BOARD MEMBER INTEREST FORM

The GSTC appreciates your interest in dedicating your time to fulfilling the mission of the organization. To ensure we have a balanced representation and that the membership is aware of your background and expertise, please fill out the following form and submit with your most updated bio or curriculum.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Name:
Organization:
Nominated by:
Endorsed by (please submit two letters of endorsement):

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Nationality: Country of Residence:
Education: Current position:
Are you affiliated to a certification or accreditation organization? ____ Yes ____ No

ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION

Type of organization:

- **Travel & Tourism Industry** - this includes Accommodation, Food & Beverage, Water passenger transport, Tour Operators, Travel agencies and other Reservation services, Cultural Activities, Sports and Recreational activities, Retail trade of tour goods, Air passenger transport, Railway passenger transport, Road passenger transport, Transport equipment rental (Rent-a-car), Travel consulting firms, Travel guides, Travel media/communications agencies.

- **Travel and Tourism Trade Associations** - this includes Membership-based Associations dedicated to promoting any of the above described sectors of the Travel and Tourism industry, including Associations of travel professionals and entrepreneurs involved in the Travel and Tourism industry.
- **Certification Bodies** – this includes organizations that have the authorization to provide written assurance and logo provision to certify that a product, service, company, process or management system conforms to specific requirements (this includes organizations certifying the compliance of travel and tourism businesses destinations with sustainability criteria)

- **Governments** – this includes national, regional and local governments, Ministries of Environment, Ministries of Tourism, Departments of Trade, Culture, Leisure.

- **Destinations** – this includes Tourism Boards, Convention and Visitors Bureaus, Destination Marketing Organizations.

- **NGOs** – this includes certified/registered non-profit and non-governmental organizations.

- **Academia** – this includes technical schools, colleges, universities, research institutes. Approval has to come from a senior official of the organization with appropriate authorization.

- **Individual** - this includes individual consultants / experts / professionals with a vast interest in the Travel and Tourism Industry, and knowledge of the sustainable tourism sector, not affiliated to an organization.

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Global Region (select the region that your organization’s headquarters are based in)

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<th>Region</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North America</td>
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<td>Central America</td>
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<td>South America</td>
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<td>Western Europe (including Israel)</td>
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<td>Eastern Europe</td>
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<td>Middle East and North Africa</td>
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<td>Sub-Saharan Africa</td>
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<td>Central-Southern Asia</td>
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<td>Eastern Asia-Far East</td>
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<td>Oceania</td>
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EXPERIENCE

Please indicate if you have experience in the following areas:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Certification/Accreditation/Standards</th>
<th>Education and Training</th>
<th>Marketing/Distribution/Communications</th>
<th>Destination Management</th>
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<tr>
<td>For profit</td>
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<td>Not for profit</td>
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<td>Government</td>
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AREAS OF INTEREST

Which of the following are your areas of interest?

- **The International Standards Working Group.** The International Standards Working Group will focus on developing sets of standards applicable to all Sectors of the Travel and Tourism Industry to ensure that sustainability best practices permeate all levels of the marketplace. The group will specify ISEAL’s codes of good practice and specify the international requirements which service providers must meet.

- **The Destinations Working Group.** The Destinations Working Group will focus on developing Sustainable Tourism criteria and indicators for Destinations, and defining how the travel and tourism industry can and should support destination stewardship (an integrated multi-stakeholder approach), effectively changing the way tourism is currently managed.

- **The Accreditation Working Group.** The Accreditation Working Group will aim to ensure that service providers around the world have access to reliable guidance and advice on the requirements for accreditation, and how to achieve compliance and certification. The group will be responsible for overseeing the accreditation process for the GSTC.

- **The Knowledge Network, Education and Training Working Group.** The Knowledge Network, Education and Training Working Group will develop and compile GSTC-compatible best practices, education/training tools, case studies, and a capacity building program to empower the tourism industry and other tourism stakeholders with the resources needed to improve sustainability outcomes.

- **The Market Access Working Group.** The Market Access Working Group will identify, develop and disseminate business-to-business solutions that will allow tourism businesses that align themselves with the GSTC to reach greater market potential and market share. It will also work to encourage travel agents, tour operators, and distribution systems to better market businesses certified by a GSTC-accredited program.

- **The Communications Working Group.** The Communications Working Group will focus on developing and delivering the most efficient and effective communications strategy to support the GSTC’s mission and objectives, utilizing all communications channels available: the GSTC Website, Social Media, Newsletters, Press Releases, Public Relations events, both for the Industry and its consumers’ benefit.

- **The Membership Working Group.** The Membership Working Group will focus on developing, delivering and constantly improving the most appropriate set of benefits for each segment of the GSTC’s Membership base, whether on regional basis, on category or organization’s type basis, on potential contribution (Sponsorship) basis. Its action will be guided by periodical surveys and Members’ feedback.
Please **summarise your experience** and qualifications within your organization as well as your commitment to sustainability; **discuss the potential benefits of aligning with the organization you represent**.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPLICANT AGREEMENT

The Board of Directors is the main organ of representation of the GSTC and as such its members have three main commitments to the organization: care, loyalty, and obedience. Board members will act seeking the best interest of the organization, ensuring that GSTC information remains confidential, decisions are always made in the best interest of the organization, and acting in compliance with the mission, goals and By-Laws of the organization.

By applying to become a Board Member, I hereby agree to the roles and responsibilities agreed upon by the Nomination to the Board Manual, the By-Laws and Operational Manual.

I ________________________________ commit as candidate for the board to the following:

- Demonstrate skills and expertise that are aligned with the roles and responsibilities expected from the Board.
- Attendance of all board meetings including one in person meeting for which I will cover my travel expenses.
- Demonstrate commitment to attend regularly scheduled conference calls (at least 4 a year) and additional extraordinary meetings.
- At least 5 hours a month dedication to the GSTC.
- Indicate ability and interest to Chair a Working Group (not a requirement but preferred).
- Be in good standing with GSTC (must have paid the approved annual membership by the due date).
- Not have a conflict of interest.
- Until such time that the accreditation process is decided, representatives of certification programs or accreditation systems are not eligible for a seat on the board.

I commit to one or more of the following. Please mark:

- A commitment to a Sponsorship in one of the five categories proposed on the GSTC Website: [http://www.gstcouncil.org/participate-in-gstc/about-sponsorship.html](http://www.gstcouncil.org/participate-in-gstc/about-sponsorship.html)
- An in-kind contribution of $10,000 in products or services (e.g. advertisements, hotel rooms, air travel, meeting space, meals, PR, etc.)
- Recruit at a minimum the necessary members to generate $10,000.
- A donation of at least $5000.
- In addition to regular board duties, dedicate 5 hours a month in in-kind services to the GSTC.
- Other: please specify.