### World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)

#### Brief description of the organisation
- The World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations and the leading international organization in the field of tourism. It serves as a global forum for tourism policy issues and a practical source of tourism know-how. UNWTO plays a central and decisive role in promoting the development of responsible, sustainable and universally accessible tourism, paying particular attention to the interests of developing countries.
- UNWTO is based in Madrid, Spain.

#### Mission

#### Fields of Activity/structure
- **Statistics**
  - Compilation guidance, for implementing the new IRTS 2008, and reinforcement of international comparability of basic tourism statistics data;
  - Dissemination of TSA data and fostering of the macroeconomic analysis of tourism;
  - Technical assistance for Member States on tourism statistics and TSA;
  - Cooperation within the UN System.

#### Mandate
- **Agreement between the United Nations and the World Tourism Organization, 58th session of the UN General Assembly, October 2003**
- **Article 13 Statistical services**
  1. The United Nations and the World Tourism Organization agree to strive for the maximum cooperation, the elimination of all undesirable duplication between them and the most efficient use of personnel in their respective collection, analysis, publication and dissemination of statistical information. They agree to combine their efforts to secure the greatest possible usefulness and utilization of statistical information, to guarantee close coordination in their respective statistical related initiatives and to minimize the burden placed upon Governments and other organizations from which such information may be collected.
  2. The World Tourism Organization recognizes that the United Nations is the central agency for the collection, analysis, publication, standardization and improvement of tourism statistics serving the general purposes of international organizations.
  3. The United Nations recognizes the World Tourism Organization as the appropriate organization to collect, to analyse, to publish, to standardize and to improve the statistics of tourism, and to promote the integration of these statistics within the sphere of the United

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1. Mission of the statistics section/department of the organization
Nations system.”

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<th><strong>Statistical work programme</strong></th>
<th>Multiannual 2 year programme. The current programme covers the period 2008-2009 and is intended to provide an overview of the objectives, areas of activities, specific actions and expected outputs for the period.</th>
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| **Number of staff**           | 4 staff members  
| **Total / Statistical division** | 2 external collaborators  
|                               | 4 consultants (part-time) |
| **Flagship Publications**     | Compendium of Tourism Statistics  
|                               | Yearbook of Tourism Statistics  
|                               | See [www.wtoelibrary.org](http://www.wtoelibrary.org) (Tourism Factbook) |
| **Website**                   | [http://www.unwto.org/statistics/home.htm](http://www.unwto.org/statistics/home.htm) |

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