

- ① MEMBER STATES of KILPEA & SARTC & AFFILIATE MEMBERS IN THE REGION ①
- ② DELEGATES
- ③ CANDIDATE AFFILIATE MEMBERS
- ④ MR. S. N. CHIB
- ⑤ REGIONAL SECRETARIES OF WTO
- ⑥ Mr. Lonati & Mr. Rawat

WORLD TOURISM ORGANIZATION

PROVISIONAL SUMMARY RECORDS OF THE 1ST JOINT MEETING OF THE
REGIONAL COMMISSIONS FOR PACIFIC & EAST ASIA AND SOUTH ASIA
HELD IN NEW DELHI (INDIA) - 22ND AND 23RD APRIL 1977

Issued by the WTO Secretariat for South Asia,,
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REGIONAL COMMISSIONS FOR PACIFIC & EAST ASIA AND SOUTH ASIA
OF THE WORLD TOURISM ORGANIZATION

New Delhi (India) - 22nd and 23rd April 1977

PARTICIPANTS

CHAIRMAN

Mr. C. B. Jain

- Director-General of Tourism & Additional Secretary to Government of India, Ministry of Tourism & Civil Aviation.

MEMBER STATES

Afghanistan

Mr. Zalmai Roashan

- Director, Afghan Tourist Organization.

Bangladesh

Mr. Shahabuddin Ahmed

- Director, Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation.

India

Miss. A. Mehta

- Joint Director-General, Government of India Department of Tourism.

Mr. Pran Seth

- Deputy Director-General, Government of India Department of Tourism.

Iran

Mr. K. Sanjari

- Officer, International Relations Department, Ministry of Information & Tourism.

Korea

Mr. K. J. Choi

- Trade Officer, Embassy of the Republic of Korea, New Delhi.

Laos

Mrs. S. Van Pheng

- Third Secretary, Embassy of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, New Delhi.

Malaysia

Mr. N. Kamalagaran

- Assistant Director, Tourist Development Corporation.

Nepal

- Mr. Y. R. Satyal - Deputy Director,
HMG Department of Tourism.
- Mr. K. P. Parajuli - Officer, HMG Department of Tourism.

Pakistan

- Mr. M. J. R. Khan - Joint Secretary, Tourism Division,
Ministry of Tourism.

Philippines

- Mr. R. Villamayor - Attache, Embassy of the Philippines,
New Delhi.

Sri Lanka

- Mr. M. Y. M. Thahir - Director-General,
Ceylon Tourist Board.

Thailand (Co-Chairman)

- Mr. V. Vimolvanich - Assistant Director-General,
Tourist Organization of Thailand.

AFFILIATE MEMBERS

Air-India

- Mr. J. T. Parakh - Assistant Manager (Tourism)

Indian Airlines

- Mr. R. G. Jamalabad - Commercial Manager (Marketing).

CANDIDATE AFFILIATE MEMBERS (Observers)

Browns Group Motels Ltd.

- Mr. G. Wilson Gunaratne - Front Office Manager.

India Tourism Development Corporation

- Mr. G. B. Dey - Joint Divisional Manager (Marketing).

Pakistan International Airlines

- Mr. S. M. Sibtain - Manager - PIA, New Delhi.

Royal Nepal Airlines Corporation

- Mr. Prem N. Vaidya - Regional Manager, New Delhi.

Sitara Travel Consultants (Pakistan)

- Mr. Khadim P. Nathoo - Managing Partner.

NATIONAL TOURISM AUTHORITY (Observer)

Japan

- Mr. Isutomu Ishiguri - Third Secretary, Embassy of Japan,
New Delhi.

WTO SECRETARIAT

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| Mr. J. M. Handy | - Regional Secretary for South Asia. |
| Ambassador L. Vercelles | - Regional Secretary for Pacific & East Asia. |
| Mrs. R. Peries | - WTO Secretariat for South Asia. |

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Communication of the Chairman.
2. Communication of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Organization.
3. Consideration of the conclusions of the Seminar on Promotion of the Tourist Product, and the adoption of its recommendations.
4. Promotion of inter-regional travel between Member States of the two Commissions, particularly in regard to cultural and youth tourism.
5. Exchange of information, statistical data and documentation on tourism between Member States of the two Commissions.
6. Exchange of tourism personnel on study tours/training between Member States of the two Commissions.
7. Establishment of a Tourist Development Centre in each Regional Commission and cooperation between the two Centres.
8. Any other business.

I. COMMUNICATION OF THE CHAIRMAN

The Chairman welcomed the delegates of Member States, Affiliate Members and Observers present at the meeting, and stated that it was an honour for India to host the first joint meeting of the two Commissions. He thanked the WTO for selecting India as the venue for both the Regional Seminar and the joint meeting. Since Thailand was the Chairman of the Commission for Pacific & East Asia, the delegate from Thailand would function as the Co-Chairman of the joint meeting.

The Chairman pointed out that the main purpose in holding the joint meeting was to consider the report and conclusions of the Seminar just concluded. This was item 3 of the Provisional Agenda, which had been circulated in advance by the Regional Secretariat for South Asia. There were also four other items in the Agenda which should be of interest to all the members, and which could result in inter-regional cooperation between the two Commissions. The joint meeting was a good opportunity to exchange views and to explore the possibilities of working together in the common interest.

II. COMMUNICATION OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

The Regional Secretary for South Asia introduced the communication of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Organization, which was distributed at the meeting. He stated that he would be happy to clarify any matters arising from the communication.

The delegates of Afghanistan and Bangladesh sought clarification on the relationship with the UNDP.

The Regional Secretary for South Asia referred to page 4 of the communication, which outlined relations between WTO and other international organizations. He stated that a copy of the agreement concluded with the UNDP had been sent to each Member State.

The Regional Secretary for the Pacific & East Asia referring to paragraph 13 of the Communication stated that the Government of the Philippines had signed an agreement with the WTO for the Regional Secretariat at Manila.

III. CONSIDERATION OF THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE SEMINAR ON PROMOTION OF THE TOURIST PRODUCT, AND THE ADOPTION OF ITS RECOMMENDATIONS

The Chairman invited the Rapporteur-General of the Seminar - Mr. S. N. Chib - to present the report and conclusions of the Seminar.

Mr. Chib introduced the report adopted by the Seminar, which was distributed at the meeting. He drew attention in particular to the 19 conclusions and recommendations at the end of the report.

The Regional Secretary for Pacific & East Asia pointed out that the word "GOVERNMENT" should be included in line 10 of page 3, to make it clear that "Statutory Body" would include Government representation.

In the ensuing discussion the following points were made:-

1. The term 'statutory' implies Government involvement and hence, it was not necessary to add the word "GOVERNMENT" in this instance (Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Afghanistan).
2. There is no objection in including the word "GOVERNMENT", if this will help to clarify the position in some countries where the term 'statutory' may not cover the Government (Malaysia).
3. The report should record what the speaker said, instead of discussing what should be added (Pakistan).

The Chairman stated that he had checked the script of the speaker and the word "GOVERNMENT" had been specifically mentioned. He requested therefore, that the word be included in the report too.

THE MEETING THEN ADOPTED the report, conclusions and recommendations of the Seminar, and recorded its appreciation of the services rendered by Mr. Chib as Rapporteur-General.

IV. PROMOTION OF INTER-REGIONAL TRAVEL BETWEEN MEMBER STATES OF THE TWO COMMISSIONS PARTICULARLY IN REGARD TO CULTURAL AND YOUTH TOURISM

The Regional Secretary for South Asia explained that the promotion of intra-regional travel had been discussed at SARTC meetings, and the proposal now was to examine the possibility of encouraging inter-regional travel. Various measures had been suggested for intra-regional travel and some of them could also be considered for inter-regional travel.

In discussion the following points were made:-

1. Inter-regional travel is important and should be actively promoted, particularly since the two regions received a relatively small share of international traffic (India, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka and Nepal).
2. Promotion of inter-regional traffic should be left to the airlines and travel agents. Holding of the Thai Travel Agents' Convention in India was a good example of this (Thailand).
3. Establishment of a Working Party to consider the measures that could be adopted to promote inter-regional traffic (Sri Lanka, Pakistan).
4. Accept proposal in principle and leave it to the two Regional Secretaries to work out the mechanics (Pakistan, India, Malaysia, Bangladesh).

THE MEETING DECIDED to accept the proposal in principle, and requested the two Regional Secretaries to work out details of its implementation and inform the Member States.

V. EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION, STATISTICAL DATA AND DOCUMENTATION ON TOURISM BETWEEN MEMBER STATES OF THE TWO COMMISSIONS

The Regional Secretary for South Asia stated that this was already being done between Member States of the SARTC; and the proposal was to extend the scope to cover the Member States of both Commissions.

THE MEETING DECIDED that Member States of the two Commissions should exchange information, statistical data and documentation on tourism.

VI. EXCHANGE OF TOURISM PERSONNEL ON STUDY TOURS/TRAINING BETWEEN MEMBER STATES OF THE TWO COMMISSIONS

The Regional Secretary for South Asia explained that at present there was only limited exchange of tourism personnel on familiarization tours between member countries of the SARTC on a bilateral basis. There was hardly any exchange of personnel for training, although some Member States could offer training facilities to others.

In discussion the following points were made:-

1. An inventory of the training facilities available in both regions should be taken and circulated among the members (Bangladesh).
2. The Asian Institute of Tourism in Manila would welcome persons for training on fellowships from the UNDP (Regional Secretary for Pacific & East Asia).
3. UNDP should be approached for fellowships and assistance in providing training facilities, rather than leaving it to individual member countries (India).

THE MEETING DECIDED that the Regional Secretaries should take an inventory of the training facilities available in both regions, and circulate it among the members. On this basis, a scheme could be formulated for the exchange of personnel on training, with possible UNDP assistance.

VII. ESTABLISHMENT OF A TOURIST DEVELOPMENT CENTRE IN EACH REGIONAL COMMISSION AND COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO CENTRES

The Regional Secretary for Pacific & East Asia outlined the possible functions of a Tourist Development Centre, and stated that this was related to item 5 of the Agenda. He suggested that the Centres should be located in the same places as the Regional Secretariats, and come under the supervision and control of the Regional Secretaries.

The Chairman inquired whether the proposed functions of these Centres would not duplicate those of the WTO and its Regional Secretariats.

The Regional Secretary for South Asia suggested that a Working Paper be prepared by the Regional Secretary for Pacific & East Asia and circulated among the members, providing details of this proposal and the exact functions of Tourist Development Centres.

THE MEETING ACCEPTED the suggestion of the Regional Secretary for South Asia.

VIII. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Regional Secretary for Pacific & East Asia suggested that the next joint meeting be held in the Pacific & East Asia region. The venue and date would be indicated after consultation with the RTCFEA members.

The Chairman agreed that it was useful to have such joint meetings, and that the next meeting should be held in the Pacific & East Asia region.

The Regional Secretary for South Asia suggested that joint meetings be limited to once a year, and held together with a Seminar, as on this occasion. It would be advisable therefore, to await the WTO Programme of Work for next year in regard to Seminars.

THE MEETING DECIDED that the next joint meeting should be held in the Pacific & East Asia region together with a Seminar, and to await the WTO Programme of Work for 1978 to decide on the date and venue.

VOTES OF THANKS

The Chairman thanked all those present for their cooperation in the conduct of the meeting.

The delegate of Afghanistan proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman,

The delegate of Malaysia proposed a vote of thanks to the host country for the facilities provided for holding the meeting.

The Chairman then declared the meeting closed.

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