



# *Resolutions*

*Enzo Paci World Conference  
on the Measurement of the Economic  
Impact of tourism*

*(Nice, France, 15-18 June 1999)*

**Approved by the WTO General Assembly  
(Santiago, Chile, 24 September-1 October 1999)**



## RESOLUTION I

### AGENDA OF THE CONFERENCE

- A -

The Conference,

#### Considering:

- (a) the increasing recognition of the value and importance of tourism throughout the world and the accompanying need for comprehensive and credible tourism statistics;
- (b) that the World Conference on Travel and Tourism Statistics conducted under the auspices of the World Tourism Organization and the Government of Canada in Ottawa in June of 1991 successfully adopted a series of critically needed international standards regarding statistical definitions and classifications for tourism, endorsed by the United Nations in 1993;
- (c) that this Conference established a series of tasks for WTO in support of the broad dissemination of these adopted statistical definitions and classifications for tourism, which inter alia, included preparation of a report seeking United Nations endorsement of these statistical definitions and classifications for tourism; the preparation of supporting materials including descriptive documents and working manuals; the conduct of seminars and assistance programmes around the world, and the establishing of a Committee to guide and advise on these efforts,
- (d) that those standards were subsequently adopted within the United Nations statistical framework and promulgated broadly in the document *Recommendations on Tourism Statistics*;

#### Considering further:

- (a) that a major resolution of that Conference "Supports the development of Tourism Satellite Accounts (TSA) in the framework of the System of National Accounts, deriving from it its main aggregates and basic concepts and allowing a better presentation of economic information;" and "recommends:
  - (i) that the concept of a Satellite Accounting System be supported;
  - (ii) that countries introduce the accounting system into their analytical base for tourism data on an incremental basis as resources become available and the demand for this type of information is realized;"
- (b) that WTO working in cooperation with other agencies with expertise in this field, both intergovernmental organizations, such as the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the Statistical Office of the European Communities (EUROSTAT) and professional bodies, such as the World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC), has actively pursued a programme to meet the intent of the Ottawa Resolutions and has in accordance with that resolution produced a Conceptual Framework to guide Tourism Satellite Accounts along with extensive other supporting materials and has updated other products produced in accordance

with the Ottawa Conference Resolutions to be consistent with the Tourism Satellite Account guidance;

- (c) that the Steering Committee (and the corresponding ad hoc groups created as auxiliary to its commitment) formed as a result of decisions taken in Ottawa and composed of many of the countries and international agencies in attendance at that conference, has diligently pursued the goals and decisions of the Ottawa conference, supporting WTO's work in this area and has efficiently fulfilled the mission for which it was created;
- (d) that the Resolutions of the Ottawa Conference indicated that the WTO "institute a process of periodic review and refinement of the recommended classification systems to ensure responsiveness to changing needs and priorities;"
- (e) the decisions taken at the eighth Steering Committee meeting held in Mexico on 26-27 November 1998 to finalize the work on the Tourism Satellite Account: the conceptual framework;

Recalling that:

- (a) the World Tourism Organization, under the patronage of H.E. Mr. Jacques Chirac, President of the French Republic and under the auspices of the local authorities (Municipality of Nice, Alpes Maritimes General Council and Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Regional Council), has invited Full and Associate Members of WTO and the Affiliate Members of WTO Business Council, all interested non-member governments, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, Ministers responsible for tourism and finance, representatives from financial institutions, university researchers, business communities, industry organizations and academia, statisticians and representatives from the private sector of all over the world to attend the World Conference on the Measurement of the Economic Impact of Tourism to be held in Nice, France, from 15 to 18 June 1999;
- (b) the World Tourism Organization has also invited participants to prepare resolutions in order to establish world standards for the development of Tourism Satellite Accounts, and to support efforts all around the world to achieve such capabilities with appropriate guiding materials and other supporting means that will serve as central elements in the measurement of the economic impact of tourism;

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The Conference,

Convinced that tourism has developed further since the Ottawa Conference in 1991 as a major force in world trade, and a vital factor in the economic, cultural and social development of countries,

Recognizing that further steps are needed to assure the effective development of responsive tourism statistical systems,

Recognizing that, although WTO's efforts in establishing uniform statistical definitions and classifications for tourism have proven valuable and highly effective, that expanded efforts are required on a worldwide scale;

Taking into consideration the explicit wish of the Members of the Organization, the representatives of National Administrations and the private sector, to have a reliable instrument to evaluate the economic impact of tourism;

Recalling that this same wish had already been evidenced within WTO bodies, such as the Technical Committee for Programme and the Executive Council;

Aware that the need to make tourism accounts credible, as well as continuing resource limitations for TSA development, make cooperative arrangements within governments and between governments and industry in the gathering and sharing of statistics increasingly necessary;

Considering that this Conference in Nice affords a unique opportunity for individual governments, international organizations, industries and industry associations to further extend the groundwork for harmonized statistical systems and to establish the international standard for the implementation of Tourism Satellite Accounts;

1. Decides to adopt an agenda leading to the development of recommended conceptual guidance on the development of Tourism Satellite Accounts, needed supporting materials, needed updates of existing materials to reflect the goals of Tourism Satellite Account realization; and
2. Recommends further the adoption of a Plan for implementing the recommendations supported by the Conference and for the further development of areas of needed refinement or expansion.

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## **RESOLUTION II**

### **BENEFITS OF TSA FOR TOURISM**

The Conference,

**Noting:**

- (a) that the System of National Accounts adopted in 1993 by the United Nations provides a unique and opportune framework upon which to base Tourism Satellite Accounts;
- (b) that individual countries are at different stages in their development of national accounts and tourism statistical systems;
- (c) that the approaches to statistical systems for tourism in individual countries are many and diverse with many unique elements;
- (d) that interest groups of private and public sectors in different countries will have specialized needs for tourism statistics and economic information for tourism;
- (e) that resources are limited for developing such systems;
- (f) that such systems must be constructed to evolve over time;

**Taking into account** that immense benefits in the appreciation of the value and importance of tourism will proceed from an expanded ability to link tourism to Systems of National Accounts and to express tourism supply and demand in ways consistent with such systems of accounts;

**Conscious** that a consistent framework for Tourism Satellite Accounts will benefit the development of such accounts in individual countries and will enhance international comparability and communication between countries;

**Aware** that investment in tourism from both the private and public sectors, as well as public policies affecting tourism will strongly benefit from more rigorous expression of tourism activities in national accounts;

**Believing** that industry will benefit from the clearer conception of what constitutes the tourism industries and from clearer, more focused data reporting and data dissemination;

**Noting** that the exchange of information and experience on tourism between countries will be enhanced by a common conceptual understanding of such systems;

1. **Recognizes** finally that the development of international standards for Tourism Satellite Accounts in this environment represents a significant need;
2. **Adopts** the general principles contained in the document *Tourism Satellite Account (TSA): the Conceptual Framework* and recognizes the need to develop jointly, on this basis, with OECD, EUROSTAT and other organizations that would like to subscribe to it, a common conceptual framework with a view to its adoption by the United Nations Statistical Commission;

3. Thanks the Government of France for its contribution to the measurement of tourism demand, to be included and further developed in the TSA guidelines, and
4. Endorses a process of updating existing statistical definitions and classifications to assure consistency with the TSA framework, and the developing of additional products to guide the work of those producing a TSA including new classifications and other supporting tools.

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## **RESOLUTION III**

### **AFFECTED DEFINITIONS AND CLASSIFICATIONS**

The Conference,

Recognizing that a Tourism Satellite Account establishes an entirely new statistical regime within national statistical systems causing reconsideration of existing definitions, classifications and systems;

Conscious that a consistent statistical system must be constructed for tourism that embraces the System of National Accounts adopted in 1993 and establishes compatibility with historical procedures and definitions;

Recognizing that WTO has taken these factors into consideration by creation of a Committee on Definitions and Classifications, which has conducted a review of the modifications needing in existing international definitions and classifications;

1. Endorses:

- (a) the updating of *Recommendations on Tourism Statistics* to properly align current definitions with the Tourism Satellite Account framework;
- (b) the updating of the Standard International Classification of Tourism Activities (SICTA) to assure its responsiveness to the needs of a Tourism Satellite Account;

2. Recommends that the text of these modifications:

- (a) be incorporated in the original basic documents and widely circulated to all interested parties for verification;
- (b) be transmitted to the WTO General Assembly for consideration,
- (c) be submitted to the United Nations Statistical Commission for adoption;

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## **RESOLUTION IV**

### **A TOURISM PRODUCT CLASSIFICATION**

The Conference,

Considering that the Ottawa Conference recommended “that any future development of tourism classification systems include classifications for functions, transactions and products as well as activities and that, in accordance with United Nations recommendations, the Central Product Classification System (CPC) be placed at the centre of the classification system;”

Noting that the United Nations Statistical Commission has made significant strides in the area of product classification with their publication in 1998 of Version 1 of the Central Product Classification providing valuable guidance to product code development in all fields;

Considering that the Tourism Satellite Account is strongly linked to and dependent on the appropriate classification of tourism products;

Considering that visitors can and do acquire almost all products acquired by non-visitors, tourism is a field in which discerning and differentiating tourism products from all other products is subject to difficulty and high variability from place to place;

Recognizing the value specifically to the Tourism Satellite Account, and to tourism statistical applications in general as well, of a classification of tourism products;

Recognizing that a Tourism Product Classification (TPC) must be responsive to a broad array of applications and users in all regions and countries of the world;

1. Adopts:

- (a) a Tourism Product Classification (TPC) as an important tool in development of a TSA;
- (b) a TPC as a guide for the development of a national Tourism Product Classification;

2. Recommends that a new document:

- (a) be prepared appropriately, with associated explanatory notes to be widely circulated to all interested parties for verification; and
- (b) be submitted to the United Nations Statistical Commission for adoption as a derived classification of the CPC.

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## **RESOLUTION V**

### **ACTION PLAN**

The Conference,

Recognizing the important work of OECD in developing the OECD Guidelines for Tourism Satellite Accounts as a tool for constructing comparable economic accounts among OECD countries;

Recognizing OECD's previous work in developing the earlier OECD Manual of Tourism Economic Accounts that was also presented and endorsed at the Ottawa Conference and then subsequently implemented by OECD;

Recognizing similar related activities of EUROSTAT in developing its Directive on Tourism Statistics and assembling and reporting on a data base of harmonized tourism statistics as well as their recent work in exploring the feasibility of implementing satellite accounts for member countries of the European Union;

Recognizing the previous guidelines for developing a tourism satellite account presented to the Ottawa Conference by Canada and endorsed by the Conference as well as the early groundbreaking work of France in developing the first tourism satellite accounts in the late 1970s;

Recognizing the concerns of individual countries to minimize the corresponding burden to their administrations in responding to data requests and questionnaires from international organizations;

Recommends that a common conceptual Tourism Satellite Account framework and a common questionnaire for collecting data following this conceptual framework, should be developed;

1. Notes that the WTO document "*Tourism Satellite Account (TSA): the conceptual framework*" and OECD's document "*Draft OECD Guidelines for a Tourism Satellite Account*" presented at Nice are still provisional requiring additional revision and refinement to incorporate all conditions, concerns and revisions proposed in the course of the Conference;
2. Recommends that the WTO prepare, jointly with OECD, EUROSTAT and other organizations that would like to subscribe to it, a common conceptual Tourism Satellite Account framework and forward this document to the United Nations Statistical Commission at its next meeting;
3. Emphasizes the resolve of these organizations to see their methodologies, which have already drawn much closer together, to adjust further and finally converge, as well as the desire of the Conference participants to have access in the long run to a single conceptual framework used by all countries and institutions; and
4. Submits the Resolutions adopted at the World Conference in Nice to the forthcoming thirteenth session of the WTO General Assembly that will take place in Santiago, Chile, from 24 September to 1 October 1999; the endorsement by WTO

General Assembly of the Resolutions adopted will allow the WTO Secretariat to continue and develop the work envisaged in the Action Plan;

With respect to supporting actions,

5.Recommends:

- (a) to develop a package of materials and guidance that supports development of a TSA in countries of diverse expertise, resources, needs and experience;
- (b) to continue a programme of seminars and technical meetings at different territorial levels to further the work on implementation of the definitions and classifications endorsed at Ottawa;
- (c) to establish a programme to introduce the concepts and principles of the conceptual framework developed for the preparation of the Tourism Satellite Account;
- (d) to support countries developing pilot studies in connection with the TSA, as presented in the document: *Tourism Satellite Account (TSA): the Conceptual Framework*, or which will subsequently correspond to the principles of the common conceptual framework (mentioned in Resolution II.2);
- (e) to act as an advisor, clearing house and coordinator to identify the training needs of individual countries, and particularly those of the developing countries, for the implementation of the Conference recommendations and encourage and foster cooperative assistance to those countries;
- (f) to get the maximum efficiency from the available resources put at the disposal of the different supporting actions;
- (g) to assist developing countries in relation to TSA development, since one of the fundamental aims of WTO, according to its Statutes, is the promotion of tourism with a view to contributing to economic development; to this end, the WTO member states launch a new appeal for cooperation to financial institutions such as UNDP for which WTO is an executing agency, the World Bank Group and bilateral and multilateral bodies, whose mission is to assist the developing countries.

With respect to the need for a supporting Committee,

- 6. Decides to establish a Committee on Statistics and Macroeconomic Analysis of Tourism, including members and non-members of WTO as appropriate, conceived as an institutional mechanism for the mutual interchange of methodological advice and the definition of the main lines of action concerning actual and future work on statistical instruments and economic research related to the conceptual framework for the preparation of the Tourism Satellite Account ;
- 7. Supports that the Committee on Statistics and Macroeconomic Analysis of Tourism will have, among other tasks to be agreed, to provide the guidelines it considers relevant in relation with the work carried out and to be carried out by WTO in this field and to give advice on whether the results obtained in TSA exercises by different countries are in accordance, or not, with WTO recommendations in this

field. It is, therefore, a consultative Committee whose proposals to the WTO Secretariat will be of an advisory nature.

8. Requests the Committee to guide the further development of the TSA with respect to the recommendations received in the Conference;
9. Takes note with satisfaction of the desire expressed on behalf of the Government of France by its Secretary of State for Tourism that France should play, within the future Committee, as the host State of the Conference, a role similar to the one performed by Canada in the implementation of the recommendations of the Ottawa Conference.

With respect to future activities,

10. Decides:

- (a) to develop a long range programme of needed research in the refinement and expansion of Tourism Satellite Accounts, including subjects such as employment, regional accounts, investment, environment, etc.
- (b) to cooperate with other international statistical agencies to assure the reporting of TSAs data and avoid duplication;
- (c) to institute a programme of periodic review of the state of implementation of the TSA and the utilization of international definitions and classifications;
- (d) to establish the resource needs for the Action Plan and actively seek support for obtaining these resources;
- (e) to publish the results obtained by those countries with an established TSA if they are consistent with the standards established in the document *Tourism Satellite Account (TSA): the Conceptual Framework*, or which will subsequently correspond to the principles of the common conceptual framework (mentioned in Resolution II.2);
- (f) to prepare a plan for a future World Conference dedicated to the measurement and policy issues concerning employment in the tourism industries within the perspective of the conceptual framework for the preparation of TSA;
- (g) to recommend the development of an OECD employment module as a major contribution for the analysis of labour markets in the tourism industry.

11. Recommends that countries:

- (a) adopt the recommendations of the report, insofar as they are compatible with their own needs and possible within their available resources and develop those actions that might contribute to circulate all the work associated with the Tourism Satellite Account;
- (b) invite National and International Organizations responsible for statistical work in tourism and other public/private institutions whose work is related to the analysis of

tourism economic impacts, to join efforts for increasing credibility of the tourism economy;

- (c) establish all appropriate institutional links so that the public and private sectors might cooperate in all relevant work associated with the Tourism Satellite Account.

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## RESOLUTION VI

### VOTE OF THANKS

The Conference,

Noting with deep satisfaction that 120 countries from different areas have taken part in the Conference and that delegates numbered 650, among which 25 Ministers or Secretaries of State, who lent their interest and expertise to the discussions;

Noting that the number of WTO Business Council members accounted for 65, international organizations for 12 and universities for 50;

1. Thanks the Government of Canada, host of the 1991 Ottawa Conference, and more specifically the Canadian Tourism Commission, for their important support and their contribution to the preparation and venue of this Conference;
2. Appreciates the work carried out by the WTO Steering Committee (and the corresponding ad hoc groups created as auxiliary to its commitment), under the Chairmanship of Mr. Scott Meis (Canada) and Mr. Antonio Massieu (Spain), in furthering the work of Ottawa and in preparing this Conference;
3. Thanks the Government of Mexico for having held the Preparatory meeting for the World Conference in Mexico in November 1998;
4. Thanks the authors of presentations made in the Conference to stimulate discussion and consideration of issues;
5. Thanks the Government of France and the regional and local authorities that have made possible this meeting and especially:
  - the Municipality of Nice
  - the Alpes Maritimes General Council
  - the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Regional Council, and
6. Congratulates them on the results achieved and the conclusions reached by the Conference.

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## RESOLUTION VII

### DESIGNATION OF THE CONFERENCE

The Conference, with sadness, **recognizes** the inspiration for all of these proceedings by the late Enzo Paci; whose personal credibility, dedication, and warm spirit has immeasurably enhanced world tourism statistics and the recognition of tourism's value and role in the world as a main economic force. Our work, up to this day and in the future, will be part of that legacy.

**Decides that**, because of this enormous legacy, this Conference should be remembered in the future as the Enzo Paci World Conference of Nice on the Measurement of the Economic Impact of Tourism.

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