

DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE WTO COMMISSION
FOR EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC AT ITS THIRTY-SEVENTH MEETING

Seoul, Republic of Korea, 24 September 2001

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AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Regional activities
3. Nomination of the candidates for the various General Assembly offices:
 - **one** Member of the Credential Committee
 - **one** Officer of the Assembly Committee of the Whole
4. Nomination of candidates to the subsidiary bodies of the Executive Council:
 - **one** alternate at the Programme Committee (CTPC)
 - **one** candidate of the Committee of Market Intelligence and Promotion
 - **one** member of the Sub-Committee for the review of application for affiliate membership
5. Election of the Chairman and the Vice-Chairmen of the Commission
6. Report on the proposal to improve technical assistance in the development of tourism satellite accounts
7. Other items
8. Place and date of the thirty-eighth meeting of the Commission

PREAMBLE

1. The thirty-seventh meeting of the WTO Commission for East Asia and the Pacific was held in Seoul, Republic of Korea on 24 September 2001 within the framework of the fourteenth session of the WTO General Assembly which was co-hosted by the Governments of the Republic of Korea and Japan.
 2. The meeting was chaired by **Philippines** and upon calling the meeting to order, the Chairman proposed that the Commission observe a **minute of silence** in honour of the victims of the terrorist attacks on the USA on 11 September 2001 – a recommendation that was unanimously endorsed by the Commission which then observed a minute's silence.
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DECISIONS

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Agenda item 1 (document CAP/37/Prov.Ag.)

3. After reviewing the provisional agenda and upon the proposal of the Secretariat, the Commission agreed to add a new agenda item (7) entitled "Other items".
 4. The Commission also accepted **China's** request to make a statement regarding its candidature for hosting the 15th session of the WTO General Assembly in 2003 and requested China to speak during the discussion of new agenda item (7).
 5. The provisional agenda was **adopted** with these modifications and the final agenda of the meeting is located on page 2.
 6. Before moving on to other items, the Commission heard with interest the **statement** made by its **Chairman** who thanked the Republic of Korea and Japan for their gracious hosting of the General Assembly. He expressed his appreciation in noting that the General Assembly addressed key issues facing the global tourism industry in the new Millennium. He also discussed WTO's role in the wake of the new crisis. He concluded with an explanation of the importance that the Philippine Government has placed on its tourism industry and also identified it as a major engine for socio-economic growth.
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REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

Agenda item 2 (document CAP/37/2)

7. The Commission expressed its appreciation to the Secretary-General and to the Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific for their efforts in implementing the general programme of work of the Organization in the region through a diverse range of sectoral support missions and long-term projects. It also expressed a desire that the Secretariat launch more sectoral support missions to the region to assist the members on issues of contemporary concern, particularly in the light of the

impacts of the terrorist attacks, improved marketing, product development, and, development of tourism satellite accounts.

8. The Commission also received, with thanks, the information provided to them by the WTO Special Representative to the United Nations who explained further the implications of WTO becoming a specialised UN Agency.

**NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS TO
STATUTORY ORGANS AND THEIR SUBSIDIARY ORGANS**
Agenda items 3 to 5 (documents A/14/Com.Reg and A/14/Com.Reg. Add.1)

9. After reviewing the working documents submitted by the Secretary-General on the nominations and elections to statutory organs and their subsidiary bodies and after being apprised of the members' expression of interest to various organs,

NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES FOR THE VARIOUS GENERAL ASSEMBLY OFFICES

10. The Commission decided to nominate the following Members as its candidates to the offices of the fourteenth session of the General Assembly:

- Member of the Credentials Committee: Republic of Korea
- Officer of the Assembly Committee of the whole: Indonesia

NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES TO THE SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

11. The Commission decided to nominate the following Members as its candidates to the subsidiary bodies of the Executive Council:

- Alternate for the Programme Committee (CTPC): Philippines – Undersecretary, Department of Tourism (Ms. Evelyn Pantig)
- Candidate to the Committee of Market Intelligence and Promotion: Thailand
- Candidate to the Sub-Committee for the review of application for affiliate membership: China

ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN OF THE REGION

12. Having appreciated the excellent leadership and dynamic representation of the East Asia and the Pacific region by the current Chairman of the Commission in WTO affairs, the Commission decided unanimously to re-elect the **Philippines** as Chairman of the Commission, with **Cambodia** and **Vietnam** as Vice-Chairmen for a term of office of two years commencing from the fourteenth session of the General Assembly.

**REPORT ON THE PROPOSAL TO
IMPROVE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF
TOURISM SATELLITE ACCOUNTS**

Agenda item 6 (document CAP/37/6)

13. The Commission was apprised of the Secretariat's planned activities with regard to the development of Tourism Satellite Accounts (TSA) as follows:

- the organization of a two-week TSA practicum in 2002 at the WTO headquarters to assist members in the actual establishment of TSA in their respective countries;
- a train-the-trainers seminar to be organized in January 2002 for WTO consulting firms and experts so as to increase WTO's technical capacity for meeting membership needs; and
- the preparation of more instruments for TSA implementation in the forms of CD-roms and textbooks.

OTHER ITEMS

Agenda item 7

***STATEMENT BY CHINA ON HOSTING THE
FIFTEENTH SESSION OF THE WTO GENERAL ASSEMBLY***

14. The Commission, heard with great interest, the intention of the Government of the People's Republic of China to bid for the hosting of the fifteenth session of the WTO General Assembly and requested the Secretariat to communicate the **Commission's official and unanimous support** to the Chinese bid to the fourteenth session of the WTO General Assembly.

ENDORSEMENT OF 2003 AS VISIT PHILIPPINES YEAR

15. The delegation from the Philippines expressed its intention to designate 2003 as Visit Philippines Year and requested the Secretariat's and the Commission's **endorsement** of this initiative which was **unanimously approved**.

THAILAND'S CANDIDATURE AS HOST FOR THE WORLD TOURISM DAY 2002

16. The Thai delegation stated its intention to bid for the hosting of the World Tourism Day 2002 and requested the Commission's full support in this endeavour. The Commission decided to provide its support to Thailand and requested the Secretariat to communicate the **Commission's endorsement of Thailand's candidature** to the fourteenth session of the WTO General Assembly.

PLACE AND DATE OF THE
THIRTY-EIGHTH MEETING OF THE COMMISSION

Agenda item 8

17. The Commission gratefully accepted **Japan's** offer to host the thirty-eighth meeting of the Commission in Nara in October 2002.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

The thirty-seventh meeting of the WTO Commission for East Asia and the Pacific was attended by:

CAMBODIA

1. Mr. Chivannariddh Sisowath, Undersecretary of State, Ministry of Tourism
2. Mr. In Thoeun, Director – International Cooperation and ASEAN Department, Ministry of Tourism

CHINA

3. Mr. Shanzhong Zhu, Deputy Director General, China National Tourism Administration
4. Ms. Zhang Xinhong, Deputy Division Director, China National Tourism Administration
5. Mrs. Liu Jiamin, Director, China National Tourist Office, Madrid

FIJI

6. Mr. Napolioni Masirewa, Permanent Secretary for Tourism, Culture, Heritage and Civil Aviation, Ministry of Tourism and Transport

INDONESIA

7. Mr. Fransiscus Gromang, Director of Multilateral Cooperation, Department of Culture and Tourism
8. Ms. Francesca Nina Soemitro, Head, International Organization Division, Department of Culture and Tourism

JAPAN

9. Mr. Makoto Washizu, Director General – Tourism Department, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport
10. Mr. Akihiko Tamura, Director – Travel Promotion division, Tourism Department, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport
11. Mr. Hiroshi Masuda, Deputy Director – Planning Division, Tourism Department, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport
12. Mr. Takeshi Kodama, Planning Division, Tourism Department, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport

PHILIPPINES

13. H.E. Mr. Richard Gordon, Secretary, Department of Tourism (Chairman of the Commission)
14. Madam Evelyn B. Pantig, Undersecretary for Tourism, Department of Tourism
15. Mr. Benito Bengzon Jr., Attaché and Director for East Japan, Philippine Department of Tourism
16. Mr. Martin Valera, Tourism Attache, Representative for West Japan, Republic of the Philippine Department of Tourism – Osaka Office

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

17. Mr. Choonseop Kim, Director – International Tourism Division, Ministry of Culture and Tourism
18. Mr. Dae-Kwan Kim, Senior Researcher, Korean Tourism Research Institute
19. Mr. Yong Kun Suh, Senior Researcher, Korea Tourism Research Institute

THAILAND

20. Mr. Paisan Wangsai, Director – Office of the Governor, Tourism Authority of Thailand
21. Mrs. Jamnong Junnapiya, Director – International Relations Division, Tourism Authority of Thailand
22. Mr. Vachirachai Sirusumpan, Officer – International Relations Division, Tourism Authority of Thailand

VIETNAM

23. Mr. Pham Quang Hung, Deputy Director – International Cooperation Department, Vietnam National Administration of Tourism

ASSOCIATE MEMBER – MACAO, CHINA

24. Ms. Silvia Sitou, Head – Research and Planning Department, Macao Government Tourist Office

OBSERVERS***Affiliate Members***

25. Mr. Walter Leu, Executive Director, *European Travel Commission*

26. Mr. Hans-Georg Kraus, Chief Consultant, *Lufthansa Consulting GmbH*
27. Mr. Zhu Liu, President, *Shanghai Institute of Tourism*
28. Ms. Chen Weixin, Interpreter, *Shanghai Institute of Tourism*

Non-Member States

29. Hon. Mr. Teagai Esekia, Minister of Local Government, Women and Youth, Tuvalu
30. Mrs. Taitai Esekia, Ministry of Local Government, Women and Youth, Tuvalu
31. Mr. Bill P. Teo, Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Tourism, Trade and Commerce, Tuvalu

WTO SECRETARIAT

32. Mr. Francesco Frangialli, Secretary-General
33. Mr. Rafeuddin Admed, WTO Special Representative to the United Nations
34. Dr. H. Varma, Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific
35. Mr. Masazumi Nagamitsu, Chief, WTO Regional Support Office for Asia and the Pacific
36. Mr. Xu Jing, Officer, Asia and the Pacific Section
37. Ms. Vanessa Satur, Asia and the Pacific Section