

**WORLD TOURISM ORGANIZATION**  
**GENERAL**  
**ASSEMBLY**



A/16/6 Add.1  
Madrid, November 2005  
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Sixteenth session  
Dakar, Senegal, 28 November – 2 December 2005  
Provisional agenda item 6

**REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL**

**Addendum 1**

**Note by the Secretary-General**

The Secretary-General submits to the General Assembly the following addendum on the "Declaration on Tourism and the Millennium Development Goals".

**REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL****Addendum 1**

1. The Secretary-General transmits to the Members, as a supplement to his report, two letters received by him, one from Mr. Kofi Annan, Secretary-General of the United Nations, dated 14 November 2005 (Annex 1), and the other from Mr. Kemal Dervis, Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, dated 24 October 2005 (Annex 2), both of which express warm support for the action of the World Tourism Organization, in particular, with regard to its contribution to the Millennium Development Goals and to poverty reduction through the sustainable development of tourism.

2. These two letters are in response to the "Declaration on Tourism and the Millennium Development Goals" submitted by the WTO to the United Nations on the eve of the recent Summit of Heads of State and Government. Also attached is the text of this Declaration (Annex 3).

3. The Secretary-General points out that similar expressions of support have been received from the following international institutions:

- World Bank/International Finance Corporation (IFC)
- United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
- World Food Programme (WFP/OHA)
- International Maritime Organization (IMO)
- World Meteorological Organization (WMO)
- World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

4. Furthermore, also attached (Annex 4) is a letter dated 14 November 2005 from Mr. Pascal Lamy, Director-General of the World Trade Organization, in which he confirms the importance he attaches to the liberalization of trade in tourism services and underlines the importance of tourism for developing countries, and in particular, for the least developed countries. Mr. Lamy also underscores the interest he attaches to cooperation between the World Trade Organization and the World Tourism Organization.

## ANNEX 1



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL



14 November 2005

Dear Mr. Frangialli,

Thank you for your kind letter of 30 September 2005, which highlights the contribution that tourism can make to sustainable development and the reduction of poverty in developing countries.

In today's global economy, there is no doubt that tourism has significant potential for mobilizing human and material resources in developing countries and contributing to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

I strongly support the work of the World Tourism Organization (WTO) as a specialized agency of the United Nations. Its programme for tourism development in sub-Saharan Africa and the Sustainable Tourism for Eliminating Poverty programme are already helping some of the poorest in the least developed countries. I am also convinced that ecotourism can contribute to the conservation of biodiversity and the protection of natural resources, while generating resources for their enhancement.

It is necessary that all stakeholders recognize the potential of tourism for environmental conservation, economic growth and social development. You can count on my continued support for tourism development as an important component of efforts to promote sustainable development.

I would like to take this opportunity to convey my best wishes for the sixteenth session of the WTO General Assembly to be held from 25 November to 2 December 2005 in Dakar. The meeting should serve to further leverage the laudable work that you and your organization have been doing for tourism as an effective instrument for reaching the Millennium Development Goals.

Yours sincerely,

Kofi A. Annan

Mr. Francesco Frangialli  
Secretary-General  
World Tourism Organization  
Madrid





## ANNEX 2

**United Nations Development Programme**  
The Administrator

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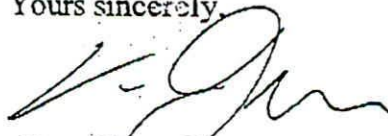
24 October 2005

Dear Mr. Frangialli,

Thank you very much for your letter of 30 September 2005 on sustainable tourism for eliminating poverty. I could not agree with you more on the crucial role of tourism in sustainable development, poverty reduction and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). However, as you have pointed out, in spite of the importance given to this role in the Brussels Conference on the Least Developed Countries and the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, the full potential of tourism for development is yet to be realized. The Sustainable Tourism for Elimination of Poverty (ST-EP) is a move in the right direction. I am pleased to know that the ST-EP initiative will be a central theme in the WTO General Assembly meeting later this year.

We appreciate the event during the 2005 World Summit last month in which leading personalities from the tourism sector reiterated the critical role of tourism in achieving the MDGs. We fully support the proposed Declaration on Tourism and the Millennium Development Goals. We hope that this Declaration will help to mobilize stronger support in favour of tourism as a driving force for the elimination of poverty.

Yours sincerely,



Kemal Derviş

Mr. Francesco Frangialli  
Secretary General  
World Tourism Organization  
Madrid



## ANNEX 3

**“Harnessing Tourism for the Millennium Development Goals”****UNICEF Building, New York, USA****13 September 2005****DECLARATION****ON****TOURISM AND THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

*A representative group of government, industry, UN specialized agencies and civil society leaders met in New York, at the invitation of the World Tourism Organization in its capacity as Specialized Agency of the United Nations, on the eve of the Special United Nations General Assembly, on 13 September 2005, and adopted the following declaration.*

***Noting:***

The growing socioeconomic importance of tourism all over the world, and especially in many developing countries;

The effective contribution of tourism to the achievement of several Millennium Development Goals, as already recognised by the WSSD in Johannesburg and the Brussels Programme of Action, especially those relating to poverty alleviation, environmental conservation and creation of employment opportunities for women, indigenous communities and young people;

The role that tourism plays in most developing, least developed and small island states, as the main - and sometimes the only - means of economic and social development on a sustainable basis, with meaningful linkages to other productive sectors, such as agriculture and handicrafts.

That the increase in mobility is essential to achieve the goal of creating more jobs and eliminating poverty through tourism but that in recent years mobility has been limited by factors such as the lack of security and the rise in the price of fuel affecting air transport.



*Noting as well that:*

Tourism has not yet been given sufficient recognition by many governments and international development assistance agencies, particularly in view of its enormous potential to generate economic, environmental and social benefits,

*Convinced that:*

The tourism sector can therefore make a substantially greater contribution to poverty alleviation, economic growth, sustainable development, environmental conservation, inter-cultural understanding and peace among nations,

***WE CALL ON the United Nations General Assembly and URGE governments, international and bilateral development assistance agencies, financial institutions, private corporations, NGOs and other interested parties to:***

1. Fully recognize tourism, when sustainably developed and managed, as an effective tool to realize the Millennium Development Goals - especially poverty alleviation;
2. Integrate tourism in national development programmes and poverty reduction strategies to contribute to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
3. Encourage good governance, ensuring that all stakeholders, especially at the local level, are duly consulted and responsibilities are clearly defined;
4. Mobilize further domestic resources, in cooperation with financial institutions, micro credit entities, business service providers and encourage the further development of the local private sector to facilitate community driven tourism programmes, and small and medium size tourism enterprise programmes;
5. Encourage large national and multinational companies operating in developing and least developed countries to act in the most sustainable manner, in the context of the tourism sector, adopting strong social responsibility measures towards local communities, and taking specific measures to increase the level of employment of poor people and the supply of goods and services by the poor;
6. Pay increased attention to the social and cultural dimensions of tourism, to further implement the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism, and to continue the fight against exploitation of children in the tourism industry;
7. Encourage cooperation between the public and private sectors to ensure that the necessary infrastructure to facilitate tourism development is in place, as well as to ensure that the necessary conditions of political stability, peace and governance of public affairs are conducive to tourism development.
8. Give higher priority to tourism in development assistance programmes, including ODAs, especially those focused on planning, infrastructure development, capacity building, technology transfer, and access to markets as well as safety and security, and facilitation of travel;



***WE FURTHER INVITE the consideration of all stakeholders to:***

9. Follow the UN Secretary General's advice and give support to the activities undertaken by the World Tourism Organization in favor of developing and least developed countries, and to its Sustainable Tourism – Eliminating Poverty (ST-EP) programme and provide funding to the ST-EP Foundation and, where appropriate, to the ST-EP Trust Fund, with a view to creating a large number of sustainable SMEs in areas such as ecotourism, community-based tourism, rural tourism, and sport-related tourism forms;
10. Draw the attention of governments and other interested parties concerning:
  - a) The crucial role that tourism can play in Small Island Developing States and other tourism-dependent developing economies given the linkages it can forge with other economic activities;
  - b) The fact that such linkages are often limited by the leakage resulting from imports of inputs and financial remittances. In this respect, we recommend governments:
    - Measure such economic linkages and leakages by putting in place Tourism Satellite Accounts according to the methodology adopted by the UN Statistical Commission in 2000 following an initiative of the World Tourism Organization and,
    - Establish programmes to reduce the leakages and generate positive linkages with other economic activities in their countries (such as agriculture, construction, manufacturing industries or handicrafts production).
11. Underscore the interrelation existing between tourism and air transport, particularly in the case of the poorest countries, emphasize the need to offer development support for infrastructure, capacity building and technology that will enhance safety, security and facilitation of air transport, and ensure that, in so doing, all states fully comply with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) safety standards, recommended practices and oversight mechanisms.
12. Endorse in principle the UN Secretary General's initiatives aimed at putting in place innovative financial support mechanisms for development, in addition to the Monterrey consensus on public aid, but recommend that any proposal, such as the voluntary solidarity tax for air passengers does not negatively affect tourism flows to the developing and least developed countries;
13. Integrate tourism in current and future actions regarding climate change, especially in light of the forthcoming conference convened by the World Meteorological Organization and taking into account the Djerba Declaration on Climate Change and Tourism (2003);
14. Harness the human resource potential of poor people in the delivery of quality services through the tourism value chain. There is a pressing need for capacity building at the local destination level, including a) improved employment policies; b) expanded education and training opportunities at the general education, vocational and professional levels; and c) dissemination of know how and good practices through enhanced knowledge management systems.

15. Facilitate access to Global Environmental Facility (GEF) funding for those tourism development projects, including ecotourism, that contribute to biodiversity conservation, protection of coastal areas, oceans and seas, and similar environmental objectives;
16. Integrate tourism into current debates concerning water resources, since in many cases the needs of tourism development compete with those of host communities, while in many others it is tourism that permits the funding of large water supply or water treatment infrastructure projects;
17. Facilitate access of LDCs to trade in tourism services, following UNCTAD's Sao Paulo Conference in 2004, especially in the post-Doha negotiations and in preparation of the forthcoming negotiations and debates on trade in services to be held at the Summit of the World Trade Organization in Hong Kong.

In conclusion, we encourage the World Tourism Organization to actively participate in the Global Partnership for Development, including the achievement of the goals contained in the Millennium Declaration, the Brussels Programme of Action and the Monterrey Consensus. We strongly reiterate our determination to contribute to the timely and full realization of the development goals and objectives that have emerged from major United Nations Conferences and Summits, especially the Millennium Development Goals, which have galvanized unprecedented efforts towards helping the world's poorest people overcome poverty.

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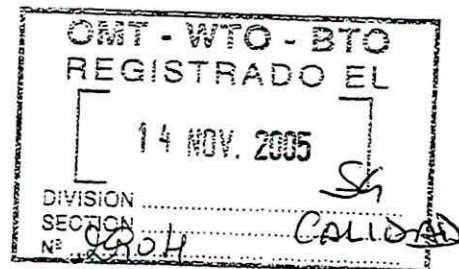


## ANNEX 4



WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION  
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DU COMMERCE  
ORGANIZACIÓN MUNDIAL DEL COMERCIO

Pascal LAMY  
Director-General



14 NOV 2005

Dear Mr. Frangialli,

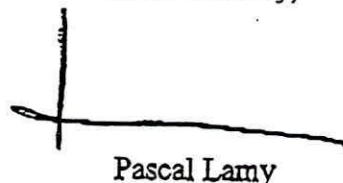
Thank you for your letter received of 11 November 2005 regarding the importance of the GATS negotiations for tourism. I also appreciate your support for a successful outcome to the WTO/OMC Ministerial Conference in Hong Kong in December 2005.

The facts in your letter cannot be disputed, and tourism is indeed one of the most important sectors in international trade, especially for LDCs and other developing countries. I share your objective in achieving substantial and qualitative progress in the negotiations affecting trade in tourism services and, in this regard, I appreciate the recognition in your letter of the need to ensure greater policy coordination at the national level. Notably, this includes the need for governments to clearly communicate to their trade officials here in Geneva the specific trade needs, and the overall economic importance, of tourism industries.

I am pleased to inform you that tourism has been receiving renewed interest in recent WTO/OMC discussions, most notably within the Special Session of the Council for Trade in Services in the context of discussions on sectoral negotiating objectives. A number of WTO/OMC Members have expressed specific tourism objectives, as well as related objectives in other services sectors affecting tourism.

Let me also take this opportunity to wish you a successful outcome of the World Tourism Organization's 16<sup>th</sup> General Assembly in Dakar in November-December 2005. The World Tourism Organization continues to play a major role in providing the necessary expertise to support the current tourism services negotiations, and the World Trade Organization will continue to fully cooperate with these efforts.

Yours sincerely,



Pascal Lamy

Mr. Francesco Frangialli  
Secretary General  
World Tourism Organization  
Capitán Haya  
28020 Madrid



