUPPORT TO BAKU VOCATIONAL SCHOOL OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND TOURISM”

#### LOCAL PROJECT APPRAISAL COMMITTEE MEETING

#### MINUTES

**Date:** 06 November 2012  
**Venue:** UNDP office  
**Chair:** Nato Alhazishvili  
**Participants:**

Ms. Nato Alhazishvili, Deputy Resident Representative  
Ms. Jamila Ibrahimova, Head of Programme Unit  
Mr. Shamil Rzayev, Senior Programme Adviser  
Mr. Elnur Khalilov, Programme Adviser  
Mr. Chingiz Mammadov, Senior Programme Adviser  
Mr. Vugar Allahverdiyev, Programme Adviser  
Ms. Leyla Fathi, Programme Associate  
Ms. Sabina Zadayeva, Head of External Tourism Sector, Ministry of Culture and Tourism

#### Project Presenter:

#### 1. Introduction

**Ms. Nato Alhazishvili** welcomed participants and noted that the purpose of the appraisal committee meeting is to review the project document and suggest any amendments/changes before it is presented to the signature of the Government and UNDP.

#### 2. Presentation of the project

**Mr. Elnur Khalilov** made a presentation of a new project. He informed that the “Support to the Baku Tourism Vocational School of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism” Project aims to support the Ministry of Culture and Tourism to strengthen the institutional capacities of the Baku Tourism Vocational School so that its graduates can provide services that would meet high professional standards, thus increasing the competitiveness of Azerbaijan’s touristic industry. This will be achieved through: (i) infrastructural upgrade; (ii) curriculum and training courses enhancement; (iii) exposure to international experience in management and (iv) improved access to educational resources.

He also informed that Baku Tourism Vocational School (BTVS) was established in December 2011 by the Decision of Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Currently more than 700 students are educated there for the following specialties: Confectioner, Barman, Waiter, Cook, Tour operator, Hotel receptionist, Travel agent, Ski mountaineering tour guide, Ecotourism guide and Local tourism guide. The BTVS can become a model vocational school and this experience can be further replicated in the course of implementation of the Concept on Establishment & Development of a network of Baku & Regional Vocational Schools in 2012 – 2016.

He mentioned that the project will be implemented in UNDP NEX modality with the total budget of USD 483,000 (383,000 from Government and 100,000 from UNDP) with the total duration of 24 months.

### 3. Summary of discussions

**Mr. Khalilov** made a comprehensive presentation of a new Project and the achievements under the previous three phases of the Tourism Development Project and outlined the tasks intended under the new Project as the next step in tourism development of Azerbaijan Republic. He noted that Azerbaijan has the potential to attract a large number of international tourists. The country is blessed with ingredients that will create good memories for tourists, historically rich religious diversity, interesting cities to explore, unusual foods and above all - safety in the country. All these attributes are creating an enabling environment for Azerbaijan to develop its tourism industry more broadly and he underlined that strengthening capacity of Baku Tourism Vocational School will play an important role in improvement of the tourism services in the country.

The floor was given to **Ms. Sabina Zadayeva** for her comments and suggestions. She informed the attendants that the Ministry of Culture and Tourism provided support to the previous project implementation from the very start. She noted that the cooperation between UNDP and the Ministry of Culture and Tourism in the framework of Tourism Development Project was successful and she had no comments on this project document. Also she added that new Project will be an effective mechanism for continuation of successful partnership between UNDP and the Ministry.

In conclusion, **Ms. Nato Alhazishvili** thanked everybody for their contribution and noted that she was very glad to have experienced the finalization of the first step in tourism development and the perspective successful implementation of the next step.

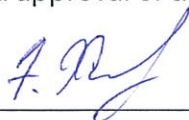
### 4. Follow-up Actions

The committee did not see the necessity to make any changes/amendments to the project document.

### 5. Decision

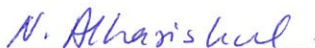
The LPAC decided to recommend approval of the project.

Prepared by: Signature \_\_\_\_\_



Mr. Elnur Khalilov, Programme Adviser

Approved by: Signature \_\_\_\_\_



Ms. Nato Alhazishvili, Deputy Resident Representative