



Press release:

Brussels, March 31, 2008

BELGIAN AMBASSADORS (DMC's and Incoming Tour Operators) UNITE IN NEW ASSOCIATION

Belgium's premier and licensed DMC's and incoming tour operators have created a unique platform to communicate their message to the meetings industry, the tourism industry and their clients.

ABITO members, all united in bringing conferences, meetings, incentive **and leisure** groups to Belgium, have received the government's approval and are operating under the official travel agency license. Non-licensed Dmc's and incoming agencies are not officially endorsed by the Belgian law and do not have the guarantees as well as financial guarantees as required by the official tourism bodies *Toerisme Vlaanderen* or the *Office de Promotion de Tourisme of Brussels & Wallonia* (Guarantee Funds) of which they must be a member.

The website, www.abito-incoming.be provides information on why one should use a DMC and includes an overview of typical DMC services and incoming services. This will facilitate the decision making of potential clients to choose **Belgium** as a prime destination of their choice.

The new website, which went online last month, has a short overview of what the destination Belgium has to offer to meeting and event planners from abroad. Links to the ABITO members are available from the 'members' page. These links both provide direct access to the member's websites as well as their personalized e-mail addresses. This will facilitate sending requests for proposals or group briefings and receiving timely replies.

Members of ABITO are: @dmire, All About Belgium, BCD Meetings & Incentives, Brussels International Travel Service, Hansa Incoming, Mindstream International, Ovation Belgium, Tellus Destination Management Company.

Feel free to visit and bookmark the ABITO website: www.abito-incoming.be

For more information contact a member of the executive committee on abito@abito-incoming.be