

CSA/CAP/16/DEC
February 2001

DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE
WTO COMMISSION FOR SOUTH ASIA AND THE
WTO COMMISSION FOR EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC
AT THEIR SIXTEENTH JOINT MEETING
Sakai, Japan, 26 October 2000

AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Communication of the Chairman of the joint meeting
3. Communication of the Co-Chairman of the joint meeting
4. Preliminary Remarks by the Secretary-General
5. Application to the regions of the general programme of work for 2000-2001 and Information on the WTO/UNEP International Conference on Sustainable Tourism in the Islands of the Asia-Pacific Region, Sanya, Island of Hainan, China, 6-8 December 2000; and, the International Conference on Cultural Tourism, Siem Reap, Cambodia, 11-13 December 2000
6. Future of the Organization and the role of the Regional Commissions
7. Follow-up on the Nice World Conference on the Measurement of the Economic Impact of Tourism and the Tourism Satellite Account: WTO action plan
8. Place and date of the seventeenth joint meeting of the Commission for South Asia and the Commission for East Asia and the Pacific

DECISIONS

CSA/CAP/DEC/1 (XVI)

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Agenda item 1 (document CSA/CAP/16/Prov.Agenda)

The Commission,

Having considered the request made by the Ministry of Tourism of the Royal Government of Cambodia, to incorporate agenda item 5 “Information on the WTO/UNEP International Conference on Sustainable Tourism in the Islands of the Asia-Pacific Region, Sanya, Island of Hainan, China, 6-8 December 2000; and, the International Conference on Cultural Tourism, Siem Reap, Cambodia, 11-13 December 2000” of the Provisional Agendas of the 35th Meeting of the Meeting of the Commission for East and the Pacific and the Provisional Agenda of the 39th Meeting of the WTO Commission for South Asia, into provisional agenda item 5 of the joint commission meeting,

Accepted the request and **adopted** the modified provisional agenda contained in document CSA/CAP/16/Prov.Agenda, submitted by the Secretary-General.

CSA/CAP/DEC/2 (XVI)

COMMUNICATION OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT MEETING

Agenda item 2

The Commission,

Having heard the Communication of the Chairman,

1. **Thanked** him for his Communication; and
 2. **Joined him** in his request to WTO to continue to assist the Asia-Pacific region through its technical assistance and through programmes such as the Global Code of Ethics and the Tourism Satellite Account, in preparing the region to cope with the excellent forecasts of domestic, intraregional and interregional tourism performance augured for the near future.
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CSA/CAP/DEC/3 (XVI)**COMMUNICATION OF THE CO-CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION**

Agenda item 3

The Commission,

Having heard the communication of the co-Chairman,

1. **Thanked** her for the communication; and
 2. **Noted** her recommendation that tourism development in the Asia-Pacific region go beyond the actual figures and forecasts but rather be aimed towards its sustainability particularly through the application of the Agenda 21 and through the development of Small Island Developing States which has a particular reference to the Asia-Pacific region.
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CSA/CAP/DEC/4 (XVI)**PRELIMINARY REMARKS BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL**

Agenda item 4

The Commission,

Having listened to the remarks of the Secretary-General,

1. **Appreciated** his review of the Organization's recent achievements, namely the return of Canada to the WTO as well as of Swaziland and Hong Kong SAR, and, of initiatives such as the Global Code of Ethics and the Tourism Satellite Account which have obtained great repercussion both within the Asia-Pacific region and worldwide;
 2. **Noted** the Secretary-General's desire to put the Organization on the road towards modernization by taking into account the global trend towards public-private partnership and adapting the Organization to include membership of local and regional tourism authorities while maintaining the status of the Organization as an inter-governmental organization; and
 3. **Thanked** him for the numerous and diverse manners in which the Organization has assisted the Asia-Pacific region in the further development and promotion of its tourism industry.
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CSA/CAP/DEC/5 (XVI)

APPLICATION TO THE REGIONS OF THE GENERAL PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2000-2001

AND
INFORMATION ON THE WTO/UNEP INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE
TOURISM IN THE ISLANDS OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION, SANYA, ISLAND OF HAINAN,
CHINA, 6-8 DECEMBER 2000; AND, THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CULTURAL
TOURISM, SIEM REAP, CAMBODIA, 11-13 DECEMBER 2000

Agenda item 5

The Commission,

Having considered the working document submitted by the Secretariat;

1. **Thanked** the Secretariat for its extensive activities in the region through its general programme of work which provide a range of services and technical assistance which match the needs of the region;
2. **Noted** that although WTO is facing a lack of funding through the United Nations Development Programme, its technical assistance has increased with eight long-term projects and ten short-term technical missions having been carried out in the region in the period under review;
3. **Recommended** that the Secretariat explore the possibilities of tapping alternative sources of funding other than UNDP such as the Asian Development Bank and the World Bank;
4. **Thanked** the Department of Human Resource Development for producing quality-oriented and practical tools that can assist the region in further developing its human resources to an international standard;
5. **Requested** the Secretariat for more presence of the TEDQUAL methodology in the region's institutions;
6. **Further requested** the Secretariat for a greater allocation of seats for the region during the sessions of the Practicum held at the WTO Headquarters;
7. **Noted** the request made by the Islamic Republic of Iran that the WTO Education Council should have more representation by the national tourism administrations and other policy-makers rather than to be constituted by tourism education institutions only;
8. **Thanked** the Secretary-General and the Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific for their constant presence in the field which has greatly assisted in gauging the needs of the Member States, facilitated in maintaining a smooth flow of communication between Member States and the WTO, and, has served as an indication of WTO's support to its Member States in their efforts to develop and promote their tourism industries; and

9. **Thanked the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Royal Government of Cambodia** for their gracious invitation to host the WTO/UNEP International Conference on Sustainable Tourism in Islands of the Asia-Pacific Region (scheduled to be held in Sanya, Hainan Island, China, 6-8 December 2000); and, the WTO International Conference on Cultural Tourism (scheduled to be held in Siem Reap, Cambodia, 11-13 December 2000), respectively.
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CSA/CAP/DEC/6 (XVI)

FUTURE OF THE ORGANIZATION AND THE ROLE OF THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS

Agenda item 6

The Commission,

Having considered the document prepared by the Chairman of the WTO Commission for Europe, circulated by the Secretariat;

1. **Thanked** him for his thoughtful and insightful document;
 2. **Noted** his request for a revitalisation of the role of the Regional Commissions in WTO's affairs given their importance as a forum for dialogue between the Member States and the Secretariat, and, as a tool for strengthening the unity among Member States;
 3. **Further noted** the lack of responsibilities attached to the Regional Commissions; and
 4. **Supported** the initiative that Regional Commission Meetings should have more time delegated towards addressing important and common issues of concern of the region.
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CSA/CAP/DEC/7 (XVI)

FOLLOW-UP ON THE NICE WORLD CONFERENCE ON THE MEASUREMENT OF THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF TOURISM AND THE TOURISM SATELLITE ACCOUNT: WTO ACTION PLAN

Agenda item 7

The Commission,

Having considered the document submitted by the Secretariat;

1. **Thanked** the Secretariat for its promotion and pursuit of the establishment of the Tourism Satellite Account on a global, regional and national basis;
 2. **Noted** the Action Plan put forward by the Secretariat; and
 3. **Requested** the Secretariat that more seminars on TSA and its application be held within the region on a regional and national basis, accompanied by training of local staff on TSA methodology.
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CSA/CAP/DEC/8 (XVI)

**PLACE AND DATE OF THE SEVENTEENTH JOINT MEETING OF THE COMMISSION FOR
SOUTH ASIA AND THE COMMISSION FOR EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC**

Agenda item 8

The Commission,

Accepted with gratitude the offer of the Government of Bangladesh to host the seventeenth joint meeting of the Commissions in its territory during the first half of 2001; and

Noted the statement made by the People's Republic of China to present its candidature as host to the fifteenth session of the WTO General Assembly.
