Checklist for Visitors' In-field Activities

The following checklist is aimed to support inspections under Article VII of the Antarctic Treaty and Article 14 of the Madrid Protocol.

The issues included in this checklist are to supplement (but not be a substitute for) information obtained from environmental assessment processes, information exchange, reports by Parties and Experts to the ATCM and CEP, and from documented industry practices and procedures (where applicable).

Except where indicated, all the information needed to reply to these questions will be obtained from on site sources (e.g. interviews + field observation)

SECTION A. Inspection Details

1. Location (name of the site inspected)

2. Date and time of inspection visit

3. Mode of transport to the site (by sea/ by air/land)

4. Name and flag of vessel (if appropriate)

5. Does the vessel comply with agreed restrictions on the number of passengers carried onboard at the site in question (in relation to Measure 15, 2009 and applicable Site guidelines for Visitors)

6. Tour/ Non-Governmental Organization/ other operator (name, nationality)

7. Any other company involved in the operation (e.g. vessel operator, tour operator, sub-charterer, providers of other services).

8. Affiliation to IAATO (yes/no)

9. Name of Expedition leader (or person in charge of disembarking visitors)

10. Duration of visit

11. Persons conducting inspection (name, nationality)

SECTION B. Advance Notification and Other Legislation Requirements

12. Has the activity undergone authorization / permit / environmental assessment procedures, and is a copy of the EIA available?

13. Identify if it has been single-year or multiyear, and if it covers the activities of a single-ship or company, or multiple ships and companies.

14. Which Party provided the authorization / permit / or administered the environmental assessment procedures?

15. Was the activity notified in advance to the appropriate Treaty Party?

SECTION C. Site Management

16. Is the area subject to particular management requirements, like Site Guidelines for Visitors, ASPA/ASMA Management Plan/ Codes of Conduct, Facility's internal policies, or similar?

This information should be collected prior to the deployment of the inspection team, from off site sources, such as the ATS, IAATO and National Programs' websites.

SECTION D. Information Management

17. Did the expedition party (cruise ship/aircraft/other) contact the facility (station, refuge, hut, field camp) prior to arrival in order to coordinate the visit? (if appropriate)

18. Was the Expedition leader (or person in charge of disembarking visitors) aware of the general provisions of the Antarctic Treaty and its Protocol on Environmental Protection?

19. Did visitors receive, prior to their arrival at the site, information on:

- the values present in the area, and on ways to avoid their degradation?; and on
- the contents of relevant guidelines and management instruments on Antarctic tourism? (e. g. Site Guidelines for Visitors, General Guidelines for Visitors of the Antarctic, behavior rules and commitments of Rec. XVIII-I, or ASPA/ASMA-Management Plan)

Describe ways on which this information was transmitted (board presentation, a briefing prior to landing, a briefing immediately after landing)

SECTION E. Visit Description

20. Total number of visitors landed during the visit

21. Was there more than one tourist vessel at the landing site at any one time?

22. For vessel landings, what was the maximum number of passengers landed ashore at any one time? (Noting that the limit should be 100, unless a lower number is otherwise specified in applicable ATCM Measures or Site Guidelines)

23. Was the minimum ratio staff: passenger of 1:20 (unless otherwise specified in applicable ATCM Measures or Site Guidelines) maintained during visit?

24. What types of activities were carried out by visitors during their visit to the site? (e.g. walks ashore, sea baths, swimming, kayaking, diving, trekking, hiking, climbing, camping, marathons, races, snowboard, skiing, hand gliding, wildlife watching, etc).

25. Provide details of any on-ground visitor management or environmental protection measures implemented during visit (eg. temporary area markers to guide visitors, additional guides)

26. Describe in situ safety measures implemented during the visit (for example, in the event that the vessel/aircraft is not able to collect the visitors at the expected time)?

27. Were the provisions set out in any applicable ASPA/ASMA Management Plan/Codes of Conduct, Facilities internal policies, or similar, adhered to in full?

28. Were the provisions set out in any applicable Site Guidelines for Visitors (e.g. preferred landing sites, zoning schemes, behavior ashore, precautionary notes, etc.) adhered to in full?

SECTION F. On Site Impacts / Conduct of Visit

29. Have you identified during visit any incident or evidence of direct impacts caused by visitors on the:

- site's flora and fauna?
- the landscape and wilderness values present in the site? (e.g. trampling on pristine surfaces, digging bathing pits, building a cairn, graffiti on rocks, etc)

30. Describe in-situ waste management procedures implemented during visit.

31. Where appropriate, and not otherwise covered in site specific guidelines or management plans, describe how visit was managed in order to avoid impacts on historic sites and monuments (including immobile and mobile historic features) present in the site?

32. Describe procedures implemented during visit to avoid causing any disturbance to science and/or logistic operations (only applicable to visits to, *inter alia,* stations, refuges, huts, field camps).

SECTION G. Additional Information on Practices and Procedures to Ensure Safety and/or Environmental Protection

33. Were industry standard practices or operating procedures used (specify if so)?

34. Were guides / expedition personnel accredited according to any specific training standards? (Please, specify)