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Development of beach tourism in Azerbaijan

“Action Plan on the development of beach tourism in the Republic of Azerbaijan for 2017-2020” dated March 30, 2017 was approved by the decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan.



Measures are being taken in the direction of enabling local and foreign tourists to make use of the tourism services in Azerbaijan that are favorable and meet international standards, as well as ensuring competitive bid. Favorable geographical environment of Azerbaijan has paved the way for the development of most areas of tourism, particularly beach tourism. Our country, which is located on the shore of the Caspian sea (lake), has great potential in terms of the development of beach tourism.

In this regard, "Action Plan on the development of beach tourism in the Republic of Azerbaijan for 2017-2020" has been approved by the relevant decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Following the actions that will be taken in connection with the development of the beach tourism in the suitable areas of the Caspian sea (lake) belonging to Azerbaijan as a result of the implementation of the action plan, the interests of local and foreign investors in the tourism sector will increase in the coming years.

Pursuant to the Decree, the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Azerbaijan has been identified as the coordinating body for organizing the implementation of the Action Plan.

Installation of information boards compatible with the standards in points of access to sea in the beach areas, taking measures with respect to establishing free auto parking zones for the vehicles in the vicinity of those areas, creation of utility services (wardrobes, shower cabins, feet washers, trash cans and containers) are envisaged within the framework of the Action Plan.

That is, the Action Plan on the development of beach tourism in the Republic of Azerbaijan for 2017-2020 incorporates the following measures in six parts:

- 1.Improvement of the legal framework with respect to the beaches;
- 2.Establishment and development of infrastructure in the beaches;
- 3.Regulating activities of beach operators;

4.Measures on environmental protection;

5.Security measures;

6.Establishment of information database on beaches and promotion of beach tourism.

In addition, preparation of proposals regarding the construction of the relevant infrastructure facilities along the coastline of the section of the Caspian Sea (lake) belonging to the Republic of Azerbaijan and in the vicinity of the suitable areas of the sea allocated for the beach by taking international practice into consideration, as well as supporting the projects proposed by entrepreneurs on the matter have also been mentioned in the Action Plan.

Measures on environmental protection have particularly been emphasized within the framework of the relevant Decree. So that, submission of proposals with respect to the management of waste water generated in the areas allocated for the beaches, establishment of sanitary protection zones and types of activity permitted to be carried out in these areas by the law, improvement of the mechanism for the management of domestic waste have been specified therein.

At the same time, creation of separate section on beach tourism in tourism register, which will be created in connection with the implementation of the Decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan dated September 1, 2016 "On additional measures with respect to the development of tourism in the Republic of Azerbaijan", and in relevant informational website, placing the maps of the beaches and detailed information about them in this section, and development of electronic bulletins in connection with the beach season have been set out in the Action Plan.

Taking relevant promotional measures to attract tourists, holding seminars and trainings on beach tourism for the purpose of improving the quality of service, and learning international practice are among the key issues set forth in the action plan as well.





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