Communication of the Chairman of the Commission - Haiti

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Dear Colleagues,

My speech is a swan song, as this is my first speech in this assembly as president and it is equally my last. Nevertheless, in our case, this last stop is the beginning of a new journey, because the finality is the course, Caminando Camino. Between four seas, we are brothers and sisters. In the face of the vagaries of life, we all have the same conditions. In this assembly, I must be able to say it in French or in Creole, to remind ourselves and remember that in revisiting the Incas, Guarani and Aymara heritage sites, these routes and circuits are also an invitation to another journey, another circuit. Brothers and Sisters, members, great is my joy to have to express myself in English or Spanish, but also great is my disappointment at not being able to hear in this forum and this tribune, the Queshua. Our organization must be open to the diversity of our peoples, brothers and sisters, of America, without marginalization, without exclusiveness. We are going to remedy this, we have to remedy it. This swan song must mark the time of a history, of a new history of tourism, without exclusiveness, without marginalization.

To be sustainable, to be what it is, between peoples, here and elsewhere, we must put in place mechanisms and structures to increase the capacities of our peoples and thus revitalize the structures and mechanisms of development of tourism activities. It comes back in my speeches to deal with the living
environment and conditions of the populations as conditions for the development of sustainable tourism. In order to do this, it is essential and necessary to share and pool, in two, four synergies that allow our peoples to also be tourists, grand tourists. Men and women die in our countries, in our communities, without ever leaving them, for a holiday, time to leave and return. We must educate and make more efforts to educate our people about tourism, empathy and the values of others. To do this, we must develop strategies to better, understand how and why tourism remains a luxury product for the majority of the peoples of the earth. Yet, between four seas, we are all brothers and sisters but we all don’t have the same access.

At home, in Haiti, we say, and to cite, the Chinese philosopher, Confucius, without the sea, Vwazinay se fanmi (Neighborhood is family) is fading, we must federate to better share our languages, our cultural and social values, and this from our youngest ones. I believe, that it is necessary, to allow more, children, and teenagers to travel to meet the neighbor. We must think about the best possible ways to build better tourist routes for our families and children and better educate them for a better integration of the peoples in our continent. It is only in this manner that our borders will be able to disappear to reveal our other limits and limitations in the struggle for full employment, a culture and a civilization of wholesome leisure.

Vwazinay se fanmi, we build boats to die at sea trying to reach the coasts of the Bahamas, Antigua or Florida ... the arawaks did yesterday as well as the tainos. The sea, that by the sea the meeting of the worlds is possible. Ladies and gentlemen, so that my swan song is the end and especially the beginning of a new story, I invite you to think tourism and the sea otherwise - and to build investment strategies in our region, and the sea as it is the space, the great one on earth which, of course, separates us, and which also binds us all. Tourism by sea is the opportunity to do much more with much more. It is our potential multiplied by all the possibilities that it offers us. Let us work, even more to be better partners, better brothers and sisters, between four seas.

Thank you