

ORGANISATION MONDIALE DU TOURISME WORLD TOURISM ORGANIZATION ORGANIZACION MUNDIAL DEL TURISMO BCEMUPHAR TYPUCTCKAR OPTAHUBALUR

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WTO COMMISSION FOR SOUTH ASIA

DECISIONS TAKEN AT ITS TWENTY-SECOND MEETING
Mount Lavinia, Sri Lanka, 3-5 April 1989

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DECISIONS

CSA/DEC/1(XXII)

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Agenda item 1 (document CSA/22/1 Prov.Ag.)

The Commission,

Adopts the provisional agenda of its twenty-second meeting as contained in document CSA/22/1 Prov.Ag. submitted by the Secretary-General.

CSA/DEC/2(XXII)

COMMUNICATION OF THE CHAIRMAN

Agenda item 2

The Commission,

Having heard the communication of the Chairman,

- 1. Thanks him for his communication;
- 2. Appreciates his words of welcome and greetings extended to all Members as well as the representatives of international organizations present at the meeting and also to the Secretary-General and his staff in attendance;
- 3. Agrees with his statement that the region has vast, yet untapped potential for expansion of tourism much beyond the levels that have been achieved so far:
- 4. Welcomes his proposal that the Commission should harness the goodwill of all international organizations and seek their cooperation and assistance for the development and marketing of the tourism products in the region so that the region would be able to receive its due share of the total international tourist movements; and
- 5. <u>Joins</u> him in his appreciation of the good work done by the Secretariat to mobilize UNDP resources and initiate several inter-country technical cooperation projects which have proved to be beneficial to Member countries.

CSA/DEC/3(XXII)

COMMUNICATION OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Agenda item 3 (document CSA/22/3)

The Commission,

Having listened to the communication of the Secretary-General
with great interest,

- 1. Thanks him for the very comprehensive statement about the progress made by the Secretariat in the implementation of the work programme since the last meeting of the Commission;
- 2. Notes with satisfaction his statement that 1988 has been a very good year for tourism both from the point of view of the expansion of global tourist movements and also from the point of view of the accomplishments of the Organization;
- 3. Welcomes his suggestion that the Commission should designate one year as South Asia Tourism Year not only for the purpose of promoting the image of the region but also for creating an awareness within the region about the importance of tourism in its multi-faceted aspects; and
- 4. Agrees with his statement that the Parliamentary Conference on Tourism which is scheduled to be held in The Hague from 10 to 14 April 1989 will help to create a better understanding of the importance of tourism among the national legislators which will ultimately encourage them to pursue policies which are more favourable to tourism.

CSA/DEC/4(XXII)

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GENERAL PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 1988-1989

Agenda item 4 (document CSA/22/4)

The Commission,

Having considered the document submitted by the Secretary-General
under this agenda item,

- 1. Expresses its satisfaction at the progress made by the Secretariat in 1988 in the implementation of the general programme of work for 1988-1989 covering the five main activity areas;
- 2. Notes with interest the plans that have been drawn up to implement the programme of work during 1989;
- 3. $\underline{\text{Notes}}$ with satisfaction that the Committee of Experts on Security and Protection of Tourists and Tourist Facilities and the Working Party on WTIEC which could not meet in 1988

due to the absence of firm offers to host the meetings, will now take place in 1989 at Cairo and at the Secretariat respectively, the former being held at the invitation of the Government of Egypt;

- 4. Stresses the importance of the planned activity to prepare forecasts of tourism trends up to the year 2000 under the general programme item "Tourism Statistics" and urges the Secretariat to include South Asia also in this study by channelling resources from international funding agencies;
- 5. Requests the Governments of South Asia to approach UNDP and EEC, supporting the funding of the proposed study for preparation of forecasts of tourism trends up to the year 2000;
- 6. Welcomes the statement made by the representative of EEC that EEC could consider funding regional projects provided that the governments concerned make official requests direct to the EEC;
- 7. <u>Urges</u> the Members to make full use of WTO's continuing education programmes by nominating suitable candidates for the different courses;
- 8. <u>Urges</u> the Secretariat to explore the possibility of establishing a WTO training centre in the South Asia region; and
- 9. Takes note of the statement made by the representative of WHO that South Asia has very low incidence of AIDS and that WTO and the Commission for South Asia should develop information material geared to ensure responsible behaviour by the tourists as tourists are found to be the main carriers of the disease.

CSA/DEC/5(XXII)

IMPLEMENTATION OF INTER-COUNTRY TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROJECTS IN SOUTH ASIA

Agenda item 5 (document CSA/22/5)

The Commission,

Having considered the document submitted by the Secretary-General
under this agenda item,

- 1. Expresses its satisfaction with the two inter-country technical cooperation projects designed to train senior tourism officials of NTAs and faculty members of hotel and tourism training institutes in the region in various disciplines in tourism;
- 2. Thanks UNDP for providing funds for these two projects and $\overline{\text{WTO}}$ for effective implementation;
- 3. <u>Urges</u> the governments to provide an opportunity for Affiliate Members also to participate in these training programmes by nominating candidates from their institutions as well;

- 4. Suggests that "conservation of nature and heritage" should be a subject for formulation of an inter-country technical assistance project to be funded by UNDP under the Fifth Programming Cycle 1992-1996;
- 5. Agrees with the view expressed by the representative of UNDP that UNESCO should also be involved in formulating a project on the proposed subject; and
- 6. Thanks Sri Lanka for the offer made to prepare a "Preliminary Discussion Paper" for consideration at the next meeting of the Commission, by taking into account the two themes developed by UNDP, Viz. Technology Transfer and Human Resources Development, for determination of priority for funding purposes.

CSA/DEC/6(XXII)

REPORT OF THE FUND-IN-TRUST ADMINISTERED ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION

Agenda item 6 (document CSA/22/6)

The Commission,

Having examined the document submitted under this agenda item by the Secretary-General,

- 1. Notes with satisfaction the information contained in the document and in the four tables annexed thereto;
- 2. Takes note of the outstanding contributions from Members as at 31 December 1988;
- 3. <u>Urges Members to settle their outstanding contributions</u> to the Fund-in-Trust without any further delay; and
- 4. Requests the Secretariat to send invoices to Members in respect of their contributions for 1989.

CSA/DEC/7(XXII)

JOINT PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES OF THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION

Agenda item 7 (document CSA/22/7)

The Commission,

Having discussed at length the progress report on the implementation of the joint promotional activities of the Members submitted by the Secretary-General,

<u>Having seen</u> the audio-visual presentation on mountain tourism titled "Where the World Ends and Paradise Begins" screened by the representative of Air India, an Affiliate Member,

- I. With regard to audio-visual presentation kit:
- 1. Thanks Air India for the high-quality production, on behalf of Members, despite the many difficulties experienced in obtaining the required materials, and also for their generous act of bringing the equipment and an operator to screen the audio-visual presentation during the Commission meeting, at their own cost;
- 2. Decides to convert the audio-visual kit into VHS video cassette at an approximate cost of US dollars 1,000 which will be shared equally by the three participating countries, viz. India, Nepal and Pakistan;
- 3. Entrusts the Secretariat with the task of collecting the contributions of each country towards the cost of conversion and pay the total amount to Air India;
- 4. Calls upon the Member countries who are interested in obtaining copies of the video cassette to place their orders direct with Air India, the payment for which will be billed by Air India at cost approximately US dollars 40 per copy;
- 5. Thanks Air India for their agreement to provide a complimentary copy to the Secretariat; and
- 6. Takes note that the copyright of this audio-visual kit is with WTO.
- II. With regard to Calendar of Events:
- 7. Thanks Sri Lanka for their efforts in coordinating all activities and producing the Calendar of Events 1989 on behalf of the Commission;
- 8. Takes note that the actual cost of production has increased to Sri Lanka rupees 107,500 as against the original quotation approved by the Commission of Sri Lanka rupees 79,500, due to an increase in the number of pages from 24 to 34;
- 9. Authorizes the Secretariat to pay Sri Lanka rupees 107,500 to the Ceylon Tourist Board from the Fund-in-Trust, towards settlement of the revised printing bill; and
- 10. Decides not to continue the production of the Calendar for future years in view of the reservations expressed about its usefulness as a promotional tool and the low priority that it should receive in comparison to the joint promotional materials proposed to be produced under the joint promotional programmes to be funded by the EEC and the Japanese Government.

III. With regard to marketing proposal for EEC funding:

- 11. Takes note of the various views expressed by Members, the representative of EEC and the Secretariat on matters relating to market surveys, product surveys, different product combinations and the ultimate use of the findings of the surveys;
- 12. Notes with appreciation the statement made by the representative of EEC that the Community would agree to finance, at this preliminary stage, a market survey among travel and tour operators and the media personnel in the major European markets belonging to the Community;
- 13. Takes note that the activities relating to the drawing up of the terms of reference for the surveys and the recruitment of consultants would be handled directly by EEC in consultation with WTO;
- 14. Welcomes the statement made by the representative of EEC that the official requests already made by Bangladesh, Maldives, Pakistan and Sri Lanka supporting the marketing proposal are considered still valid for the activities agreed upon for funding at the initial stage;
- 15. <u>Draws</u> the attention of the Members who have still not addressed an official request to EEC supporting the marketing proposals, viz. India and Nepal, to do so without further delay and not later than 15 May 1989;
- 16. Decides that all participating Members of this project should supply comprehensive information on product availability and product possibilities in their respective countries and also their proposals regarding different product combinations to be tested during the surveys, to EEC with copy to the Secretariat; and
- 17. Entrusts the Secretariat with the task of coordination of this project with the EEC and the participating countries.
- IV. With regard to marketing proposal for Japanese Government
 funding:
- 18. Thanks India for the very comprehensive proposal prepared and circulated among Members to be considered at this meeting and eventual submission to the Japanese Government for funding;
- 19. Appreciates the information provided by the representative of PATA regarding the modalities to be followed in seeking funding assistance from the Japanese Government and also his offer of PATA's assistance to collaborate in this project;
- 20. Takes note of the various views expressed by the Members regarding the priorities to be assigned to the different activities proposed in the Indian Paper and the order of sequence to be followed in the implementation of the priority activities;

- 21. Decides to include in the proposal to be submitted to the Japanese Government only the following activities in order of priority, at the initial stage, for funding assistance, viz.:
 - (i) Opening of a South Asia Tourist Office in Tokyo
 - (ii) Organization of annual South Asia Promotional Fairs in Japan
 - (iii) Production of a joint promotional film and a joint brochure
 - (iv) A market survey in Japan
 - (v) Short-term fellowship programmes for NTA officials for training and orientation
 - (vi) In-country workshops on Japanese tourism to be conducted by Japanese experts;
- 22. Decides also that the other activities proposed in the Indian Paper be taken up at a later stage; and
- 23. Entrusts the Secretariat with the task of drafting a project proposal by incorporating the priority activities and submitting it to the appropriate authorities of the Japanese Government.
- V. With regard to declaration of a Tourism Year for South Asia:
- 24. Decides that 1993 be declared as "South Asia Tourism Year" both as a promotional measure and also as a device to create awareness and improve the status of tourism within the countries of the region; and
- 25. Thanks Sri Lanka for the offer to prepare a "Working Paper" on the subject and circulate it among the Members through the Secretariat for consideration at the next meeting of the Commission.

CSA/DEC/8(XXII)

MEMBERSHIP OF THE ORGANIZATION:

APPROACHES BY THE REGIONAL COMMISSION

TO NON-MEMBER STATES IN SOUTH ASIA

Agenda item 8 (document CSA/22/8)

The Commission,

Having considered the document on this agenda item submitted by the Secretary-General,

- 1. Takes note that out of the countries in the South Asia region only two have still not joined WTO, viz. Bhutan and Burma;
- 2. Requests WTO to develop programmes which will be beneficial to the private operational sector as well, particularly in the area of training, so as to encourage greater number of organizations from this sector to join WTO as Affiliate Members; and
- 3. Appeals to Members to approach both potential Governments and private operational sector organizations in the region with a view to persuading them to join the Organization.

CSA/DEC/9(XXII)

AGREEMENTS BETWEEN WTO AND MEMBER STATES OR AFFILIATE MEMBERS FOR THE PROVISION OF EXPERTS TO THE SECRETARIAT

Agenda item 9 (document CSA/22/9)

The Commission,

Having considered the information and the outline agreement contained in the document under this agenda item submitted by the Secretary-General,

- 1. Takes note of the reciprocal benefits that can accrue to both WTO and Members in seconding experts to the Secretariat; and
- 2. Requests Members to consider secondment of experts on tourism to the Secretariat on the basis set forth in the above-mentioned document.

CSA/DEC/10(XXII)

REPRESENTATION OF THE COMMISSION ON THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND ITS SUBSIDIARY ORGANS

Agenda item 10 (document CSA/22/10)

The Commission,

 $\underline{\text{Having considered}}$ the document submitted by the Secretary-General on this agenda item,

- 1. Thanks Pakistan for the very comprehensive report submitted to the meeting on the proceedings of the 9th meeting of the Technical Committee for Programme and Coordination (TCPC);
- 2. Thanks Maldives for his account of the proceedings of the 34th session of the Executive Council;

- 3. Takes note of the main decisions taken both by the Committee on Budget and Finance at its 18th meeting and also by the Facilitation Committee at its 9th and 10th meetings, as outlined by the Secretary-General;
- 4. Decides to request the Executive Council and the other organs of WTO to consider inclusion of Environment as one of the activities of the Organization in the general programme of work, in view of its obvious relevance to tourism; and
- 5. Expresses the view that the Statistics Committee should be allowed to continue as it can play a very important role in keeping constantly under review the concepts, methodologies, trends, etc., particularly in view of the fact that tourism statistics constituted one of the few traditional activities of the Organization.

CSA/DEC/11(XXII)

ESTABLISHMENT OF A SPECIAL CSA COMMITTEE CONCERNED WITH THE GATT NEGOTIATIONS ON TOURISM SERVICES

Agenda item 11 (document CSA/22/11)

The Commission,

Having considered the document submitted by the Secretary-General
on this subject, pursuant to Executive Council decision
2(XXXIV),

Having taken into account that the Commission consists of only eight Full Members which does not warrant the establishment of a Committee as envisaged in the Executive Council decision,

Decides to nominate Sri Lanka as the rapporteur for coordination of all activities on this matter with the Secretariat, on behalf of the Commission.

CSA/DEC/12(XXII)

ARREARS IN CONTRIBUTION TO THE ORGANIZATION'S BUDGET BY THE COMMISSION MEMBERS

Agenda item 12 (document CSA/22/12 Rev.1)

The Commission,

Having considered the document submitted by the Secretary-General
on this subject,

1. Calls upon the Full Members who are in arrears of their contributions to initiate action to discharge their financial

obligations to the Organization without further delay, according to the procedures established by the General Assembly and the Executive Council; and

2. Appeals to Full Members to approach the Affiliate Members in their respective countries who are in arrears with a view to persuading them to settle their outstanding contributions as soon as possible.

CSA/DEC/13(XXII)

CELEBRATION OF WORLD TOURISM DAY 1988

Agenda item 13 (document CSA/22/13)

The Commission,

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary-General
on this agenda item,

- 1. Takes note of the information contained therein; and
- 2. <u>Invites</u> the Member States to inform the Secretariat of all activities to be undertaken in connection with the celebration of World Tourism Day 1989 whose theme is: "The free movement of tourists creates one world".

CSA/DEC/14(XXII)

PLACE AND DATE OF THE TWENTY-THIRD MEETING OF THE COMMISSION

Agenda item 14

The Commission,

 $\overline{\text{August 1989}}$ within the framework of the eighth session of the General Assembly scheduled to be held at Paris, France, from 25 August to 2 September 1989.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION

SRI LANKA Mr. G.P.S.U. De Silva

State Secretary Ministry of Tourism

Mr. P.C.S. Fernando

Chairman

Ceylon Tourist Board

FULL MEMBERS

INDIA Mrs. Mira Mehrishi

Deputy Secretary Ministry of Tourism

MALDIVES Mr. Ahamed Zahir

Deputy Minister of Tourism

Ministry of Tourism

NEPAL Mr. Narayan Raj Joshi

Under-Secretary

H.M.G. Ministry of Tourism

Mr. Jagadish Man Singh Amatya

Section Officer

H.M.G. Ministry of Tourism

PAKISTAN Mr. S.A. Javed Bhatti

Counsellor for Cultural Affairs Embassy of Pakistan in Colombo

SRI LANKA

Mr. Anura Kumarasinghe Senior Assistant Secretary

Ministry of Tourism

Mr. Pani Seneviratne Acting Director General Ceylon Tourist Board

Mr. Sarath Jayawardana Director, International Affairs

Ceylon Tourist Board

Mrs. R.A. Joyce Silviya Wewita

Assistant Director Ceylon Tourist Board HOLY SEE

Rev. Fr. Chrispin Leo

Apostolic Nunciature in Colombo

AFFILIATE MEMBERS

AIR INDIA

Mr. Gyan Taneja

Assistant Manager Tourism

PACIFIC ASIA TRAVEL ASSOCIATION (PATA)

Mr. Hitoshi Kawai Vice-President PATA Asia Division

WALKERS TOURS

Mr. Jagath Fernando Managing Director

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

COLOMBO PLAN

Mr. Januar Elnathan Adviser on Development Co-operation

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES (CEC)

Miss Petra Hueck Consultant-Tourism Co-operation Division Promotion of Trade and Services

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION (ILO)

Mr. S.G. Taylor Director of ILO Office in Colombo

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)

Mr. Saliya Tilakaratne Senior Fellowship Assistant

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO)

Dr. K. Edström WHO Representative in Sri Lanka

Dr. P.W. Samdup Technical Officer WHO Office in Sri Lanka