DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE WTO COMMISSION FOR THE AMERICAS AT ITS SIXTEENTH MEETING

Madrid (Spain), 18-19 May 1987

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DECISIONS

CAM/DEC/1(XVI)

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Agenda item 1 (document CAM/16/ODP)

The Commission

Adopts the agenda of its sixteenth meeting without amendment or any change in the order of items.

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CAM/DEC/2(XVI)

COMMUNICATION OF THE CHAIRMAN

Agenda item 2

The Commission,

Having heard the communication of its Chairman,

Thanks her for it.

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CAM/DEC/3(XVI)

COMMUNICATION OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Agenda item 3 (document CAM/16/3(b))

The Commission,

Having heard the information provided orally by the Secretary-General on the present state of the tourism sector in the world and on the role that this sector can play in the socio-economic development of all peoples, and

Having before it the communication of the Secretary-General on the Organization's activities, operations and financial situation,

1. Takes note of the information contained in the said communication;

2. Expresses its agreement with the comments of the Secretary-General on the need to ensure sound operation of the Organization's Secretariat in order to fully realize the programme approved by the General Assembly; and

3. Urges the States Members of the Commission for the Americas that are in arrears in the payment of their contributions to take the necessary measures to pay the said contributions.

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CAM/DEC/4 (XVI)

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

Agenda item 4 (document CAM/16/4)

The Commission,

Having taken note of the communication of the Secretary-General on the representation of the Commission in the Executive Council and its subsidiary organs, and

Having before it the additional information provided orally by the representatives of Argentina and the United States,

1. Thanks its representatives in the Executive Council and its subsidiary organs for the information provided;

2. Appeals to its representatives in these organs that are still subject to the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules of WTO, to regularize their situation so that representation of the Commission of the Americas in these organs will not be lost; and

3. Nominates Argentina, Mexico, Peru and Uruguay to represent the Commission for the Americas in the Committee on Statistics created by the Executive Council in 1986. This nomination will be subject to ratification by the member States at the seventeenth meeting of the CAM (Madrid, 22 September 1987).

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CAM/DEC/5 (XVI)

REVIEW OF TOURISM DEVELOPMENT IN THE AMERICAS

Agenda item 5 (document CAM/16/5)

The Commission,

Having noted with interest the information contained in the monograph on tourism development in the Americas,

1. Commends the Secretary-General for the preparation of the monograph which contains useful information for the programming of tourism activities in the member countries; and

2. Invites its member States yet again to regularly provide the Secretariat with the information it requests and to forward to it the annual reports of the travel and tourism administrations and any other relevant documents concerning their development and promotional policies and activities.
CONSIDERATION OF THE STUDIES PREPARED IN THE FRAMEWORK OF
WTO'S GENERAL PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 1984-1985 AND
SUBMITTED TO THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS PURSUANT
TO RESOLUTION 176(VI) OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Agenda item 6 (document CAM/16/6)

The Commission,

Having taken note with interest of the results of the Secretariat's studies on methodology for the measurement of travel and tourism expenditure, for the collection of employment statistics in the field of travel and tourism, and for the construction of a tourist price index,

1. Thanks the Secretary-General for the information provided and for the technical clarity of the questionnaire prepared, which will provide more complete knowledge of the impact of tourism on the member States; and

2. Requests the Secretary-General that, in sending the questionnaires to the member States, he give them the necessary guidance in correctly completing the questionnaires so as to facilitate the task of the responsible officials and obtain prompt responses.

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PROGRESS REPORT ON PREPARATIONS FOR THE CELEBRATION OF
THE FIFTH CENTENARY OF THE DISCOVERY OF THE AMERICAS

Agenda item 7 (document CAM/16/7)

The Commission,

Having heard the information provided orally by the Secretariat on efforts to reactivate the Working Party established by the Commission (CAM/DEC/9(XIII)) for the celebration of the fifth centenary of the discovery of the Americas,

Considering that multi-institutional committees dedicated exclusively to preparations for this celebration exist in practically every country in the region of the Americas, and

Taking into account the need to avoid duplication, particularly in view of the scarce financial resources available within the system of international organizations, and WTO in particular,

1. Decides to discontinue the activities of the said Working Party;

2. Invites the countries or groups of countries of the Commission to present to the Secretary-General initiatives and concrete proposals for action that may be taken by the Organization within the framework of the celebration of this historic event; and
3. Requests the Secretary-General to study any initiatives and proposals submitted by the member States and report to them on the possibility of implementing them within the framework of the general programme of work of the Organization or with financing from other sources.

CAM/DEC/8(XVI)

WTO OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THE REGION OF THE AMERICAS

(A) COMMISSION AND TECHNICAL MEETINGS
(B) OPERATIONAL AND SECTORAL SUPPORT MISSIONS
(C) TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROJECTS

Agenda item 8 (document CAM/16/8)

The Commission,

Having before it the communication of the Secretary-General on the operation activities conducted by the Secretariat during the period from July 1985 to May 1987,

1. Takes note with interest of the progress toward the establishment of a World Tourism Information Exchange Centre;

2. Observes the growth recorded in operational activities in the field conducted by the Organization in the region of the Americas;

3. Invites its member States to inform the Secretary-General in a regular and timely manner on their specific needs in the area of technical cooperation in the field of tourism; and

4. Urges the national tourism administrations of its member States in the region of the Americas to communicate their technical cooperation requirements through the coordination units of their respective Governments.

CAM/DEC/9(XVI)

REPORT ON WTO'S ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Agenda item 9 (document CAM/16/9)

The Commission,

Having before it the communication of the Secretary-General concerning the Organization's new general policy in the field of vocational training and education, and

Having taken note of the report by the Secretary-General summarizing the results of the survey on the vocational training needs of the member States in the region,
1. Notes with interest the implementation of this policy through itinerant courses and regional tourism training centres;

2. Expresses its desire to see a larger number of courses offered in the countries in the region of the Americas;

3. Receives with gratitude the preliminary offer of the delegations of Honduras and Uruguay to establish regional or subregional vocational training centres in their countries;

4. Recalls the conclusions of the International Conference on the Adaptation of Training for Tourism and Travel Personnel (Paris, 11-15 June 1985) giving priority to the training of teaching personnel in the tourism and hotel fields;

5. Recognizes that vocational training needs are essentially sub-regional in scope; and

6. Expresses its preference for vocational training courses and programmes that respond to these needs at the subregional level.

CAM/DEC/10(XVI)

REPORT ON WTO'S ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF FACILITATION

Agenda item 10 (document CAM/16/10)

The Commission,

Having before it the communication of the Secretary-General on WTO's activities in the field of facilitation,

1. Takes note with interest of the work performed by the Facilitation Committee;

2. Appreciates the value of the "Draft convention on the facilitation of travel and tourist stays through passport, visa and health and exchange control measures";

3. Urges the member States to strongly consider adherence to this convention and at least one of its annexes;

4. Urges the member States to take all necessary measures to ensure that tourism is included in the international negotiations on trade in services;

5. Suggests to the Facilitation Committee that it study the possibility of introducing a tourism card to facilitate movements of tourists across frontiers; and

6. Also suggests to the Facilitation Committee that it consider possible means of facilitating frontier crossings by tourists on short-term travel (24 to 48 hours).
INFORMATION REPORT ON THE CELEBRATION OF WORLD TOURISM DAY
Agenda item 11 (document CAM/16/11)

The Commission,

Having before it the report of the Secretary-General on the celebration of World Tourism Day, on 27 September 1986, both at the general level and in specific countries in the region of the Americas, and

Having been informed of the events held in Panama on the occasion of this celebration,

1. Urges the member States to take initiatives to celebrate World Tourism Day 1987 with the theme: Tourism for development, and

2. Requests member States to inform the Secretary-General of these initiatives so that the international community may be made aware of them.

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INFORMATION REPORT ON THE ACTIONS TAKEN BY MEMBER STATES TO ENCOURAGE DOMESTIC TOURISM
Agenda item 12 (document CAM/16/12)

The Commission,

Having examined the communication of the representation of Brazil on the programme to promote national tourism initiated in this country in 1986,

1. Commends the Brazilian delegation for this initiative, and

2. Takes note with interest of the oral presentation by the representatives of Argentina, Mexico and Peru concerning the efforts undertaken in their respective countries to promote national tourism.

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PLACE AND DATE OF THE SEVENTEENTH MEETING OF THE COMMISSION
Agenda item 13

The Commission

1. Decides to hold the seventeenth meeting on 22 September 1987 in conjunction with the seventh session of the General Assembly (Madrid, Spain, 22 September to 1 October 1987), and

2. Welcomes the invitation of the delegation of Venezuela to hold its eighteenth meeting at Caracas in May/June 1988.
LISTA DE PARTICIPANTES
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

PRESIDENTE DE LA COMISION/
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Sub-Director
Instituto Guatemalteco de Turismo

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AEDAVE

Sr. Félix AREVALO SANCHO
Director General

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