

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
SUSTAINABLE TOURISM IN SMALL
ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES (SIDS)
AND OTHER ISLANDS**

Lanzarote, Spain, 25-28 October 1998

FINAL REPORT

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Introduction

The International Conference on Sustainable Tourism in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Other Islands was convened and held jointly by the World Tourism Organization (WTO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in Lanzarote, Spain, from 25 to 28 October 1998.

The Conference had a twofold aim: first, to examine the development of the tourism sector in SIDS and other islands and to evaluate the progress made in the implementation of the "Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States", formulated at the Barbados Conference of 1994; and, second, to provide guidelines and recommendations to the Commission for Sustainable Development (CSD) of the United Nations for the revision of the aforementioned Barbados Programme of Action to be undertaken by the General Assembly in 1999.

The Conference gathered representatives from forty island states in all regions of the world, as well as other participants from international and regional organizations, and from other states, as detailed in Annex 4 of this report.

Mr. Enrique Pérez Parilla, President of the Island Council of Lanzarote, Mrs. Jacqueline Aloisi de Larderel, Director, Division of Technology, Industry and Economics of UNEP, Mr. Adam Delaney, First Secretary, Papua New Guinea Permanent Mission to the UN, on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island Developing States (AOSIS) and Mr. Francesco Frangialli, Secretary-General of WTO, opened the Conference introducing the topic and highlighting the challenges ahead and the objectives to be achieved. In his opening address, Mr. Frangialli pointed out that "in view of their sensitivity, small islands – and especially developing ones – are more vulnerable than other destinations to the excesses of tourism". However he added that "the main message we will communicate to the United Nations is that tourism can be a viable option for small islands, but only if it is solidly based on the principles of sustainable development and especially if it has the economic and technical support of international organizations".

The UNEP representative, Mrs. Aloisi de Larderel remarked that "what is needed is the widespread use of the many appropriate environmental technologies and management techniques that already exist". Seven key papers were delivered by WTO and UNEP consultants (see Annex) and, in three parallel working groups twenty-seven selected case studies (see Annex), were presented by the representatives of various regions and islands. Each of the three working groups concluded its work with a set of conclusions and recommendations which were then presented during the last plenary session.

The Conclusions presented in this document are based on the three proposed sets of conclusions and recommendations developed by the corresponding discussion groups, on the two working documents by WTO and UNEP, and on the presentations and questions raised during the three days of the Conference.

This report contains:

Part 1. Summary of main conclusions and recommendations

Part 2. Key issues for sustainable tourism in SIDS and other islands and areas of action at the national, regional and international levels.

Part 3. Annexes:

1. Conclusions and recommendations of the three working groups
2. List of reports and case studies presented at the Conference
3. Conference Programme of Work
4. List of participants

P A R T 1

SUMMARY OF MAIN CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

I. RECOMMENDATIONS AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

- tourism in SIDS should be considered as only one of the components of, and be fully integrated into, the overall sustainable development of the island;
- the challenges and opportunities for tourism development in the middle term and possible long-term scenarios should be considered;
- sustainable tourism in SIDS will require a change in mentality of all stakeholders in tourism development and management. It is thus essential that awareness campaigns and educational programmes be developed to reach the various stakeholders.

Sustainable development policy and planning

- planning should be based on a sound knowledge of, and take into account the conservation of, the natural and cultural resources of the island. In particular, fragile and richly endowed biodiversity ecosystems such as coral reefs and mangroves, and social values of the local communities should be considered;
- an integrated approach for the management of all resources and in particular coastal zones should be adopted;
- SIDS should consider the environmental and socio-cultural carrying capacity of the island in their tourism policy and strategy;
- all stakeholders and, in particular, local communities should be involved in the definition, planning and implementation of the sustainable tourism development policy and plan.

Tourism development and management

- local communities should be involved and reap benefits from tourism, and public and private partnerships developed;
- when applicable, not only the development but also the rehabilitation of tourism facilities and services should be considered;

- sustainable tourism in SIDS will require the development and adoption of alternative designs of tourism facilities, according to the characteristics of each island and with a view to ensuring a sustainable use of their natural resources. In particular, the use of renewable energy should be considered;
- development and adoption of ecoefficiency and cleaner production strategies and policies will also be required;
- the possibility and viability of introducing environmentally sound technologies should be considered;
- voluntary codes of conduct, industry standards and ecolabels should be adapted and tailored to suit particularities of SIDS; the promotion of best practices should be developed.

Monitoring of impacts

The monitoring of impacts is a necessary condition for sustainable development. This is even more important in SIDS given the characteristics of their natural and cultural environment. It is thus essential that SIDS:

- identify and develop sets of indicators for sustainable tourism in their countries contributing towards measuring sustainability;
- develop observatories of sustainable tourism development.

II. RECOMMENDATIONS AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL

Due to their small size and isolation, regional co-operation is one of the important conditions for sustainable development of SIDS. In particular:

- environmental regulations and standards should be harmonized for SIDS in the same region;
- voluntary industry codes, standards and ecolabels should also be considered, whenever possible, at the regional level;
- exchange of experience and dissemination of good practices from the social, environmental and economic points of view should be developed between SIDS from the same region;
- raising awareness campaigns and capacity building activities should be launched at the regional level whenever possible;
- SIDS could consider joining forces for facilitating the funding of sustainable tourism projects and activities.

Regional and international organizations should encourage and assist in this regional co-operation.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

International organizations, and in particular UNEP and WTO should :

- encourage SIDS to ratify, if not already done, international and regional conventions and help them to fulfil their commitments under these conventions (Regional Seas Conventions, Convention on Biological Diversity, World Heritage Site Convention, Montreal Protocol etc.);
- assist with the development and implementation of :
 - transfer of technology and know-how and more widely with sustainable development approaches in the tourism sector;
 - voluntary approaches such as codes of conduct and ecolabels;
 - indicators and observatories;
 - develop exchange of experiences at the international level on sustainable tourism in SIDS;
 - better disseminate existing pilot projects and good practices;
- develop or participate in raising awareness campaigns and capacity building activities for sustainable tourism.

As a direct follow-up of the Conference, UNEP and WTO should:

- jointly prepare and disseminate case studies of sustainable tourism in SIDS, based among others on the examples presented in the working groups at the Lanzarote conference;
- consider jointly convening regular meetings at the international and/ or regional levels, to discuss the various issues and possible solutions relating to sustainable tourism in SIDS.

PART 2

KEY ISSUES FOR SUSTAINABLE TOURISM IN SIDS AND OTHER ISLANDS

1. Islands and SIDS are extremely fragile integrated systems whose future development needs to be focused on sustainable and integrated options capable of reconciling the economy, human development and environmental conservation.
2. Tourism is a booming sector, with a strong capacity for transforming fragile environments, which constitutes both an opportunity and a challenge for islands and SIDS: an opportunity to diversify limited economic activities and employment in the islands, and a challenge, as tourism has considerable impacts on island systems, usually extremely vulnerable. These impacts need to be fully taken into account and properly managed.
3. Sustainable tourism development (STD) is becoming, all over the world and hence in SIDS and other islands, an irrevocable and irreversible demand on the part of tourists and local populations. Growing demands are made for quality surroundings in which environmental sustainability, nature, culture, exceptional places with an identity of their own and authenticity are considered to be key values in terms of tourism appeal and local quality of life. Thus, a positive interaction should be sought between tourism and environmental, socio-cultural and economic factors.
4. The viability of new sustainable tourism policies in SIDS and other islands is becoming increasingly conditioned by the very broad participation of all stakeholders. In particular, it will be impossible to multiply the economic effects of tourism, achieve positive social and cultural development or conserve island ecosystems and natural resources without making the local community jointly responsible for meeting these aims.
5. In order to steer tourism and island development towards sustainability, criteria, instruments and lines of action must be established and implemented forthwith. The “carrying capacity” of the island system in relation to tourism is all-important, and integrated long-term strategies must be introduced as a preventive measure. Delaying the application of sustainable policies until the emergence of problems of economic downturn and cultural or environmental degradation can make it very difficult, even unfeasible, to correct these processes.
6. Tourism development in SIDS and other islands is presently characterised by its expansive potential and by the unequal situation of islands and regions. In the last four years, 90% of SIDS have seen an increase in visitor numbers, but the regions of Africa and Asia/Pacific encompass the states which are finding it more difficult to make their corresponding tourism sectors take off.

7. On the other hand, in SIDS and other islands which are trying to launch or strengthen their tourism development, there is an overriding concern with problems which limit tourism growth in the short term - mainly air access, capital and infrastructure. The need to introduce sustainability criteria geared to preventing the emergence of serious socio-cultural and environmental imbalances in island systems in the future is not perceived as important yet.
8. In SIDS and other islands which have reached maturity without adopting sustainability criteria, problems which are difficult to resolve tend to arise in connection with the obsolescence and congestion of the tourism product, the poor economic integration of tourism in the island, the increasing degradation of the environment, and growing social intolerance towards tourism and imported labour.
9. In recent years, and particularly as a result of the Rio Conference in 1992 and the Barbados Conference in 1994, there has been evidence that various measures are being developed in SIDS and other islands trying to improve the integration of tourism in sustainable island development. Nonetheless, inter-island cooperation and information is still very weak and generally there is a shortage of specific knowledge and suitable indicators to evaluate the real situation. Available analyses do not incorporate the implications of the various levels of island development, and real experiences, which could expedite progress in STD in SIDS and other islands, are barely being divulged outside their territory.

**KEY ACTION AREAS AT STATE AND ISLAND LEVEL
FOR PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE TOURISM
AND ISLAND DEVELOPMENT**

A suitable institutional, legal framework and strategy

10. Set up, at the outset, an institutional and legal framework and strategy in line with the principles of STD, and with the characteristics and development level of each SIDS or island. More precisely, the jurisdictional capacities of island states constitute an extraordinary opportunity to institutionalise from the outset the sustainability of tourism policies. The possibility of establishing incentives and eco-taxes to reward good practices, boost the conservation of valuable resources and discourage undesirable impacts should be more widely considered.
11. Verify, from the outset the different tourism strategies and future scenarios. Consider the compatibility of economic, socio-cultural and environmental factors, and adopt those scenarios which are conducive to strengthening, at a suitable pace, sustainable options for the medium and long term. In this respect, the STD of SIDS and other islands can hinge on overcoming the attraction for swift and unlimited growth. The possibility to accommodate foreign-visitor affluence through flexible planning of the tourism product and the suitable management of gates of access to each island - ports and airports - should be considered.
12. Gear the tourism strategy towards the values and carrying capacities of each island, and towards the integration of a multi-thematic product which is as genuine, rich and diverse as possible. Preserve natural resources; extend the scope of tourism attractions; and increase the yields of tourism investments, stabilize employment, and rationalize the management of environmental resources. If appropriate, develop a product which is as deseasonalized as possible, if this helps to prevent human pressures on the environment.
13. Seek, right from the start, a broad island consensus relative to the preparation and development of sustainable tourism strategies and policies. Develop fora based on institutional leadership, consultation with private players and partnership with social representatives. These fora provide an opportunity to establish joint agreements, as well as to negotiate solutions to conflicts between the different visions and interests of each social group.

Integrated and preventive tourism planning

14. Develop instruments for preventive, concerted and flexible planning and management - Agenda 21, Integrated Tourism Plans, or other similar plans - which contribute to maximizing the integration of tourism in the island system, and define the extent and marshal the tourism development of each SIDS or island.

15. Make tourism compatible with the conservation of the main ecosystems (coral reefs, mangrove forests, land forests...), bio-diversity and natural resources. This requires the integration of tourism in regional planning and development geared to conserving the island's most valuable natural, rural and urban sites. The creation of Parks and Protected Sites is a suitable and compatible measure which serves to increase the value of tourism in the islands.
16. Anticipate measures for the conservation and sustainable development of the most vulnerable areas and those under the most pressure, particularly coastal zones, where specific coastal management plans and integrated systems should be developed. Assess tourism projects, create "coastal reserves", conserve coastal ecosystems and bio-diversity, harmonize the coexistence of tourism with all the other activities, and establish a mutually beneficial relationship with the interior of the island.
17. Pay special attention to making tourism compatible with the conservation-valuation of the historical-cultural heritage of each island, considering not only its protection for preventive purposes, but also its possible recovery as a responsibly managed tourism resource which is open to the local population.
18. Suitably evaluate the socio-cultural impact and population mobility generated by new tourism developments, and responsibly marshal and adjust their scale, rhythm and level of integration in the islands' urban infrastructure through regional planning and the programming of the corresponding tourism product in the different areas.
19. Suitably regulate the creation of new coastal facilities and nautical tourism activities. In the first case, this involves making a preliminary evaluation of any activity which, like sports centres, marinas, etc., is liable to distort the coastal dynamics with unpredictable long-term effects; in the second, it involves regulating activities which, like diving, fishing, etc., may have a negative effect on the conservation of habitats and the bio-diversity of island coasts.
20. Forestall the possible decline of the mature tourism coastal zones by promoting Concerted Integral Rehabilitation Plans with the local community and the private sector: improved integration in the surroundings, the modernization and diversification of the tourism product, the recovery of urban and environmental quality, restoration of tourism installations and marketing of a new image.
21. Promote and regulate appropriate siting and design procedures, introduce impact prevention instruments, and in particular Environmental Impact Assessment for tourism projects, and standards and incentives to promote responsible tourism, in particular, the reduction of resources consumption and generation of waste.

A sustainable orientation of the main policies and programmes of action: accessibility, economic resources, infrastructures and training

22. Define key policies for STD in each SIDS or island (investment capital, infrastructure, water plan, environmental protection...) together with new priorities and programmes of action. Consider the suitability of creating a Sustainable Tourism Development Agency in association with the private sector, in order to implement these policies and programmes.
23. Design a feasible and sustainable island access strategy (air and sea). In many islands poor access is undermining a balanced tourism development. All the possibilities for globalising and restructuring air transport must be gauged with a view to improving access to each island. In other islands which may be subject to excessive tourist pressure, suitably controlled and selective access is all-important in terms of preventing the carrying capacities of these islands from being exceeded. In all events, the islands should be aware that long-distance tourist arrivals generate an environmental bill for CO2 emissions and other gases with significant greenhouse effects. It is therefore necessary to combine the application of environmentally-responsible island policies with the procurement of international recognition of their exceptional dependence on transport to and from the island.
24. Make available the financial resources required for island tourism development, combining direct and indirect government action, joint measures with island private initiative, and scanning regional and international public and private banks for foreign capital. Promote linkages between tourism and the other economic sectors (including agriculture and fisheries), promoting a broad network of small and medium-sized local companies which multiply the economic spin-offs of tourism, extend the number of available small-scale services, and actively and beneficially integrate the local population. It should not be forgotten that the multiplier effect of tourism expenditure is economically, socially and environmentally far more interesting than the mere growth in visitor numbers.
25. Prior and flexible planning of investment in, and regulation of, tourism infrastructures to make them viable and ensure that they go hand in hand with tourism development, contribute their synergies with relation to island development, and minimize undesirable impacts. Refrain from attempting to resolve any excess in the destination's carrying capacity by simply increasing the number of infrastructures, since this will only contribute to magnifying degradation processes in the future.
26. Promote and undertake the training of entrepreneurial, professional and labour human resources at the private and public levels related with STD in SIDS and other islands. Analyse existing training programmes and facilities to define the gaps and necessary actions.

A responsible management of natural resources

27. Incorporate from the outset the tourism impact relative to key environmental factors in terms of their effect on the island environment (useful land, mobility, water, energy, materials, waste...), in global environmental problems (global warming, depletion of the ozone layer, the loss of biodiversity...); furthermore link tourism development to the sustainable planning and management of these factors in order to ensure its positive integration into their corresponding environments.
28. Design tourism strategies and projects which make provisions for a good relationship between the mobility they require and the impacts and costs they generate, placing priority on reducing movements and increasing the proximity of the services required, and providing incentives for voluntary use of collective transport for long distances and walking and cycling for short distances.
29. Establish and supervise water quality in the main bathing areas of the island, and design reliable information and certification systems, ideally integrated and with common criteria at regional level.
30. Conceive the use of water resources for tourism purposes in a zone, considering the “complete water cycle”, bearing in mind its priority uses in that zone, and introducing suitable measures for obtaining water (paying attention to aquifers and natural courses), ensuring water quality, saving, efficiency, purification, reuse, and clean spillage; all this is to be done in such a way that the new tourism projects not only do not increase water problems in the area but also contribute to resolving them. Avoid massive recourse to the desalination of sea water on account of the ensuing cost and energy bills.
31. Reduce energy consumption and control corresponding emissions in tourism projects: use of renewable energy (solar, wind...), bio-climatic design of construction projects, energy savings and increased efficiency of facilities in installations, etc.
32. Evaluate the effect of the waste generated by tourism developments and adopt solutions which do not destabilise existing waste management systems in each zone: reduce waste generation; avoid uncontrolled dumping; introduce selective waste collection, treatment and recycling systems; and reduce to a minimum and suitably manage the remaining waste fraction.
33. Adapt tourism constructions to the surroundings and local conditions by applying aesthetic criteria, bio-climatic design, use of suitable materials, and the application of systems and installations which reduce consumption of resources which are in short supply and the generation of undesirable emissions (CFCs, CO₂, N₂O, CH₄).

A commitment to environmental awareness, voluntary collaboration, and the monitoring of island development

34. The promotion of social awareness-raising campaigns regarding STD among all sectors and players directly and indirectly involved in tourism, is an indispensable requirement for tackling the cultural change it requires. These campaigns should be coordinated and disseminated in line with the characteristics of their specific audiences: tourism entrepreneurs, visitors, workers, general public, training centres.
35. Promote codes of conduct for sustainable tourism among all stakeholders in the tourism sector.
36. Promote the introduction of eco-labels as a tool for sustainable tourism.
37. Promote eco-audits and environmental quality management systems in the tourism sector (hotels, golf courses, marinas, etc) and make provisions to incorporate them in island regulations.
38. Monitor, on a permanent basis, the development of the main parameters related to tourism, quality of life and island sustainability, by creating island observatories which publicly and periodically evaluate the main indicators of the island system, and gauge the extent to which institutional programmes meet the aforementioned objectives.

KEY ACTION AREAS AT REGIONAL LEVEL FOR PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE TOURISM AND ISLAND DEVELOPMENT

39. Cooperation should be developed among islands in the same geographical region.
40. The boundaries of these regions should be based on common economic, cultural, political interests and goals, so that their delimitation is really operative.
41. Regional activities could include:
 - regional regulations and trans-boundary marine reserves;
 - fora on topics related with STD at regional level, the extension of common tourism policies and accreditation of standards, indicators, incentives and eco-taxes, etc, and draft voluntary codes of conduct and quality labels which contribute to improving and promoting an environmentally responsible image among tourism consumers;
 - services of common interest: information and contacts, multi-thematic technical support, a data bank of good practices, technical and sustainable management consultancy;
 - training courses and cycles for entrepreneurs, public servants and professionals;
 - inter-island networks to foster the exchange of experiences;
 - common marketing activities, entrepreneurial joint ventures, and contact with financial institutions.

KEY ACTION AREAS AT INTERNATIONAL LEVEL FOR PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE TOURISM AND ISLAND DEVELOPMENT

42. The international framework of SIDS and other islands is crucial in terms of evaluating situations and scenarios, formulating policies, facilitating access to resources, and developing guidelines from an international tourism perspective. One cannot lose sight of the present globalization process, nor of the fact that many of the major agreements and guidelines which affect SIDS are formulated at international fora, both institutional, mainly UN, and private, big business associations, investment funds...
43. At the international level, there are many organizations and institutions that have connections with SIDS, other islands and their sustainable development. Mention should be made of the following on account of their influence and operative importance: AOSIS, the SIDS Alliance, the UN and its departments and agencies (UNEP, UNDP, UNESCO and various others), the World Bank and regional development banks; and the World Tourism Organization. A Guide of functions and programmes on sustainable tourism development programmes at the international level should be promoted.
44. Many activities can be promoted and developed at the international level which include:
- Programme of proposals and initiatives to be presented to the international community, and the drafting of broad international agreements, related with STD in SIDS and other islands.
 - Analyses, indicators, statistics, forecasting and strategic guidelines on tourism and sustainable development in SIDS and other islands.
 - The holding of an International Conference and the awarding of a World Prize every two or three years with the presentation of a Report-Balance-Guidelines on STD in SIDS and other islands.
 - High-level training for tourism professionals and other players in SIDS, and theoretical and practical courses and seminars on key aspects of sustainable tourism planning and management in the islands.
 - Development of an information programme via Internet with basic contents and “good STD practices”...
 - Technical support and promotion of STD Demo-Projects.

ANNEX 1

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WORKING GROUPS

Working group No. 1 reached the following conclusions and recommendations:

1. It is clear that in the formulation of tourism and environmental development plans, it is vital to incorporate the participation of all stakeholders, and particularly the local communities. The incorporation of all stakeholders for consensus building has proven to be a key ingredient for success in several examples we studied in our group. Furthermore, participation should occur at all levels (from start to finish).
2. It is also important to begin thinking about formulating plans which look beyond the traditional 5, 10, 15 or 20 year planning horizons.
3. As it was demonstrated in the presentation on Cuba, governments can play a more active role in favoring new investments which not only meet their environmental requirements, but ones which go beyond and demonstrate more initiative. Companies which demonstrate environmental initiative should receive more recognition and reward from their governments.
4. Cooperation both within governments (between relevant ministries and agencies) and between governments (regionally and internationally) is vital.
5. International and regional organizations can play an important role in better assisting in the transfer of technology and knowhow and play a larger role in assisting in funding facilitation for small tourism projects.
6. Private sector operators should play an increasing role in educating their clients on environmental issues. Several operators have demonstrated how doing this can help tourism destinations to improve their environmental standards and encourage better environmental practices.

Working group N° 2 reached the following conclusions and recommendations:

1. Recognizing the fact that sustainable tourism is about continuous education with all stakeholders, the need arises for the implementation of awareness campaigns and educational programmes, so that the investment is focused on people not only physical development.
2. To safeguard the integrity of SIDS environments through an interdisciplinary approach, recognizing the importance of the interlinkages and functions of coastal and inland ecosystems.
3. To develop and adopt alternative designs of tourism facilities according to the characteristics of SIDS considering the viability of introducing sound environmental technologies.
4. To establish concrete mechanisms to fully handle conflicting interests whilst seeking to improve collaboration and the building of partnerships.
5. To promote the involvement and commitment of local communities in tourism development and decision making by building co-ownership and development of self-reliance processes such as in the case of the Soufrière Marine Management Area.
6. To assist in the reporting of the state of conservation of sites and cultural centres through research and on-going campaigns, recognising the World Heritage listing as a valuable tool for sustainable tourism development.
7. To develop tools such as codes of conduct, and promote best management practices as a means of contributing towards a sustainable tourism industry, bearing in mind the need for clear target audiences and a bottom-up approach.
8. To determine and monitor the environmental, socio and economic impacts of cruises, taking into account issues related to current trends in the cruise industry, such as destination oriented cruises versus megaships as destinations in their own right.
9. To promote tourism development that takes into account the environmental as well as the socio-cultural carrying capacities through the establishment of flexible thresholds.
10. To develop a set of tourism indicators to be used as comparative tools contributing towards measuring sustainability in small island States.
11. To promote information technology that can play a role through software packages such as GIS, in providing land use information that can also be used as a tool for planning, policy setting and management in SIDS.

12. To ensure that socio-cultural, environmental and economic costs are taken into account prior to developing tourism facilities, and that the combined costs do not outweigh any benefits to be accrued from such a proposed development.

GLOBAL CONCLUSION

Working Group 2 feels that this Conference should be an initiation of a process which needs to be taken up. Regular meetings would be much more fruitful than having a one-off meeting to discuss the various issues and problems relating to SIDS.

Working group N° 3 reached the following conclusions and recommendations:

Pre-requisites

1. Sustainable Tourism must take place within a framework and content of nation development and linked to all other sectors, productive or otherwise.
2. Juxtapositioning of economic development, social equity and environmental sustainability.
3. Sustainable tourism initiatives must be economically viable and internationally competitive
4. Adequate financial and human resources
5. Adequate air transportation

General comments

Sustainable tourism must be planned within a well articulated strategy:

- Intersectoral
- Community participation
- Integrated planning
- Sustainable use of natural resources
- Identify mitigation for possible impacts of various forms of proposed tourism
- Set up an Action Programme
- Identify indicators for monitoring goals and objective of strategy
- Identify appropriate institutional mechanisms for implementing strategy

Some selected tools for Sustainable Tourism are:

- Parks and Protected Areas
- Environmental standards and regulations - these standards should be harmonised for SIDS in a similar region
- Industry Standards e.g. ecolabelling, should be adapted and tailored to suit peculiarities of regional SIDS
- Community participation in the planning, development and management of sustainable tourism initiatives
- Limits of acceptable charge - carry capacity
- Industry certification - ecoefficiency, cleaner production.

The involvement of host communities and communities in buffer zones to touristic sites is very important. The issues that arise are:

1. How to mobilise the community
2. Processes for community involvement:
 - community development
 - training
 - entrepreneurial developments
 - access to funding
3. Economic viability of community based tourism

ANNEX 2

LIST OF REPORTS AND CASE STUDIES PRESENTED AT THE CONFERENCE

Reports by WTO and UNEP

- *Tourism, environment and sustainable development in islands: 15 ideas and 9 cases for debate*, presented by Mr. Fernando Prats, WTO expert
- *Towards Sustainable Tourism Development*, presented by Mr. Ken Chamberlain, UNEP IE Advisor
- *Air and land transport and sustainable tourism in islands*, presented by Mr. François Vellas, WTO expert
- *Air transport and SIDS, market and regulatory aspects*, presented by Mr. Richard Smithies, Assistant Director, IATA
- *Nautical tourism in small island states and other islands*, presented by Mr. Philippe Duchene, WTO consultant
- *How to keep your island small*, presented by Mr. Nico Visser, UNEP IE Advisor, Former Environmental Coordinator for the Dutch Antilles
- *Involvement of local communities in tourism development and the economic impact in small island developing states*, presented by Ms. Auliana Poon, WTO consultant

Case Studies

- *Air transport and its importance for the development of tourism in small islands*, presented by Ms. Aida Duarte Silva, Director, Center for the Promotion of Tourism Investment and Export (PROMEX), Cape Verde
- *Education and training to support sustainable tourism efforts in the wider Caribbean region*, presented by Dr. Alida Ortiz, Coordinator, Consortium of Caribbean Universities for Natural Resources Management, University of Puerto Rico
- *Environmental considerations in nautical tourism in the BVI*, presented by Mr. Clive Petrovic, Senior Lecturer, H. Laverty Stouff Community College, British Virgin Islands

- ***Final recommendations from the Turkey workshop on sustainable tourism practices***, presented by Ms Elisabeth Coudert, Officer, The Blue Plan for the Mediterranean, UNEP/RAC
- ***Hotel Quality Certification***, presented by Ms. Elena Angel, Asociación Insular de Empresarios de Hoteles y Apartamentos de Lanzarote (ASOLAN)
- ***Lanzarote in the Biosphere Strategy***, presented by Mr. Fernando Prats, WTO expert
- ***Levuka Heritage Project – A Designated World Heritage Site in Fiji***, presented by Mr. Rajeshwar Singh, Director of Tourism, Fiji
- ***Local community involvement in tourism and its economic impacts***, presented by Mr Frederick Hosea, Planner, National Tourism Development Office, Vanuatu
- ***Planning Authority’s Tourism and Recreation Subject Study***, presented by Mr. Alan Vella, Planning Officer, Malta Planning Authority, Malta
- ***Rural local community involvement and economic impacts***, presented by Mr. Adam Delaney, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Papua New Guinea to the United Nations
- ***Saint Lucia Nature Heritage Tourism Programme***, presented by Mr. Percival McDonald, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Tourism, Civil Aviation and International Financial Services, Saint Lucia
- ***Soufrière Marine Management Area and local community involvement***, presented by Mr. Kai Wulf, Manager Soufrière Marine Management Area, St. Lucia
- ***Sustainable Tourism Development within a World Heritage Area – A Successful Story***, presented by Mr. Benjamin Devi, Deputy Director of Tourism, Solomon Islands
- ***Sustainable tourism in small island States: the case of the Eastern Caribbean***, presented by Dr. Vasantha Chase, Head of the Natural Resources Management Unit, Organization of Eastern Caribbean States
- ***Sustainable Tourism: the Cuban Experience***, presented by Dr. Gisela Alonso, Director for Environmental Policy, Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment (CITMA), Cuba
- ***The Blue and John Crow Mountain National Park – Working with Communities for Sustainable Development***, presented by Ms. Jennifer Griffith, Tourism Planner, Office of the Prime Minister (Tourism Division), Jamaica
- ***The Blue Flag Experience***, presented by Ms. Lene Andersen, International Coordinator, Foundation for Environmental Education in Europe

- ***The Code of Conduct for Marine Recreation***, presented by Ms. Elizabeth Halpenny, The Ecotourism Society
- ***The cruise industry in the Mediterranean***, presented by Ms. Joanna Despotopoulou, Public Affairs Director, Royal Olympic Cruises, Greece
- ***The design and implementation of the Code of Conduct for Marinas in the Caribbean Region***, presented by Mr. Justin Paul, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Works and Transport, Trinidad and Tobago
- ***The Galapagos sustainable tourism strategy***, presented by Mr. David Parra, Advisor, Charles Darwin Foundation for the Galapagos Islands, Ecuador
- ***The importance of air transport for the development of tourism in small islands***, presented by Ms. Sonja Hunter, General Manager, Samoa Visitors Bureau
- ***The OCS Caribbean Sustainable Tourism Zone***, presented by Mr. Francisco Madrid, Director General of Tourist Policy, Ministry of Tourism, Mexico
- ***The tour operators' perspective in sustainable tourism***, presented by Dr. Michael Iwand, Executive Director, Touristik Union International (TUI), Germany
- ***Tourism and the Environment in Cyprus***, presented by Ms. Athena Metaxas, Cyprus Tourism Organization
- ***Tourism and the International Coral Reef Initiative***, presented by Mr. Bernard Salvat, UNEP Expert
- ***Tourism in Natural World Heritage Sites***, presented by Mr. Art Pedersen, Consultant, UNESCO World Heritage Center
- ***Tourism in small islands: how the UNEP Regional Seas Programme can foster sustainable tourism***, presented by Mrs. Monica Borobia, Programme Officer, UNEP/CAR-RCU

ANNEX 3

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME OF WORK

Sunday, 25 October 1998

5.45 p.m. Welcome Reception at *Los Jameos del Agua* auditorium

Monday, 26 October 1998

- 9 a.m. – 9.45 a.m. **Opening session**
- *Mr. Enrique Pérez Parrilla, President, Cabildo Insular de Lanzarote*
 - *Mrs. Jacqueline Aloisi de Larderel, Director, Technology, Industry and Economics Division, United Nations Environment Programme*
 - *Message from Mr. Adam Delaney, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Papua New Guinea to the United Nations, on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS)*
 - *Mr. Francesco Frangialli, Secretary-General, World Tourism Organization*
- 9.45 a.m. – 10.15 a.m. Coffee break
- 10.15 a.m. – 12.45 p.m. **Session 1 - Challenges of sustainability in small islands**
- Fiji*
- Chair person: *Mr. Rajeshwar Singh, Director of Tourism,*
- Moderator: *Mr. Dawid de Villiers, Deputy Secretary-General, World Tourism Organization*
- Speakers: *Mr. Fernando Prats, WTO expert – **Tourism, environment and sustainable development in islands: 15 ideas and 9 cases for debate***
*Mr. Ken Chamberlain, UNEP IE Advisor - **Towards Sustainable Tourism Development***
*Mr. Nico Visser, UNEP IE Advisor, Former Environmental Coordinator for the Dutch Antilles - **How to keep your island small***

12.45 p.m. – 2.00 p.m. Buffet lunch (Beatriz Hotel)

- 2.00 p.m. – 3.15 p.m. **Session 2 - Nautical Tourism in SIDS**
- Chair person: *Mr. Percival McDonald, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Tourism, Civil Aviation and International Financial Services, Saint Lucia*
- Moderator: *Mrs. Hélène Genot, Tourism Programme, Industry and Environment, UNEP*
- Speakers: *Mr. Philippe Duchene, WTO expert – Nautical tourism in small island states and other islands*
Mr. Bernard Salvat, UNEP Expert – Tourism and the International Coral Reef Initiative
- 3.15 p.m. – 3.45 p.m. Coffee break
- 3.45 p.m. – 5.00 p.m. **Session 3 - Air Transport and Tourism in SIDS**
- Chair person: *Mr. Ibrahim Hussain Zaki, Minister of Tourism, Maldives*
- Moderator: *Mr. Eugenio Yunis, Chief, Environment, Planning & Finance, WTO*
- Speakers: *Mr. François Vellas, WTO expert – Air and land transport and sustainable tourism in islands*
Mr. Richard Smithies, Assistant Director, IATA - Air transport and SIDS, market and regulatory aspects
- 5.00 p.m. – 5.45 p.m. **Session 4 - Local community involvement and economic impact of tourism in SIDS**
- Moderator: *Mr. Eugenio Yunis, Chief, Environment, Planning & Finance, WTO*
- Speaker: *Ms. Auliana Poon, WTO expert – Involvement of local communities in tourism development and the economic impact in small island developing states*
- 6 p.m. Visit to the *National Park of Timanfaya*. Gala dinner

Tuesday, 27 October 1998

9.30 a.m. – 6.30 p.m.

Three Working Groups worked in parallel, each discussing around 9 case studies and drawing conclusions and recommendations. Each group was chaired by a SIDS representative and the WTO and UNEP experts acted as moderators / facilitators.

Working Group 1

- *Dr. Gisela Alonso*, Director for Environmental Policy, Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment (CITMA), Cuba – ***Sustainable Tourism: the Cuban Experience***
- *Ms. Athena Metaxas*, Cyprus Tourism Organization - ***Tourism and the Environment in Cyprus***
- *Mr. Clive Petrovic*, Senior Lecturer, H. Lavity Stoutt Community College, British Virgin Islands – ***Environmental considerations in nautical tourism in the BVI***

- *Dr. Michael Iwand*, Executive Director, Touristik Union International (TUI) – ***The tour operators' perspective in sustainable tourism***
- *Mr. Francisco Madrid*, Director General of Tourist Policy, Ministry of Tourism, Mexico – ***The OCS Caribbean Sustainable Tourism Zone***

- *Ms. Lene Andersen*, International Coordinator, Foundation for Environmental Education in Europe - ***The Blue Flag Experience***
- *Mr. Benjamin Devi*, Deputy Director of Tourism, Solomon Islands - ***Sustainable Tourism Development within the World Heritage Area – A Successful Story***

Working Group 2

- *Mr. Kai Wulf*, Manager Soufrière Marine Management Area, St. Lucia - ***Soufrière Marine Management Area and local community involvement***
- *Ms. Elizabeth Halpenny*, The Ecotourism Society – ***The Code of Conduct for Marine Recreation***
- *Ms. Joanna Despotopoulou*, Public Affairs Director, Royal Olympic Cruises – ***The cruise industry in the Mediterranean***

- *Ms. Sonja Hunter*, General Manager, Samoa Visitors Bureau – ***The importance of air transport for the development of tourism in small islands***
- *Dr. Alida Ortiz*, Coordinator, Consortium of Caribbean Universities for Natural Resources Management, University of Puerto Rico – ***Education and training to support sustainable tourism efforts in the wider Caribbean region***
- *Mrs. Monica Borobia*, Programme Officer, UNEP/CAR-RCU – ***Tourism in small islands: how the UNEP Regional Seas Programme can foster sustainable tourism***

- *Mr. Art Pedersen*, Consultant, UNESCO World Heritage Center – ***Tourism in Natural World Heritage Sites***
- *Mr. Adam Delaney*, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Papua New Guinea to the United Nations - ***Rural local community involvement and economic impacts***
- *Mr. Alan Vella*, Planning Officer, Malta Planning Authority, Malta – ***Planning Authority's Tourism and Recreation Subject Study***

Working Group 3

- *Ms. Elisabeth Coudert*, Officer, The Blue Plan for the Mediterranean, UNEP/RAC – ***Final recommendations from the Turkey workshop on sustainable tourism practices***
- *Dr. Vasantha Chase*, Head of Unit, Natural Resources Management Unit, Organization of Eastern Caribbean States - ***Sustainable tourism in small island States: the case of the Eastern Caribbean***
- *Mr. Fernando Prats*, WTO expert - ***Lanzarote in the Biosphere Strategy***

- *Mr. David Parra*, Advisor, Charles Darwin Foundation for the Galapagos Islands. Ecuador – ***The Galapagos sustainable tourism strategy***
- *Ms. Elena Angel*, Asociación Insular de Empresarios de Hoteles y Apartamentos de Lanzarote (ASOLAN) - ***Hotel Quality Certification***
- *Mr. Justin Paul*, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Work and Transport, Trinidad and Tobago – ***The design and implementation of the Code of Conduct for Marinas in the Caribbean Region***

- *Ms. Aida Duarte Silva*, Director, Center for the Promotion of Tourism Investment and Export (PROMEX), Cape Verde – *Air transport and its importance for the development of tourism in small islands*
- *Mr. Percival McDonald*, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Tourism, Civil Aviation and International Financial Services, Saint Lucia – *Saint Lucia Nature Heritage Tourism Programme*
- *Ms. Jennifer Griffith*, Tourism Planner, Office of the Prime Minister (Tourism Division), Jamaica – *The Blue and John Crow Mountain National Park – Working with Communities for Sustainable Development*

Wednesday, 28 October 1998

9.30 a.m. – 11 a.m. **Plenary session for presentation of conclusions and recommendations of the three working groups**

11 a.m. – 11.30 a.m. Coffee break

11.30 a.m. – 1.00 p.m. **Closing session**

Final conclusions and recommendations

Chaired by *Mr. Enrique Pérez Parrilla*, President of *Cabildo Insular de Lanzarote*, and Co-Chaired by *Mr. Deo Oodit*, Head of *UN SIDS Unit*, *Mrs Hélène Genot*, *UNEP*, and *Mr. Eugenio Yunis*, *WTO*

Rapporteur: *Mr. Fernando Prats*, *WTO Consultant*

4 p.m. – 7 p.m. Technical visits in Lanzarote

ANNEX 4

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