



## **IBC Tourism Committee**

### ***International Business Council, Bishkek, the Kyrgyz Republic***

The Committee resumed its work in 2015. Today it brings together representatives of the hotel and restaurant businesses as well as tourism service providers.

The Committee's tasks include promoting the tourist attraction of Kryrgyzstan abroad, creating favorable conditions for the development of tourism, including improving the legislative framework and sharing/exchanging experiences.

### **Events**

- Partial adoption of open skies regime. IBC representatives actively participated in the meetings to discuss introduction of an open skies policy in the Kyrgyz Republic. The meetings were attended by heads of relevant government agencies (Director of Civil Aviation Agency under the Ministry of Transport and Communications and Director of the Tourism Department under the Ministry of Culture, Information and Tourism), representatives of the Economy Ministry and Ministry of Transport and Communications, heads of private companies operating in the tourism sector (Kyrgyz Concept and Air Kyrgyzstan), and representatives of tourism associations. It was agreed that it is necessary to introduce the open skies policy. However, some participants insisted on adopting the policy with limitations. It was proposed to adopt the fifth and sixth Freedoms of the Air. Representatives of state bodies proposed to make a list of countries for which the fifth and sixth freedoms will be available, while representatives of the private sector proposed to apply these freedoms to all countries. Finally, the fifth freedom was approved;
- Participation in drafting Tourism Development Program of the Kyrgyz Republic for 2016-2020. IBC representatives actively participated in the Working Group on drafting the Tourism Development Framework.

