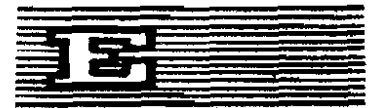




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Ninth meeting of the Technical
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Niamey, Niger
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Item 7 of the provisional agenda*

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Twenty-third session of the Commission/
fourteenth meeting of the Conference
of Ministers

Niamey, Niger
14-18 April 1988

Item 6 of the provisional agenda**

**FIRST MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF
AFRICAN MINISTERS OF TOURISM -**

RECOMMENDATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

* E/ECA/TPCW.9/1/Rev.1.

** E/ECA/CM.14/1.

1. The Conference of African Ministers of Tourism was established in pursuance of resolution 567 (XXI) which was adopted by the thirteenth session of the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) held at Yaounde, Republic of Cameroon, in April 1986; its first meeting was held at Kinshasa, Zaire, from 18 to 22 November 1987.

2. Half of the 31 delegations that attended the meeting were led by Ministers and represented member States while 11 delegations represented various international organizations and institutions and professional tourism associations; it was a record attendance for a meeting on African tourism.

3. At the Niamey Conference held in 1984, the initial intra-African co-operation mechanisms on tourism were established and the Conference of African Ministers of Tourism was actually set up; the first meeting of African Ministers of Tourism held at Kinshasa was centred around the following three main themes:

(a) Joint promotion of African tourism and the creation of inter-State tourist circuits;

(b) Vocational training and co-operation between African countries, with respect to developing human resources for tourism professions; and

(c) Hotel management and the activities of transnational hotel management corporations in Africa.

4. With regard to the joint promotion of tourism and the establishment of inter-State tourist circuits, one of the main components of intra-African co-operation, the participants first reviewed the current situation then outlined appropriate solutions and finally decided to:

(a) Establish an African tourism fair to be held every two years in Africa as a showcase for African tourism;

(b) Proclaim 1989 as African Tourism Year;

(c) Establish an African Association of Tourism as a means of promoting African tourism and consultation among tourism professionals;

(d) Strengthen co-operation between ECA and African intergovernmental organizations for co-operation and integration.

5. With respect to training, emphasis was put on the need to strengthen co-operation between African States, give priority to human resources rehabilitation projects and establish training systems utilizing the resources available in Africa. The training project prepared by ECA and the International Labour Office was adopted. ECA was also requested to publish regularly a directory of training facilities in Africa, and co-ordinate and disseminate information on training and human resources development in tourism.

6. With respect to hotel management and the activities of transnational hotel management corporations in Africa, the participants discussed what action could be taken to ensure that African partners in hotel management derived more profits from the management of their hotels than they had done in the past. The United Nations Centre for Transnational Corporations and ECA, in co-operation with the International Labour Office and the World Tourism Organization (WTO) were requested to provide technical assistance to member States and to prepare model contracts for them. The United Nations Centre for Transnational Corporations and ECA should, in particular, cover the training costs of officials responsible for negotiating and monitoring the execution of contracts.

7. The Conference adopted three resolutions on the promotion of tourism, human resources development and hotel management.

Annex I

Resolution on the promotion of tourism

The Conference of African Ministers of Tourism, held in Kinshasa, Zaire, on 21 and 22 November 1987,

Aware of the contribution that tourism could make to the economic, social, cultural and political development of African States,

Reaffirming the importance and need to pursue and strengthen the policy of collaboration at all levels, with a view to harmonizing and maximizing the use of available resources in order to enhance the effectiveness of all activities aimed at developing tourism in Africa,

Confirming the need to integrate the tourism sector in the overall developmental process in Africa and noting that this cannot be achieved without the sincere desire of member States to co-operate in the harmonization of their policies on measures aimed at facilitating travel and tourism,

Noting with satisfaction the progress made in this sector since the Regional Conference on Intra-African Tourism Co-operation, as well as the dynamic role played by ECA in the process of intra-African co-operation in tourism and the development of the initial mechanisms for intra-African co-operation,

Welcoming the quality of reports presented by ECA on its own or in collaboration with other international organizations or institutions,

1. Reaffirms that intra-African tourism is a component of the African policy on the economic, social, cultural and political integration of the continent, as well as a determining factor of development, especially within the framework of existing economic groupings in Africa;

2. Urges the development of mechanisms and programmes for co-operation, in particular activities for the joint promotion of the African tourist product and the creation of inter-State circuits;

3. Requests ECA to:

(a) Pursue its co-operation with international organizations, particularly African intergovernmental organizations, with a view to developing their programmes relating to tourism as well as to mobilizing and co-ordinating available resources in order to maximize their effects on the development of tourism in Africa;

(b) Undertake a study on the tourism activities of subregional intergovernmental organizations in Africa, so as to reactivate such activities and provide them with appropriate technical assistance;

(c) Establish subregional programmes and structures for joint promotion of inter-State tourism and tourism circuits;

(d) Undertake studies aimed at creating inter-State circuits and assist member States to do so;

(e) Establish the African Association of Tourism and take appropriate measures to ensure its functioning;

(f) Proclaim 1989 "African Tourism Year" and ensure the co-ordination of the planned activities in collaboration with all competent national and international bodies;

(g) Create an African tourism fair to be organized once in two years in Africa and collaborate with all competent authorities in the execution of this project;

(h) Assist African States in setting up national professional tourism associations and provide technical support to the existing associations involved in the promotion of tourism in Africa.

Annex II

Resolution on hotel management

The Conference of African Ministers of Tourism, held in Kinshasa, Zaire, on 21 and 22 November 1987,

Having examined the reports presented by the Economic Commission for Africa and the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations,

Noting that the intervention of transnational hotel management corporations does not offer African partners the benefits they should justly expect,

Noting that African countries lose substantial amounts of foreign exchange through the implementation of many of the existing hotel management contracts,

1. Reaffirms the need to ensure that the tourism and hotel infrastructure in African countries are more efficiently managed;

2. Adopts the recommendations of ECA and the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations;

3. Requests the Economic Commission for Africa, in collaboration with the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations, the World Tourism Organization (WTO) and the International Labour Organisation (ILO), to draw up model management or operations contracts for various types of hotel infrastructure, to be submitted as soon as possible to member States for their appraisal, and to provide effective technical assistance to African States and promoters, with respect to the negotiation and monitoring of contracts signed with hotel management corporations.

Annex III

Resolution on the development of human resources

The Conference of African Ministers of Tourism, held in Kinshasa, Zaire, on 21 and 22 November 1987,

Noting that education and training are crucial to the development of tourism,

Welcoming the fact that even though there are professional training establishments in Africa they are not enough to cover the various needs in human resources to meet the constantly increasing demands in the tourism and hotel industry sector,

Taking note of the willingness of States that have such facilities to put them at the disposal of their African partners within the framework of bilateral, multilateral and technical assistance agreements,

Mandates ECA to take the necessary measures to benefit from the resources, facilities and experience of the World Tourism Organization, International Labour Organisation and the competent authorities operating in Africa to implement the following educational and training projects,

(a) The establishment of regional institutes for training in tourism and the hotel trade;

(b) The development of training programmes for enhancing and upgrading the tourism and hotel services at various levels;

(c) The updating and publishing at regular intervals of an African Directory for Educational and Training Facilities to ensure co-ordination and mutual co-operation in the field of education and training.

Annex IV

Kinshasa Declaration on Tourism

1. We, the Ministers of Tourism of the member States of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, meeting in Kinshasa, Zaire, at the invitation of the Executive Council of the Republic of Zaire from 21 to 22 November 1987 in the first meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Tourism established by resolution 567 (XXI) of the thirteenth Conference of Ministers of ECA held in April 1986 in Yaounde, Republic of Cameroon in accordance with the recommendations of the Regional Conference on Intra-African Tourism Co-operation held in Niamey, Niger, from 2 to 6 October 1984;
2. Considering the need to mobilize all available development resources, as recommended in the Lagos Plan of Action and Final Act of Lagos of 1980, Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery, 1986-1990 adopted by the twentieth summit of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity in 1985, as well as the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in June 1986;
3. Convinced that tourism is one of the key factors in economic and social development and an effective tool for the mobilization of resources and also a factor for peace and good-will among peoples;
4. Convinced of the need to strengthen intra-African and international co-operation in the tourism sector;
5. Determined to ensure the contribution of the tourism sector to the efforts for endogenous self-sustained development of our economies through the planning and implementation of an effective developmental policy in this sector;
6. Recognizing the important role of the subregional, regional and international organizations concerned with the development of tourism in Africa;
7. Individually and collectively resolved to take all necessary measures to strengthen intra-African and international co-operation in order to ensure the effective development and promotion of tourism resources on our continent, at national, subregional, regional and international levels;
8. Recommend to the Governments of our respective States to include tourism in the priority sectors of their national development plans and to provide all necessary means for its increased productivity;
9. Urge that in the future, specific attention be given to the development of intra-African tourism, a component of the general policy of African integration and co-operation;
10. Recommend to the Governments of our respective States to take appropriate measures to encourage competent African promoters and managers as well as the promotion of small- and medium-scale tourism enterprises;

11. Recommend that continued efforts be made for the development of methods of vocational training in tourism-related careers, that priority be given to the effective use of existing training resources within the context of intra-African co-operation, as well as to take concrete measures to develop human resources in this sector;

12. Recommend that existing institutions for subregional and regional economic integration ensure that tourism projects are included in their priority projects and that comprehensive investment incentives are provided to promoters of tourism in Africa;

13. Urge ECA and other organizations involved in tourism activities in Africa to co-ordinate their activities and increase their co-operation with African States with a view to promoting a harmonious development of African tourism;

14. Welcome the efforts made by the Executive Council of the Republic of Zaire which enabled ECA to organize this first meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Tourism, a conference which is the best framework for holding consultations aimed at strengthening intra-African co-operation with respect to tourism.

Done in Kinshasa, on 22 November 1987.