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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Third meeting of the Conference of the
African Ministers of Tourism

Tunisz, Tunisia, 29 March - 3rd April 1993

MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE
AFRICAN MINISTERS OF TOURISM
2nd and 3rd April 1993

RESOLUTIONS OF THE THIRD MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE AFRICAN MINISTERS OF TOURISM

Abstract of the report of the meeting
of the Conference of the African Ministers of Tourism

**RESOLUTIONS
OF THE THIRD MEETING OF THE
CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN MINISTERS OF TOURISM**

The third meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Tourism, held in Tunis, Tunisia, on 2nd and 3rd April 1993 adopted the following resolutions:

A. TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AND INTRA AFRICAN COOPERATION

Realizing the need for national policies and for greater cooperation between the public and private sectors with a view to promoting both the unity and diversity of the African region,

Recommends that member States should take every necessary step:

1. To secure recognition of the highly positive role that tourism can play in economic and social development;
2. To allocate to the tourism sector the human, financial and legal resources that will enable it to play this role fully;

B. AFRICAN TOURISM PRODUCT

3. To improve and develop both the quality and diversity of tourism products as part of their efforts to make rational use of natural resources and other national assets;
4. To make optimum use of the cultural heritage, crafts, traditional architecture, local goods and services;
5. Protect the natural and human environment for the sake of sustainable tourism in which regard the Conference recommends that an African regional seminar on Tourism, Environment and Sustainable Development should be organized in cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme, the World Tourism Organization and other international organizations;
6. Given the fact that participants have demonstrated deep interest in the project proposal submitted by ECA, on the integration of handicrafts and cultural artifacts in the African tourism products, the Conference requests the Executive Secretary of ECA to take all the necessary measures for implementing the project in consultation with the national handicrafts administration and all parties concerned;

C. HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

7. To develop human resources through such basic and refresher training as would equip people with the skills indispensable for the development of tourism and the strengthening of intra-African cooperation in training:

(a) To formulate an African training and cooperation policy based on a study of tourism and hotel training needs of African countries, that the Conference requests the Executive Secretary of ECA to undertake;

(b) To strengthen intra-African cooperation in the field of training;

(c) To rationalize the use of training potential existing at the regional and subregional levels in which regard the Conference request the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa to commission a study on the possible reopening of the NGAOUNDERE Hotel Training School in Cameroon and to report thereon to member States. The Executive Secretary is also requested to provide similar assistance to countries which may so desire.

8. In order to make for greater consultation and joint action regarding training programmes and methods and with a view to harmonization in this area, the Conference recommends that an African association of tourism and hotel training establishment should be established and invites ECA to help member States in the establishment of such an association which should become operational by the next meeting of the Conference.

9. To pursue a concerted policy the policy makers of African countries in order to reach such common ground on facilitation as will make for the development of tourist flows among the countries;

D. TOURISM AND TRANSPORT

10. Given the importance of transport and communication facilities the Conference recommends:

(a) The improvement of land, sea and air links with African tourist destinations;

(b) Greater integration of networks to facilitate access to African tourists destinations;

(c) The institution of periodic consultation between African transport and tour operators to define and implement measures to reduce the cost of tourism-related transport;

(d) The holding of a joint conference of Ministers of Transport and tourism to discuss the inter-face between the two sectors.

E. MANAGEMENT OF THE TOURISM PRODUCT

11. Recognizing the positive role that trans-national corporations play in the development of African tourism, the Conference invites such corporations to strengthen their contractual relations on the basis of an equitable partnership policy;

12. With regard to hotel management, the Conference invites member States to build close cooperation among themselves by:

- (a) Setting up an association of owners of hotels managed by trans-national corporations; and
- (b) Mobilizing African expertise within the framework of South-South cooperation.

13. To pursue activities undertaken by the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations with ECA cooperation by:

- (a) The organization of seminars on management and contractual relations with the transnational corporations;
- (b) The publication of handbooks and technical publications; and
- (c) Technical assistance to African owners.

F. JOINT PROMOTION OF THE AFRICAN TOURISM PRODUCT

14. Given the complementarity of some African tourism products, the Conference recommends that the member States concerned should come together to prepare and implement joint tourism projects.

15. ECA, ADB, OAU and other like-minded institutions are requested to assist member States in the mobilization of the funds needed to finance such projects (which help to promote African integration) through the organization of round-table meetings with development partners at the subregional level by the end of 1994.

G. MAINTENANCE AND PERIODICITY OF THE CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN MINISTERS OF TOURISM

16. The Conference of African Ministers of Tourism appears to be one of the organs of concertation at the highest level. Consequently, the Conference recommends that meetings be held regularly (every two years) so as to ensure greater efficiency in monitoring and evaluating the implementation of its recommendations.

17. It requests also ECA to maintain this structure of concertation for a better appreciation of the specific aspects of the tourism sector.

H. TOURISM, PEACE AND SECURITY

18. Given the fact that tourism promotion requires a secure environment, the Conference notes with concern the spread of insecurity in Africa and deplores the proliferation of conflicts in Africa, particularly in Angola, Togo, Somalia, Chad, South Africa, Mozambique and other countries. The Conference recommends that OAU, ECA, ADB and all concerned organizations should intensify their search for ways of restoring lasting peace in those countries so as to facilitate the pursuit of tourism activities and programmes that act for the well-being of the people the strengthening of African Unity and peaceful co-existence.

I. INTERSTATES TOURISM CIRCUITS

19. With regard to the establishment of inter-State tourism circuit, it is recommended that multinational projects should be prepared at the subregional or regional level. ECA is requested to provide the necessary technical assistance to member States, and in particular, to assist them in mobilizing financial resources.

J. TOURISM AND AFRICAN INTEGRATION

20. The Conference requests member States and relevant institutions to pay particular attention to the implementation of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community. Accordingly, it requests African Ministers of Tourism to participate actively in the African integration process and invite them to send, at their earliest convenience, to OAU Secretariat their comments and views on the draft Protocol relating to tourism that had been presented to the Conference.

K. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

21. The Conference expresses satisfaction with the holding in Antananarivo of the Subregional Conference on Tourism and recommends the holding of similar meetings in the other subregions.

22. The Conference expresses its appreciation to the Commission of European Communities for its assistance with the organization of that meeting and for its efforts to promote the development of tourism in Africa.

23. The Conference also thanks the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa for having organized the Conference.

Tunis, Tunisia, 2nd April 1993
The Conference of African Ministers of
Tourism

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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA COMMISSION ECONOMIQUE POUR L'AFRIQUE

Third meeting of the Conference of
African Ministers of Tourism

Troisième réunion de la Conférence des
ministres africains du tourisme

Tunis, Tunisia
2-3 April 1993

Tunis (Tunisie)
2-3 avril 1993

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1/ All additions and amendments to this provisional list should be made on the master copy at the registration desk / Tout ajout ou tout amendement à ce texte d'opovemt être portés sur la liste originale au comptoir d'enregistrement.

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