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## FRAMEWORK FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF GUIDELINES FOR ACTIVITIES RELATED TO SUSTAINABLE TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AND BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY IN VULNERABLE TERRESTRIAL, MARINE AND MOUNTAIN ECOSYSTEMS

Note by the Executive Secretary

#### INTRODUCTION

- 1. This paper describes the purpose and approach for the Workshop on sustainable tourism and biodiversity, to be held in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, from 4 to 7 June 2001. It outlines:
  - (a) The information inputs that form the starting point for the Workshop;
  - (b) The intended outputs of the Workshop; and
  - (c) The process for generating these outputs during the course of the Workshop.

#### I. PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF THE WORKSHOP

- 2. The purpose of the Workshop on Biological Diversity and Tourism is to develop international guidelines on sustainable tourism and biodiversity in accordance with decision V/25 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity. The objectives of the guidelines will be to assist Parties to the Convention and public authorities and stakeholders at all levels, to apply the provisions of the Convention to the sustainable development and management of tourism activities. In the context of the Convention, guidance for addressing ecosystem and biodiversity management is given by the ecosystem approach, as set out in decision V/6 of the Conference of the Parties, which provides a framework for action under the Convention.
- 3. The international guidelines on sustainable tourism and biodiversity to be developed in this Workshop will provide technical guidance to policy-makers, decision makers and managers with

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<sup>\*</sup> UNEP/CBD/WS-Tourism/1.

responsibilities covering tourism and/or biodiversity, whether in national or local government, the private sector, indigenous and local communities, non-governmental organizations or other organizations, on ways of working together with key stakeholders involved in tourism and biodiversity in order to contribute to:

- (a) Conservation of ecosystem structure and functioning;
- (b) Sustainable tourism in ecosystems conserving their structure and functioning;
- (c) Fair and equitable sharing of benefits;
- (d) Information and capacity-building;
- (e) Restoration of past damage.
- 4. The international guidelines to be developed in this Workshop should focus on technical guidance to facilitate implementation of such principles and concepts, and on establishing effective linkages between tourism management and biodiversity management. They will build on principles and concepts that have already been established through international processes.
- 5. As part of the guidelines, the Workshop should also make recommendations concerning the implementation of the guidelines, including public education and awareness raising activities, and monitoring of compliance, and of follow-up activities contributing to their implementation. In addition, the Workshop should consider making recommendations for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) on transmitting the guidelines to other international forums, including the Commission on Sustainable Development at its session in 2002.
- 6. This paper proposes the main elements that the Workshop should consider in developing guidelines. These elements are:
  - (a) Framework for management of tourism and biodiversity;
  - (b) Notification process in relation to such a management framework;
  - (c) Public education and awareness raising concerning tourism and biodiversity;
  - (d) Monitoring of implementation of and compliance with the guidelines.
- 7. It is suggested that the technical guidance to be prepared by this Workshop should cover each of these elements. In addition, participants may also wish to make recommendations concerning capacity building and training needs to assist with the implementation of the guidelines.
- 8. The Workshop is the first step in the process, and the outcomes of the Workshop will be transmitted to other forums, including SBSTTA at its seventh session, in November 2001, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its sixth meeting, in April 2002, and the Commission on Sustainable Development at its tenth session, which will further the initiative launched through this Workshop and decision V/25.
- 9. The Workshop will be structured around a consideration of how this management framework, and associated notification process, is applied most effectively in relation to tourism, biodiversity, and the role and involvement of host communities, especially indigenous and local communities, so as to implement the principles and concepts of sustainable tourism and biodiversity conservation and sustainable use. Based on its consideration of those issues, the Workshop will develop guidance on

sustainable tourism and biodiversity, and on an integrated approach to management of tourism and biodiversity. The Workshop structure and process are described in more detail in section IV below.

#### II. WORKSHOP INFORMATION INPUTS

#### A. Information inputs forming starting points for the Workshop

- 10. Three main sources of information will need to be taken into account in the development of international guidelines for sustainable tourism and biodiversity:
- (a) Information on sustainable tourism, and related information summarizing the broad system requirements and tools to support the effective implementation of sustainable tourism, provided through an analysis of existing codes, guidelines, principles and position papers at the international level that relate to sustainable tourism. The results of this analysis are presented in the document prepared for the Workshop entitled "Compilation and analysis of existing codes, guidelines, principles and position papers on sustainable tourism" (UNEP/CBD/WS-Tourism/INF/1);
- (b) The ecosystem approach of the Convention on Biological Diversity, which sets out the Convention's approach to management of ecosystems and biodiversity, and related information. An analysis of the ecosystem approach and its relationship to sustainable tourism is presented in the section II C of the overview of tourism and biodiversity issues, and appropriate management approaches (UNEP/CBD/WS-Tourism/3);
- (c) Information from specific stakeholders setting out the approaches that they have adopted in addressing their responsibilities in relation to sustainable development, ecosystem management, and biodiversity conservation (e.g., approaches set out by Governments, ecosystem managers, the tourism industry, community-based organizations, non-governmental organizations). This information will be provided through the Workshop participants, who have experience of management of both tourism and biodiversity.
- 11. The Workshop will need to consider how these different but complementary approaches can be integrated with each other, and how any gaps that there may be between them may be addressed. In so doing, it will be helpful to consider the way in which certain aspects of the ecosystem approach and actions identified in the context of this approach, can most effectively be applied in the context of tourism.

#### B. Existing principles, guidelines, etc., on sustainable tourism

- 12. As part of the preparations for this Workshop, an analysis of the international principles and guidelines are already available on sustainable tourism, on biodiversity, and on the management of tourism and biodiversity, has been undertaken. This is presented in the above-mentioned compilation and analysis of existing international documents relating to sustainable tourism. The key conclusions of this analysis are:
- (a) Principles and guidelines on sustainable tourism acknowledge the importance of biodiversity, but guidance so far available is very general, and detailed technical guidance is needed on how to implement and manage tourism in relation to biodiversity;
- (b) Guidelines that are formulated specifically on tourism and biodiversity focus mainly on protected areas and the requirements of protected area managers;

- (c) All the principles and guidelines analysed contain extensive common and complementary elements no cases were found where one principle or guideline was in conflict with another:
- (d) There are no internationally accepted guidelines currently available that provide a fully integrated approach to the general management of sustainable tourism and biodiversity, and which address the technical issues of implementation of internationally-agreed principles in these areas.

#### C. Implications of the ecosystem approach in relation to tourism

- 13. The principles and operational guidance elements of the ecosystem approach have also been analysed. The key conclusions from this analysis on the implications of the ecosystem approach in relation to tourism and biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, are as follows:
- (a) A broad consensus relative to the planning and management of sustainable tourism by all stakeholders, affected and interested groups, is the basis for future and long-term success. Setting objectives for tourism and for biodiversity is a matter of societal choices and should be decentralized to the lowest appropriate level, with involvement and participation of all stakeholders;
- (b) Intact ecosystems and biodiversity are important in providing the quality environments on which tourism depends, and tourism should contribute to their conservation, restore any past damage associated with tourism, and minimize adverse effects. A balanced co-existence needs to be achieved between the use and the conservation of ecosystems, and tourism development and activities, in all areas;
- (c) Equitable sharing of benefits with host communities where tourism takes place, especially indigenous and local communities, who are affected by and/or involved in tourism activities, is an important part of the management and sustainable use of ecosystems, and of making tourism sustainable;
- (d) Local people should be empowered to be involved in the planning and management of sustainable tourism activities, through capacity-building and by creating a strong framework for decision-making incorporating public participation of the broader community;
- (e) Development should not take place without adequate baseline research and information, and environmental impact assessments, including assessment of cumulative impacts and alternative options. Conditions should be set for management to avoid or minimise anticipated impacts, and incentives for the development and operation of sustainable tourism consistent with national and local objectives for biodiversity, should be established. Furthermore, the internalization of external costs is an important element for the successful management of sustainable tourism;
- (f) Tourism and biodiversity are both highly dynamic, and therefore regular monitoring and use indicators are important in adjusting management to ensure that tourism and biodiversity remain in balance, and that overall goals and objectives are reached.

#### III. PROPOSED OUTPUTS FROM THE WORKSHOP

#### A. Development of technical guidelines

14. The technical guidelines to be prepared by the Workshop should provide a more detailed framework for implementation of agreed principles and concepts, as well as general guidance on priorities and available tools for implementation. The guidelines can also indicate in more detail, the

various responsibilities of different stakeholders for undertaking practical action to implement broad principles and concepts.

- 15. It is suggested that the technical guidance to be prepared by this Workshop should cover the following four elements:
  - (a) Framework for management of tourism and biodiversity;
  - (b) Notification process in relation to such a management framework;
  - (c) Public education and awareness raising concerning tourism and biodiversity;
  - (d) Monitoring of implementation of, and compliance with guidelines.
- 16. Participants may also wish to make recommendations concerning capacity building and training needs to assist with the implementation of the guidelines.

#### B. Framework for management of tourism and biodiversity

- 17. Based on analysis of existing international principles and guidelines are already available on sustainable tourism, on biodiversity, and on the management of tourism and biodiversity, and on the provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity, it is suggested that the following sequence of ten management steps, each of which can incorporate public participation and can be applied iteratively, could provide a basis for management of sustainable tourism and biodiversity:
  - (a) Baseline information and review;
  - (b) Vision and goals;
  - (c) Objectives based on vision and goals
  - (d) Review of legislation and control measures;
  - (e) Impact assessment (also links to the notification process)
  - (f) Impact management;
  - (g) Decision making (also links to the notification process)
  - (h) Implementation
  - (i) Monitoring control and surveillance;
  - (j) Adaptive management.
- 18. An outline of each management step is provided in annex I below.
- 19. It should be noted that each of the management process steps should include strong local community involvement in decision-making on use of biodiversity resources, and participation in tourism.

- 20. The Workshop should consider providing technical guidance on both an overall framework for the management of tourism and biodiversity, and on implementation of each management step within that framework. For each step, technical guidance should consider describing:
  - (a) Actions necessary for effective implementation;
  - (b) Information requirements;
  - (c) Tools and means that can be used for implementation;
  - (d) Responsibilities of the various stakeholders;
  - (e) Other stakeholders who should be involved and consulted.
    - C. Notification of tourism development, and planning and decision-making, within the management framework for tourism and biodiversity
- 21. The Workshop should consider providing technical guidance for a process for notification of proposals for, and requests for permission to undertake, tourism development to the relevant authorities: in some cases, adequate notification of the relevant authorities may already be provided through the planning process, while in others, either a strengthening of planning process provisions, or implementation of new processes, may be necessary. Guidance could be provided guidance on who should be notified, when and how in relation to proposed tourism activities and biodiversity.
- 22. The notification process is an essential element that makes the link between proposers of tourism activities and development, and the management process steps outlined above. In particular, the notification process links to the management process steps for impact assessment and decision-making.
- 23. The guidelines could also outline categories of responses that governments may wish to consider making in response to notification of proposals for, and requests for permission to undertake, tourism development. These may include, *inter alia*:
  - (a) Approval without conditions;
  - (b) Approval with conditions;
  - (c) Request for further information from proposer;
  - (d) Deferral pending further baseline research by other agencies;
  - (e) Refusal of the proposal.
- 24. For example, Governments might decide that there is not sufficient contextual/baseline information available to them at the time, or that they had not developed their overall goals sufficiently to make a decision. In such cases, all decisions should be deferred pending the obtaining of sufficient information and/or completion of government plans / goals.

#### D. Public education and awareness raising

25. Article 13 of the Convention on Biological Diversity addresses the issue of public education and awareness, and calls on Parties to the Convention to "[p]romote and encourage understanding of the importance of, and measures required for, the conservation of biological diversity, ....". It is suggested that the Workshop should consider providing guidance on public education and awareness-raising

concerning the relationship between tourism and biodiversity, and concerning the technical guidelines on tourism and biodiversity and their implementation.

26. For example, public-education and awareness-raising campaigns could be carried out reaching both the professional sectors and the general public and informing them about the needs and good practices of sustainable tourism and biological diversity. The private sector, and especially tour operators, could provide information more widely to their clients – the tourists – about tourism and biodiversity issues, and encourage them to respect the needs of biodiversity and to support actions in conformity with the guidelines. The guidelines could provide guidance on these and related areas.

#### E. Monitoring and assessment of guidelines

- 27. To be effective in promoting sustainable tourism and bioiversity conservation and sustainable use, the guidelines developed at this Workshop will need to be implemented. It is therefore important that the guidelines should address mechanisms for compliance to ensure that tourism is sustainable and respects the requirements of conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and its components. Therefore, the implementation of, and compliance with, the guidelines should be monitored, and it is suggested that the Workshop should consider providing technical guidance on such monitoring, and on reporting the findings from such monitoring, including provision of information to the public to allow broad discussion of tourism practices, and reporting to the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity for consideration by the Convention organs, such as the Conference of the Parties and SBSTTA.
- 28. The Workshop could consider addressing feasible and appropriate measures that States and in particular Parties to the Convention should take to promote compliance with guidelines. For example, measures by Governments could include ensuring that actions taken by public authorities, such as tourism planning, environmental impact assessment, licensing, infrastructure measures or management of protected areas or other components of biological diversity, are in conformity with the guidelines. Governments could also compile information about tourism practices in relation to the guidelines, and on implementation of the guidelines, including information covering governmental actions and the practices of the private sector.
- 29. Measures by the private sector, covering both businesses and business associations, could include: making the guidelines part of their sustainable tourism policies; compiling and publishing regular reports on tourism practices and biodiversity; cooperating actively with Governments to support the development of sustainable practices in tourism planning, infrastructure and biodiversity management; and ensuring that practices not in conformity with the guidelines are abandoned.

#### Assessment of the guidelines

- 30. Based on experienced gained through implementation of these guidelines, and on monitoring, the guidelines could be reviewed and assessed periodically, so as to ensure that they are effective, adequate and conducive to their goals. Where necessary and appropriate, the guidelines could be revised in the light of experiences made by all stakeholders in tourism and biological diversity. The Workshop should therefore consider providing guidance on a review process to ensure the periodic review and updating of the guidelines where necessary.
- 31. It is suggested that the guidelines on sustainable tourism and biodiversity should be assessed periodically, at the latest (5) years after their adoption.
- 32. Assessment should be based on information provided by Governments and other tourism stakeholders, including non-governmental organisations, business associations or international

organisations. The assessment should be facilitated by the Secretariat of the Convention and carried out by the SBSTTA. If need be, the guidelines should be revised and further developed to reflect governmental and business practices.

- F. Recommendations to SBSTTA on transmittal of guidelines to the Conference of the Parties, the Commission on Sustainable Development and other international processes
- 33. The guidelines document discussed and possibly adopted at the Workshop in June 2001 should be transmitted to SBSTTA at it seventh meeting. After consideration, SBSTTA may wish to transmit the document to the tenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development for consideration in the context of the topic of sustainable tourism. The document may also be transmitted to the Conference of the Parties to the Convention of Biological Diversity for consideration and formal endorsement at its sixth meeting, in April 2002.

#### IV. WORKSHOP STRUCTURE AND PROCESS

#### A. Workshop structure and process for generating outputs

- 34. The Workshop will be structured around the consideration of how this management framework, and associated notification process, is applied most effectively in relation to tourism, biodiversity, and the role and involvement of host communities, especially indigenous and local communities, so as to implement the principles and concepts of sustainable tourism and biodiversity conservation and sustainable use. Based on this, the Workshop will develop guidance on sustainable tourism and biodiversity, and on an integrated approach to management of tourism and biodiversity.
- 35. The tasks of the Workshop will therefore be based on the following matrix, which will be used iteratively to structure discussions throughout the Workshop, and to record conclusions at each stage of the Workshop:

		Management of:		Role and involvement of
		Tourism & activities	Biodiversity resources	host communities
Management framework steps				
•	Baseline information and review			
•	Vision and goals			
•	Objectives			
•	Review of legislation and control measures			

	Management of:		Role and involvement of
	Tourism & activities	Biodiversity resources	host communities
• Impact assessment			
Impact management			
Decision making			
Implementation			
Monitoring control and surveillance			
Adaptive management			
Notification process			
Public education and awareness raising			
Monitoring of implementation of and compliance with the guidelines			

- 36. The Workshop will address three main questions in sequence:
  - (a) What can / should be done in relation to:
    - (i) Each step in the management framework?
    - (ii) The notification process?
    - (iii) Public education and awareness raising?
    - (iv) Monitoring of implementation of & compliance with guidelines?
  - (b) How can these requirements be implemented?
    - (i) What measures and tools are available?
    - (ii) How do these fit within the overall framework for sustainable tourism?
  - (c) Which stakeholders have responsibility for implementation of these requirements?

- (i) Promote a better understanding between stakeholders of their differentiated roles and their shared responsibility to make tourism sustainable.
- (ii) Encourage development of partnerships with primary stakeholders to give them ownership shares in projects and a shared responsibility for success.
- 37. In addressing the above questions, participants may wish to take into account the annexes below:
  - (a) Annex I: Management process steps and notification process outline descriptions;
- (b) Annex II: Examples of objectives for the major actors to which the guidelines are addressed;
- (c) Annex III: Collated list of tools identified for promotion of sustainable tourism and biodiversity conservation.
- 38. The discussions and conclusions of the Workshop in relation to each of the central questions will provide the basis or guidelines addressed to the various major actors involved in tourism and biodiversity. The final stage of the Workshop will draw together the results of the first stages of the Workshop into overall guidelines on tourism and biodiversity, which will be the output of the Workshop, and which will be agreed through plenary discussions with the participants.
- 39. To assist the Workshop discussions, examples of objectives for the various major actors involved in tourism and biodiversity are given in annex II below, along with examples of tools (annex III) that could be used to implement principles, etc. for sustainable tourism, and which are relevant in the context of tourism and biodiversity. Participants are invited to consider these objectives and tools during the Workshop and in the development of guidelines on tourism and biodiversity.

#### B. Structure for the guidelines to be developed in the Workshop

- 40. It is proposed that the guidelines to be developed in the Workshop could be structured as follows:
  - (a) General introduction;
- (b) Description of the overall elements covered in the guidelines (i.e., management framework; notification process; public education and awareness raising; monitoring of implementation of and compliance with guidelines);
- (c) Guidance on the implementation of each element, and associated sub-elements as appropriate, including guidance for each element and/or sub-element concerning:
  - (i) Actions necessary for effective implementation;
  - (ii) Information requirements;
  - (iii) Tools and means that can be used for implementation;
  - (iv) Responsibilities of the various stakeholders;
  - (v) Other stakeholders who should be involved and consulted;
  - (d) Capacity-building and training needs for implementation of the guidelines;

(e) Any further information considered necessary by the Workshop participants to provide assistance with implementation of the guidelines could be presented in annexes.

#### Annex I

## MANAGEMENT PROCESS STEPS AND NOTIFICATION PROCESS — OUTLINE DESCRIPTIONS

#### A. Management process steps

The management process would primarily be managed by Governments, with inputs from and involvement of other relevant stakeholders as appropriate to each step. Information will need to be input into the management process by all stakeholders; and throughout the management process, it is important for Governments to consult with and involve all relevant stakeholders, and especially to ensure strong involvement of indigenous and local communities in decision-making on use of biodiversity resources, and their participation in tourism. In addition, those responsible for tourism developments and activities are encouraged to themselves consult with and involve all relevant stakeholders, and especially those who are or may be affected by such developments and activities.

It is suggested that the Workshop consider providing technical guidance on implementation of each management step within the overall management framework. In developing such guidance, participants may wish to consider both the descriptions, and the need for guidance in relation to the descriptions, of each management step, that are provided in the following table:

#### Baseline information and review

Baseline information is necessary to enable informed decisions to be taken on any issue. For tourism and biodiversity, the baseline information could include information, as appropriate, on:

- Current economic, social and environmental conditions at national and local level, including current and planned tourism development and activities and their overall positive and negative impacts, as well as development and activities in other sectors
- Trends within the tourism sector at regional, national and international level
- Environmental and biodiversity resources, including any special features and sites of particular importance
- National biodiversity strategies and action plans
- National and regional sustainable development plans.
- Information for consideration as part of baseline information includes traditional knowledge as well as scientific information.

The adequacy of the baseline information available will need to be reviewed, and where necessary, further research and information gathering can be undertaken to fill gaps that may be identified.

All relevant stakeholders may contribute relevant information to this process, including biodiversity managers and indigenous and local communities. Information input by indigenous and local communities

should be handled in accordance with the provisions of the Draft Guidelines for the Conduct of Tourism in Territories Traditionally Occupied or Used by Indigenous and Local Communities, that are being developed by the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Collation and synthesis of information provided, will need to be undertaken by an appropriately qualified team, drawing on a range of expertise, including expertise in tourism and in biodiversity issues. Typically, this would be undertaken by Governments.

In order to ensure that all relevant information is considered, all stakeholders could be involved in review of the collated baseline information available, and in synthesis of this information.

#### • Vision and goals

An overall vision and goals for sustainable tourism development in relation to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, is important for the effective management of tourism and biodiversity. The vision and goals take into account, as appropriate, national and regional sustainable development plans for economic and social development and for land-use, as well as the baseline information and review. It is important to involve and consult with all relevant stakeholders, and especially including indigenous and local communities that are or may be affected by tourism development, in the process for setting the overall vision and goals.

The main vision and goals are established to seek to maximise the positive influence of tourism on biodiversity, ecosystems, and economic and social development, while minimising its negative social and environmental impacts, and can cover, *inter alia*:

- Maintenance of the functioning of ecosystems;
- Sustainable tourism in ecosystems conserving their structure and functioning;
- Fair and equitable sharing of benefits;
- Information and capacity-building;
- Restoration of past damage (e.g., including cultural and social damage as well as damage to biodiversity);
- Ensuring the effective participation and involvement of representatives of indigenous and local communities in all aspects of the development, operation and monitoring of tourism activities
- Zoning and control of tourism developments and activities, including licensing and overall targets for and limits to the scale of tourism

The vision and goals will form the basis of national strategies or master

plans for sustainable development of tourism in relation to biodiversity.

Governments will normally coordinate this process at national level. This process may also be undertaken at more local levels by local government, and by communities at community level. Where local and community level vision and goals for tourism and biodiversity have been set, these may be taken into account by governments when preparing the national level vision and goals.

#### • Objectives

The objectives focus on actions to implement specific elements of the overall vision and goals, and may include clear targets and the time by which these will be achieved. Targets may be performance-based (e.g., restoration of 5 kilometres of coastal ecosystems that have been damaged through tourism development) and process-based (e.g., establishment of an operational management system for tourism and biodiversity). As with the vision and goals, it is important to involve and consult with all relevant stakeholders, and especially including indigenous and local communities that are or may be affected by tourism development, in the process for setting objectives.

The objectives can include details of areas where tourism development and activities are potential development options, including details of the type and scale of such development and activities that would be acceptable, impact management measures that would be appropriate, etc. in broad terms (with greater detail, as set out in the notification process, being assessed in relation to proposals for tourism development or activities at specific locations).

Potential tourism developments or activities identified in the vision, goals and objectives may be promoted to investors through a variety of approaches, including licensing and franchise schemes. Promotion to investors may be carried out by governments, or by communities, including indigenous and local communities.

Governments may wish to ensure, for example, through national planning frameworks or provision of planning guidance, that tourism development or activities are not undertaken outside those areas set out in the objectives (and recognising that it may not be desirable for all areas for potential tourism development and activities to be made available at once). In addition, before tourism developments and activities proceed, consideration will need to be given as to whether there is a long-term market for them, based on analysis of market conditions and trends.

Governments will normally coordinate this process at national level. This process may also be undertaken at more local levels by local government, and by communities at community level. Where local and community level objectives for tourism and biodiversity have been set, these may be taken into account by governments when preparing national level objectives.

## • Review of legislation and control measures

Legislation and appropriate regulatory mechanisms and tools, such as land use planning, environmental assessment and building regulations and environmental standards for tourism, are essential for the effective implementation of any overall vision, goals, and objectives. A review of legislation and control measures could consider, as appropriate, the legislation and control measures available for implementation of the overall vision, goals and objectives for tourism and biodiversity, their effectiveness, including enforcement, and any gaps that may need to be addressed for example, by revision of, or development of additional, legislation and control measures.

The review of legislation and control measures could include, *inter alia*, assessment of the effectiveness of any provisions for land management and/or ownership by communities, especially indigenous and local communities that have traditionally used areas for their livelihoods and cultural purposes; and for enabling these groups to make decisions about tourism development and activities, amongst other forms of development and activities, in these areas.

Legislation and control measures considered could include measures for:

- Licensing of tourism development and activities (including franchising provisions, and requirements for deposit of bonds against potential damage to biodiversity by tourism developers and/or operators)
- Controlling the planning and siting of tourism facilities and infrastructures establishment of sustainable tourism strategies and policies
- Management of tourism in relation to biodiversity and ecosystems, including vulnerable areas
- Application of environmental assessment, including assessment of cumulative impacts and effects on biodiversity, to all proposed tourism developments, and as a tool to develop and measure impacts of tourism policies
- Setting national standards for tourism that are integrated with overall national or regional plans for sustainable development and national biodiversity strategies and action plans
- Integrated land use management
- Ensuring inter-linkages between tourism and cross-cutting issues including agriculture, coastal zone management, water resources, etc.
- Application of economic instruments, including user fees, bonds, taxes or levies for the management of tourism and biodiversity

Governments will normally coordinate this process at national level. It is important to involve and consult with all relevant stakeholders, and especially including indigenous and local communities that are or may be affected by tourism development, in the process for reviewing legislation and control measures, assessing their adequacy and effectiveness, and

### Impact assessment

Impact assessment includes assessment of the environmental, social and economic effects, both positive and negative, of proposed developments. The impacts of tourism development may be spread widely - for example, a hotel may result in significant numbers of visitors at sites that may be many kilometres distant.

Comprehensive impact assessments are important for all tourism developments and activities, and include taking into account cumulative effects from multiple development activities of all types, including other tourism developments and activities. Impacts from tourism development and activities to be considered include those at the regional national and local levels.

Impact assessments may also be prepared for national and regional tourism strategies.

At national level, governments would normally undertake assessment of impacts associated with the overall vision, goals and objectives for tourism and biodiversity. In addition, this process may also be undertaken at more local levels by local government, and by communities at community level.

Proposers of tourism developments or activities are normally required to address the potential impacts of their proposals and to provide information on this through a notification process. The information required can include those items of information listed in the section on the notification process (see below).

Governments will normally undertake evaluations of the adequacy of impact assessments submitted by proposers of tourism developments or activities. These evaluations will need to be undertaken by an appropriately qualified team, drawing on a range of expertise, including expertise in tourism and in biodiversity management, and also involving those communities that would be affected by the proposals.

If the information provided is not sufficient, or the impact assessment inadequate, then further impact assessment studies may need to be undertaken. The proposer may be requested to undertake such studies, or the Government may decide to undertake these studies, and may request funds from the proposer for this purpose, as appropriate. Other stakeholders, including biodiversity managers and communities that may be affected by a proposed development, may also provide their assessments of impacts associated with specific proposals for tourism developments or activities, and provisions may be needed to ensure that any such assessments are taken into account by decision-makers.

## • Impact management

Impact management is essential to avoid or minimize any potential damage that tourism development or activities may cause. Proposals for tourism development or activities may incorporate proposals for impact management, but these may not necessarily be judged sufficient to deal with potential impacts. Therefore all stakeholders, and especially

governments which provide overall control over tourism development and activities, will need to consider the various impact management approaches that may be necessary in any given situation. Impact management can include, *inter alia*, measures for the siting of tourism development and activities, including differentiation between the impacts of different types of tourism; and measures to control tourist flows in and around tourist destinations and key sites, to promote appropriate behaviour by tourists so as to minimise their impacts, and to establish limits to numbers of visitors within carrying capacity / limits to acceptable change at any site.

Impact management for tourism development and activities can include the adoption of policies and best practices that cover, *inter alia*:

- Responsible use of natural resources (e.g. Land, soil, energy, water)
- Reducing, minimizing and preventing pollution and waste (e.g. Solid and liquid waste, emissions to air, transport)
- Promoting the design of facilities that are more eco-efficient and which adopt the cleaner production approach
- Conserving plants, animals, ecosystems and protected areas (biodiversity)
- Conserving landscapes, cultural and natural heritage
- Respecting the integrity of local cultures and avoiding negative effects on social structures
- Involving, and co-operating with, local communities, including indigenous communities
- Using local products and skills
- Using environmentally sound technologies, in particular to reduce emissions of co2 and other greenhouse gases and ozone-depleting substances, as set out in international agreements
- Promoting appropriate behaviour by tourists so as to minimize their impacts
- Alignment of marketing strategies and messages with the principles of sustainable tourism
- Contingency plans for handling accidents that may occur during construction and use of facilities and which may threaten the environment and the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity

Governments, in cooperation with biodiversity managers, those

communities that would be affected by the proposals, and other stakeholders, would normally assess the need for impact management in addition to any management measures included in the proposals under consideration.

The tourism industry can assist in promoting wide implementation of management measures for sustainable tourism and the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in relation to tourism. This could include development, by tourism enterprises, of corporate policies on sustainable tourism and biodiversity, with defined goals, and monitoring and reporting publicly on progress.

#### • Decision-making

At this step, decisions will be made concerning approval or otherwise of, *inter alia*:

- National strategies and plans for tourism and biodiversity
- Proposals for tourism development and activities at particular locations in relation to biodiversity
- Adequacy of impact management measures in relation to anticipated impacts from tourism development and activities
- Such decisions will be ultimately be taken by governments (or specific authorities designated by governments); it is recognised, however, that consultation with the communities and groups affected, including specific input from biodiversity managers, and from indigenous and local communities, is an important component of the decision-making process.

For proposals for tourism development and activities at particular locations, the developer, who will usually be part of the private sector, will normally be required to provide the information set out in the notification process.

Decisions may include a review of the adequacy of information available, that could cover, *inter alia*, baseline information, impact assessment, and information on the proposed tourism development or activity, its nature and size, the type(s) of tourism involved, and information on human settlements and communities that may be affected.

In cases where there is not sufficient contextual / baseline information available at the time, or where the overall vision, goals and objectives for tourism and biodiversity have not been developed sufficiently to make a decision, decisions may be deferred pending sufficient information being obtained, and/or completion of overall plans / goals.

In making a decision, conditions may be attached to any approvals that may be granted, including conditions regarding management of tourism in relation to avoidance or minimisation of adverse impacts on biodiversity. Decision makers may also, as appropriate, request further information from a proposer; defer a decision pending further baseline research by

other agencies; or refuse a proposal. • Implementation Implementation follows a decision to approve a particular proposal, strategy or plan, and must include full implementation of all conditions that may have been set as conditions for granting of approval. Unless otherwise stated, the developer and/or operator will be responsible for complying with these conditions; and as part of this they can also be required to notify the designated government authority of any failures to comply with conditions attached to an approval, and/or of any changes in circumstances, including unforeseen environmental conditions and/or biodiversity issues (e.g., detection of rare or endangered species not recorded in the original proposal and impact assessment). Governments and designated authorities will need to monitor compliance with, and enforce as necessary, conditions attached to any approval. Communities and other interested stakeholders may also monitoring compliance and report their findings to the designated government authorities. Monitoring control and surveillance in relation to management of tourism Monitoring and biodiversity includes, *inter alia*, the following main areas: control and surveillance Monitoring of implementation of approved tourism developments or activities, and compliance with any conditions attached when approval was granted, and taking appropriate actions in cases of non-compliance Monitoring of the impacts of tourism activities on biodiversity and ecosystems, taking appropriate preventative actions as necessary Monitoring the impacts of tourism on the surrounding population, especially indigenous and local communities Monitoring of general tourism activities and trends (including tour operators, tourism facilities, and tourists flows) in any area, including progress towards sustainable tourism Developers and operators of tourism facilities and activities may be required to report periodically to designated authorities and to the public, on compliance with conditions set out in approvals, and on the condition of biodiversity and the environment in relation to the tourism facilities and activities for which they are responsible. Long-term monitoring and assessment is necessary in relation to the impacts of tourism on biodiversity, and will need to take into account the timescale for ecosystem changes to become evident. Some effects may develop quickly, while others may take place more slowly. Long-term monitoring and assessment provides a means for detecting adverse effects that may arise from tourism activities and development in relation to

biodiversity, so that action can be taken to control and mitigate such

effects.

Monitoring of general environmental and biodiversity conditions and trends, as well as tourism trends and impacts, can be undertaken by governments, including designated biodiversity managers. Management measures may need to be adjusted, as appropriate, where adverse impacts on biodiversity and ecosystems are detected. The need for and nature of such adjustments will be based on the results of monitoring, and it is important for these to be determined in dialogue with all relevant stakeholders, including the developers and/or operators of tourism facilities and activities, communities affected by those facilities and activities, and other interested stakeholders.

## • Adaptive management

The ecosystem approach requires adaptive management to deal with the complex and dynamic nature of ecosystems and the absence of complete knowledge or understanding of their functioning. Ecosystem processes are often non-linear, and the outcome of such processes often shows timelags. The result is discontinuities, leading to surprise and uncertainty. Management must be adaptive in order to be able to respond to such uncertainties and contain elements of "learning-by-doing" or research feedback. Measures may need to be taken even when some cause-and-effect relationships are not yet fully established scientifically (decision V/6, annex, paragraph 4, of the Conference of the Parties, on the ecosystem approach).

Ecosystem processes and functions are complex and variable. Their level of uncertainty is increased by the interaction with social constructs, which need to be better understood. Therefore, ecosystem management must involve a learning process, which helps to adapt methodologies and practices to the ways in which these systems are being managed and monitored. Implementation programmes should be designed to adjust to the unexpected, rather than to act on the basis of a belief in certainties. Ecosystem management needs to recognize the diversity of social and cultural factors affecting natural-resource use. Similarly, there is a need for flexibility in policy-making and implementation. Long-term. inflexible decisions are likely to be inadequate or even destructive. Ecosystem management should be envisaged as a long-term experiment that builds on its results as it progresses. This "learning-by-doing" will also serve as an important source of information to gain knowledge of how best to monitor the results of management and evaluate whether established goals are being attained. In this respect, it would be desirable to establish or strengthen capacities of Parties for monitoring (decision V/6, annex, paragraph 4, of the Conference of the Parties, on the ecosystem approach).

Implementing adaptive management in relation to tourism and biodiversity, will require the active cooperation of all stakeholders in tourism, and especially those in the private sector, with biodiversity managers. Impacts on biodiversity at a particular location may require rapid curtailment of visits by tourists to prevent further damage, and to allow for recovery, and in the longer-term, may necessitate an overall reduction in tourist flows. It may be possible for tourists to be redirected to less sensitive areas in such cases. In all cases, maintenance of the

balance between tourism and biodiversity will require close interaction between tourism managers and biodiversity managers, and appropriate frameworks for management and dialogue are likely to need to be established.

Governments, including designated biodiversity managers, in conjunction with all other stakeholders will therefore need to take actions, as appropriate, to address any problems encountered and to keep on track towards agreed goals. This may include changes and additions to conditions set in the original approval, and will require participation of and consultation with the developer and/or operator of the tourism facilities and activities concerned, and with local communities.

Adaptive management can also be undertaken by all those who have management control over any specific site, including local government, local communities, the private sector, non-governmental organizations and other organizations.

#### B. Notification process - outline of information requirements

It is also suggested that the Workshop consider providing technical guidance on the information requirements for the notification process, and in developing guidance, participants may wish to consider both the categories of relevant information listed in the following table:

Information to be provided by proposers of tourism developments or activities could include:

- Scale and types of tourism development or activities proposed;
- Analysis of market for proposed tourism development or activities, based on market conditions and trends
- Geographical description and location of the site of tourism development or activities, the identity and any special features of the surrounding environments and biodiversity;
- The proximity of the site to human settlements and communities, sites used by people from those settlements and communities as part of their livelihoods and traditional activities:
- Any flora, fauna and ecosystems that could be affected by the tourism development or activities, including keystone, rare, endangered or endemic species;
- Training and supervision of personnel carrying out the tourism development or activities;
- Likelihood of impacts beyond the immediate area of the tourism development or activities;
- A description of current environmental and socio-economic conditions;
- Expected changes to environmental and socio-economic conditions as a result of the

tourism development or activities;

- Proposed management measures to avoid or minimise adverse impacts from the tourism development or activities, including verification of their functioning;
- Proposed measures to maximise the local benefits of the tourism development or activities on surrounding human settlements and communities, biodiversity and ecosystems, which may include:
  - ⇒ Using local products and skills
  - ⇒ Restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems
- Relevant information from any previous tourism development or activities in the region
- Relevant information from any previous tourism development or activities relevant information from any previous tourism development or activities by the proposer.

Information provided through the notification process may be made public, and public comment invited on all proposal for tourism developments and activities.

#### Annex II

## EXAMPLES OF OBJECTIVES FOR THE MAJOR ACTORS TO WHICH THE GUIDELINES ARE ADDRESSED

The following section provides examples of the objectives for the major actors involved in tourism and biodiversity that Workshop participants may which to consider during the Workshop.

#### Governments and supranational organizations

Objectives for Governments at national level in relation to sustainable tourism development and biodiversity

- 1. Develop and implement the legislative and policy frameworks for sustainable development of tourism in relation to biodiversity. In particular:
- (a) Develop national strategies or master plans for sustainable development of tourism in relation to biodiversity. These should be integrated with overall national or regional plans for sustainable development, and should maximise the positive influence of tourism on protection of vulnerable ecosystems and areas, and economic and social development, while minimising its negative social and environmental impacts;
- (b) Develop appropriate regulatory mechanisms and tools, such as land use planning, environmental assessment and building regulations and environmental standards for tourism, including:
  - (i) Environmental assessment, including assessment of cumulative impacts, to all proposed developments, and as a tool to develop and measure impacts of tourism policies;
  - (ii) National environmental standards for tourism that are integrated with overall national or regional plans for sustainable development;
  - (iii) Controls on the planning and siting of tourism facilities and infrastructures;
- (c) Create a system of terrestrial and marine protected areas, identify areas outside the protected area system which are important for maintaining of biodiversity and ecosystem processes, and adopt preventative approaches to protect for biodiversity from damage in relation to tourism;
- (d) Support voluntary initiatives by the tourism industry for protection of biodiversity and ecosystems, and for sustainable development of tourism;
- (e) Set in place standards and benchmark guides for the tourism industry, and encourage the tourism industry to invest/contribute financially to the protection and maintenance of ecosystems and biodiversity resources at a level which reflects their importance as an essential part of the tourism "product":
- (f) Ratify, if they have not already done so, and work towards the effective implementation of, international and regional environmental conventions;
- (g) Identify and adopt the most appropriate mix of regulation and economic instruments, and develop economic instruments to address environmental issues arising from tourism and biodiversity;

- (h) Work towards the effective enforcement of regulations and standards, and coordination between different agencies involved;
- (i) Promote training, awareness-raising, and exchange of experience and best practice information, as well as organization of the strong participation of the local population;
- (j) Promote changes in consumer behaviour in both tourist-originating countries and destinations towards more sustainable forms of tourism:
- (k) Replace activities that may result in accumulation of damage to biodiversity over time with alternative activities that avoid or minimise any such damage;
- (l) Develop monitoring of progress towards sustainable tourism. It is important to develop activities to monitor, control and mitigate adverse effects that may arise from tourism activities and development in relation to vulnerable ecosystems and areas.
- 2. In relation to indigenous and local communities:
- (a) Ensure the effective participation and involvement of representatives of indigenous and local communities in all phases of the development, operation and monitoring of tourism activities;
- (b) Ensure that indigenous and local communities are also represented on any national and sub-national bodies created to oversee the tourism industry, and that indigenous and local communities should be encouraged and resourced to form their own tourism bodies to represent their interests at national, sub-national and local levels;
- (c) Enhance the capacity of concerned communities (through the provision of the necessary technology, expertise, infrastructure, and training) in order for such communities to participate effectively in addressing tourism development issues;
- (d) Where tourism activities take place within indigenous and local territories an equitable proportion of any revenues from tourism raised by Governments (through taxes, levies, fees) should be allocated to the communities concerned for the purpose of facilitating sustainable tourism.

Objectives for Governments at local level in relation to sustainable tourism development and biodiversity

- 1. Improve their understanding of the benefits and burdens of tourism in environmental, social and economic terms, for the areas under their jurisdiction, and ensure that the economic benefits of tourism are adequately distributed.
- 2. Control numbers of visitors to tourist destinations and establish limits to numbers of visitors within carrying capacity/limits to acceptable change.
- 3. Raise awareness of the tourists and the local population on environmental issues.
- 4. Work in partnership with, and ensure the participation of all relevant stakeholders, including indigenous and local communities, non-governmental organizations and the private sector in relation to tourism development and operation.
- 5. Strengthen capacity for the management and control of tourism in their sphere of responsibility, and establish and maintain procedures for cooperation and coordination with neighbouring authorities, and with relevant state authorities

#### International organizations

Objectives for supranational organizations & the international community in relation to sustainable tourism development and biodiversity

- 1. Assist and support Governments in the development of national strategies or master plans for the sustainable development of tourism, and of environmental land use and building regulations and standards for tourism
- 2. Review their funding policy in order to
- (a) Support the international guidelines on sustainable tourism and biological diversity and their implementation;
  - (b) Stop funding development projects not congruent with the principles of these guidelines;
- (c) Direct funding to projects in line with the guidelines, especially if to the benefit of indigenous and local communities.
- 3. Establish a monitoring & evaluation mechanisms to ensure compliance [with the guidelines on sustainable tourism and biodiversity] and disseminate the information collected.
- 4. Support the exchange of experiences, good practices and lessons learned at different levels.
- 5. Assist in developing environmental assessment to address the regional environmental impacts of the tourism industry.
- 6. Raise awareness and build capacity of all stakeholders by providing information on best practices for sustainable tourism
- 7. Encourage the private sector to develop and apply codes and guidelines, and environmental management systems, and promote the development of the use of environmental reporting by companies in the various branches of the tourism sector.
- 8. Assist in assessing the environmental effectiveness of existing voluntary initiatives in the various branches of the tourism sector, and make recommendations accordingly.
- 9. Promote the transfer of environmentally sound technologies (ESTs), practices and management tools adapted for the tourism sector, and disseminate information on ESTs to Governments and the tourism industry.
- 10. Work with other stakeholders to establish and disseminate information about lessons from good practice projects on sustainable tourism and biodiversity.
- 11. Provide support through provision of information and capacity development programmes, particularly on the costs and benefits of tourism development, the use of economic incentives to promote sustainable tourism, and on destination management.
- 12. Assist in the establishment of monitoring of progress towards sustainable tourism.
- 13. Support the development and application of economic instruments for sustainable tourism (e.g., provide guidance to Governments; identify and disseminate examples of good practice).

- 14. Examine scope for other sectors to encourage sustainable tourism.
- 15. Facilitate capacity-building to help national and local governments understand and effectively undertake control and management of sustainable tourism and biodiversity, including development of integrated and participatory approaches, and definition and implementation of policies for sustainable tourism.

#### Tourism industry

Objectives for the tourism industry in relation to sustainable tourism development and biodiversity:

- 1. Work with Governments and other stakeholders to improve the overall environmental quality of destinations and their surroundings.
- 2. Cooperate with local communities and people, ensure they benefit from tourism:
- (a) Contribute to development, and implementation, of national and local strategies or master plans for sustainable development of tourism, and ensure that existing and proposed tourism developments meet the objectives of and are otherwise consistent with those strategies or master plans;
- (b) Ensure that existing and proposed tourism developments meet or exceed local and national environmental standards.
- 3. Address the key issues of where tourism development is sited, including the need to protect areas from any tourism development, and to match development in other areas to environmental and social carrying capacities by ensuring that tourism development is of an appropriate scale and type.
- 4. Promote wider implementation of environmental management, to achieve continuous improvements in performance in the context of sustainable development and management of tourism, including the effects of tourism on biodiversity and ecosystems; develop a corporate policy on sustainable tourism and biodiversity, with defined goals, and monitor and report publicly on progress.
- 5. Manage and monitor the impacts of tourism activities on biodiversity and ecosystems, take appropriate preventative actions and establish programmes to support these actions.
- 6. Adopt and implement policies and best practices in all activities internally and when forming business relationships with partners, suppliers and sub-contractors especially with regard to:
  - (a) Responsible use of natural resources (e.g. Land, soil, energy, water);
- (b) Reducing, minimizing and preventing pollution and waste (e.g. Solid and liquid waste, emissions to air, transport);
- (c) Promote the design of facilities that are more eco-efficient and which adopt the cleaner production approach;
  - (d) Conserving plants, animals, ecosystems and protected areas (biodiversity);
  - (e) Conserving landscapes, cultural and natural heritage;
- (f) Respecting the integrity of local cultures and avoiding negative effects on social structures;

- (g) Involving, and co-operating with, local communities, including indigenous communities;
- (h) Using local products and skills;
- (i) Using environmentally sound technologies, in particular to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases and ozone-depleting substances, as set out in international agreements.
- 7. Encourage and seek to cooperate with national and local authorities, indigenous and local communities, or any other interested party, to develop and implement the integrated planning and management of destinations in order to preserve the quality and sustainability of these destinations. As part of this:
  - (a) Develop a better dialogue with the local communities in travel destinations;
  - (b) Promote the involvement of local stakeholders in tourism ventures.
- 8. Create awareness and active involvement among customers towards the natural, social and cultural environment of the places they visit, and of opportunities for their responsible behaviour; and to encourage host communities and customers to develop a better understanding and mutual respect for one another. Train staff and tour guides in relation to these objectives.
- 9. Promote behaviour and activities, in public communication and advertising, compatible with the principles of sustainable development and management of tourism, including alignment of marketing strategies and messages with the principles of sustainable tourism
- 10. In relation to indigenous and local communities:
- (a) Recognize the importance of understanding the values and knowledge of use of biological diversity held by indigenous and local communities and their application for sustainable tourism and support of local tourism activities;
- (b) When tourism activities are to take place within indigenous and local community territories, operators and tourists alike should recognize that many sacred sites, and areas or places of other cultural significance may have important functions with respect to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and, by extension, the maintenance of the natural resources upon which such communities rely for their subsistence;
- (c) Respect the cultural sensitivities and needs of indigenous and local communities for privacy, especially with regard to important rituals and ceremonies such as those associated with rites-of-passage and death, and also ensure their activities do not interfere with the daily routines and other activities of such communities.

#### Non-governmental organizations

Objectives for non-governmental organizations in relation to sustainable tourism development and biodiversity

- 1. Disseminate information to a wide public about the objectives and criteria of sustainable tourism.
- 2. Educate tourists to change consumption patterns and promote appropriate, environmentally and socially acceptable behaviour in the destinations.

- 3. Launch broad awareness campaigns on adverse impacts of tourism, on ways of avoiding or minimizing these impacts, and of the potential positive effects of sustainable tourism.
- 4. Promote and participate in the dialogue between all actors concerned (including churches, social organizations, trade unions, people's initiatives) at regional, national, and international level.
- 5. Develop and promote the application of codes of conduct.
- 6. Raise awareness at all levels (education through the media).
- 7. Promote relevant research on tourism impacts, criteria for sustainable tourism and possibilities for implementation;
- 8. Monitor tourism development, policy, industry initiatives, local people's reaction to tourism development and policy, implementation of stakeholder action.
- 9. Cooperate on tourism related issues.
- 10. Initiate and support Local Agenda 21 processes on tourism.
- 11. Transfer know-how at the local level.
- 12. Involve local initiatives, heritage and nature protection organisations and agencies.
- 13. Use the ecosystem approach of the Convention on Biological Diversity, focus on questions of nature use and ecological carrying capacities for sensitive sites in order to develop legally binding global standards.
- 14. Utilize and combine instruments and strategies in local dialogue processes;
- 15. Make lessons learned in one community accessible to others.

#### Tourists / Tour leaders

- 1. Comply with all regulations and controls on visitor numbers and measures designed to reduce visitor impact.
- 2. Provide proper briefing and monitoring of tourists at the sites they visit, including provision of good interpretative information, creation of awareness and active involvement among customers towards the natural, social and cultural environment of the places they visit, and guidance opportunities for their responsible behaviour to avoid of adverse impacts and to maximise local benefits from their visits.
- 3. Encourage host communities and customers to develop a better understanding and mutual respect for one another.
- 4. Contribute to monitoring of impacts of tourism on biodiversity, and report promptly an signs of potentially adverse effects to the relevant managers and authorities.

#### Indigenous and local communities

1. Build up a comprehensive understanding of tourism and its potential effects on their livelihoods and livelihood assets, including biological resources, in order for them to make informed decisions concerning potential or actual tourism developments that may or which do already affect them.

- 2. Determine what constitutes sustainable levels of tourism activities in the context of their natural resources, economies, cultures and societies.
- 3. Actively participate in controlling access, and determining the nature of tourism activities within their territories through the application of, for example, a government-endorsed licensing or permit system.
- 4. Maintain suitably qualified and trained personnel to manage tourism developments and activities, including as appropriate, personnel with the authority to police tourism activities and to take the necessary actions, including the revocation of licences or permits, when tourism operators have infringed the conditions of such licences/permits.
- 5. Participate in the long-term monitoring and assessment, including measuring impacts of tourism on biological diversity, and on the cultures, societies and economies of concerned indigenous and local communities, with a view to improving strategies and plans for tourism activities.
- 6. Work with Governments and other stakeholders in tourism to facilitate the proper conduct of tourism activities within indigenous and local community territories, to ensure that existing and proposed tourism developments and activities are consistent with the needs of indigenous and local communities in relation to their cultures, societies, economies, livelihoods and development needs, and environmental and social carrying capacities. As part of this, consider working to establish protocols to facilitate the proper conduct of tourism activities within indigenous and local community territories, jointly with representatives of the tourist sector and other relevant stakeholders. Specific protocols may need to be established for particular kinds of tourism activity (for example, adventure tourism, wild-life observation, fishing) and may need to take into account the behaviour to be observed when visiting local communities, particular sites or when dealing with members of indigenous and local communities.
- 7. In relation to biodiversity management by indigenous and local communities, the objectives for biodiversity managers also apply.
- 8. All stakeholders, and especially governments and the private sector, should comply with the provision of the Convention on Biological Diversity concerning indigenous and local groups, and with the Draft Guidelines for the Conduct of Tourism in Territories Traditionally Occupied or Used by Indigenous and Local Communities that are being prepared under the Convention on Biological Diversity; and should also assist with the capacity building and training needs of indigenous and local communities, including ensuring that they have the necessary infrastructure to cope with the extra demands placed upon them by tourism-related activities.

#### **Biodiversity** managers

- 1. Work with Governments and other stakeholders in tourism to improve the overall management of tourism in relation to biodiversity and ecosystems, and to ensure that existing and proposed tourism developments meet or exceed local and national environmental standards, and are consistent with national and local strategies or for biodiversity management, especially in relation to siting of tourism development, including the need to protect areas from any tourism development, and to match development in other areas to environmental and social carrying capacities by ensuring that tourism development is of an appropriate scale and type.
- 2. Work with government agencies and officers that have primary roles related tourism and associated economic activities such as transport, infrastructure, etc. to establish a framework of responsibilities for the maintenance of biological diversity and ecological processes at the whole-of-government and whole-of-organization level.

- 3. Establish a basis for systematic consideration on the environmental and non-environmental implications of tourism development.
- 4. Develop policies on sustainable tourism and biodiversity, with defined goals, and monitor and report publicly on progress.
- 5. Manage and monitor the impacts of tourism activities on biodiversity and ecosystems, take appropriate preventative actions and establish programmes to support these actions.
- 6. Encourage and seek to co-operate with national and local authorities, indigenous and local communities, or any other interested party, to develop and implement the integrated planning and management of sustainable tourism and biodiversity.
- 7. Create awareness and active involvement among users of the areas and biodiversity that they manage, concerning the value of biodiversity resources, and appropriate activities and responsible behaviour to avoid or minimise damage to biodiversity, including, for example, by provision of interpretative information, training courses for local communities, and for the tourism sector.

#### Annex III

## COLLATED LIST OF TOOLS IDENTIFIED FOR PROMOTION OF SUSTAINABLE TOURISM AND BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

#### 1. FRAMEWORK

#### 1.1 Legislative and institutional framework

Development and enforcement of specific legislation / measures, against any kind of illegal, abusive or exploitative tourist activity, including sexual exploitation / abuse

Flexible legal framework.

Regulations on conservation and sustainable use of species.

Framework for legally binding contracts in relation to tourism and biodiversity, and including recognition of community partnerships, enterprises and other ventures, especially in relation to indigenous and local communities.

#### 1.2 Economic framework

Economic instruments, including user fees, bonds, taxes or levies designed to reward good practice, and incentives including awarding of prizes, certificates and eco-labels for sustainable tourism

Integrate tourism with local economic development to strengthen the local economy, employ local workforce and wherever ecologically sustainable, use local materials, local agricultural products and traditional skills.

Government-endorsed licensing or permit system.

Employment of the local workforce,

Job creation, viable revenue from the levying of appropriate fees, and income-generating

Workers in the tourism industry and related activities

Clean development mechanism of the kyoto protocol for energy-related issues.

Facilitating access to capital

Financial resources derived from visits to cultural sites and monuments should, at least in part, be used for the upkeep, safeguard, development and embellishment of this heritage;

Mobilising funding from tourism.

Overseas funding

Provide financial resources for sustainable tourism development

#### 1.3 Incentives and marketing

Adopting responsible marketing, including giving a true representation of the character of destinations.

Marketing of a new image.

Modernization and diversification of the tourism product

Adopt and develop appropriate and meaningful labels to help consumers to make informed choices about responsible tourism products

#### 1.4 Voluntary framework

Codes of conduct, partnerships and voluntary initiatives for the development of responsible tourist activities

Assess the economic, social, cultural, and environmental implications of each stakeholders internal activities.

Environmental management systems

Mechanisms to manage tourism within environmental limits of acceptable change.

Development of guiding principles and agreed targets with all those involved in tourism activities

#### 1.5 Networking and cooperation at all levels

Create a 'Sustainable Tourism Development Agency' to facilitate the development of partnerships and exchange experiences about appropriate supporting policies for sustainable tourism

Establish joint agreements or measures for sustainable tourism between stakeholders

#### 1.6 Development of suitable indicators

Development and use of indicators to measure impacts of tourism on biological diversity, and on the cultures, societies and economies of concerned indigenous and local communities

Indicators of sustainable development

#### 1.7 Monitoring

Compliance and reporting requirements

Long-term monitoring and assessment

Monitor environmental conditions and compliance with legislation, regulations, and consent conditions including environmental protection and related measures set out in environmental impact assessments

Monitoring and controlling of tour operators, tourism facilities, and tourists in any area

#### 1.8 Research

Research activities

Work to define carrying capacity and other key research needs

#### 2 PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

#### 2.1 Establishment of sustainable tourism strategies and policies

Coordination of tourism policy, planning development and management at both national and local levels.

Integrated management approaches that cover all economic activities in an area, including tourism.

Integration of development, environment, human ecological considerations, and tourism planning, at all levels and management, and which integrate conservation of environmental and biodiversity resources.

Inter-agency collaboration and working groups

Prevent ad hoc or speculative developments.

Regional frameworks and strategies to address transboundary development, environmental, and tourism issues

Strengthen the planning process

Strengthen the role of local authorities

Tools to assist local authorities in determining appropriate management regimes and their capacity for tourism development

Planning controls, management and enforcement.

Bans or restrictions on interference with the landscape due to construction or intensification of existing forms of tourism

Planning measures to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases, reduce pollution and the generation of wastes, and promote sound waste management.

Restriction, and where necessary prevention, of tourism activities or development in ecologically and culturally sensitive areas

Zonation of use of land and marine areas

Infrastructure facilities

#### 2.2 Tourism management in vulnerable areas

Creation of protected areas, parks, etc.

Inventories of tourism activities and attractions

Curbing the trade in endangered species

#### 2.3 Integrated land use management

Coordination of allocation of land uses, and regulation of inappropriate activities that damage ecosystems.

#### 2.4 Reducing existing burdens

#### 2.4.1 Pollution reduction

Limiting tourism-related pollution so as not to exceed ecological carrying capacity, including waste assimilation processes.

Reduce emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases

Targets for reducing pollution from all sectors, including tourism

#### 2.4.2 Restoration

Restoration of environmental, cultural and social damage resulting from tourism Restoration of tourism installations and destinations

#### 2.4.3 Standards

Ambient environmental quality standards

Implementation and enforcement of international standards or guidelines relevant to the travel and tourism industry, such as in the labour and health fields

Improve the environmental standards of the industry

Independent verification of performance against environmental standards,

#### 2.4.4 Technology

Implement eco-efficiency approaches

Promoting clean technologies

Transfer and assimilation of new environmentally-sound, socially acceptable and appropriate technology and know-how for the avoidance of production of solid waste and waste water

Use local materials from sustainable managed sources

Use of low impact designs, materials and technologies

#### 2.5 Carrying capacity

Carrying capacity programmes

Consider the environmental and socio-cultural carrying capacity in their tourism policy and strategy;

Controlled and selective access

#### 2.6 Environmental impact assessment

Assessment of environmental impacts of proposed new activities, including the monitoring of the negative effects of wildlife viewing

Prior environmental, social and cultural impact assessments

Taking into account cumulative effects from multiple development activities of all types.

#### 2.7 Sustainable transport development

Encourage the use of public and non-motorised transport.

Restructuring air transport to improve and control access to island destinations Sustainable island access strategy

#### 2.8 Sustainable use of resources

Integrated natural resource management approach to land-use planning at local, national and international level.

National, sub-national and local development plans and guidelines for sustainable development and the sustainable use of natural resources and land.

#### 3 SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL ASPECTS

#### 3.1 Participation

Community planning in fragile ecosystems

Concerted Integral Rehabilitation Plans with the local community and the private sector:

Cooperate locally, nationally and internationally to achieve a common understanding amongst all stakeholders of the requirements of sustainable tourism

Empower indigenous and local communities to control access, and determine the nature of tourism activities within their territories, including resourcing them to form their own tourism bodies to represent their interests at national, sub-national and local levels.

Ensure the effective participation and involvement of representatives of indigenous and local communities in all phases of the development, operation and monitoring of such measures.

Full consultation with the indigenous and local communities urism industry

Involve all relevant stakeholders in the development of sound management plans

Negotiate solutions to conflicts between the different visions and interests of each social group.

Participation of indigenous and local communities in all phases of the impact assessments and incorporation of their traditional knowledge he use of such knowledge, as an integral part of such assessments.

Protocols for the proper conduct of tourism activities jointly established by representatives of the tourist sector and the concerned indigenous and local communities

Seek, right from the start, a broad island consensus relative to the preparation and development of sustainable tourism strategies and policies

Specific consent of the residents / indigenous and local communities involved, required before tourism development can proceed.

#### 3.2 Contribution to the economic development and the well-being of local communities

Equitable sharing of benefits

Initiatives to give local communities a share in the ownership and benefits of tourism.

Promote initiatives for sustainable tourism at a more local level

Providing training in management and other skills

Support of local tourism activities.

#### 3.3 Preservation of cultural identity

and

#### 3.4 Respect for human rights, local communities' and indigenous peoples' rights

Prior environmental, social and cultural impact assessments

Consider the environmental and socio-cultural carrying capacity in their tourism policy and strategy;

Restoration of environmental, cultural and social damage resulting from tourism

Restriction, and where necessary prevention, of tourism activities or development in ecologically and culturally sensitive areas

Codes of conduct, partnerships and voluntary initiatives for the development of responsible tourist activities

Awareness-raising, information-sharing, education and training of tourism operators and their staff, of local communities, and sensitization of tourists on biological diversity, cultural and social issues, on how they can help conserve the unique environmental and cultural qualities of destinations, and on the positive and negative aspects of tourism

Protocols for the proper conduct of tourism activities jointly established by representatives of the tourist sector and the concerned indigenous and local communities

Framework for legally binding contracts in relation to tourism and biodiversity, and including recognition of community partnerships, enterprises and other ventures, especially in relation to indigenous and local communities.

#### 4 TRAINING AND AWARENESS RAISING

#### 4.1 Exchange of information, skills, and technology

Collect and disseminate information on best practices and techniques for sustainable tourism from the social, environmental and economic points of view, on the relation between transport and the environment

Establishment of networks for dialogue

Provide accurate information on the safety of tourist destinations

Pilot projects and establish models of good practice

Creation of international networks for information dissemination

#### 4.2 Training and capacity building

Capacity-building programmes to develop and strengthen human resources and institutional capacities in government at national and local levels, and amongst local communities, including capacity building for monitoring and enforcement activities, technical and scientific co-operation, application of impact assessment and management techniques and procedures to tourism

Capacity-building work, including appropriate training, with indigenous and local communities in order to facilitate their active participation, at all levels of the tourism development process

Provide promotional opportunities for staff

Train all staff in sustainable tourism and environmental issues

Organization of regional and country-wide coalitions

Establish and maintain information exchange between national and local authorities

Create information pools/databases for different tourism aspects

#### 4.3 Awareness raising

Awareness-raising, information-sharing, education and training of tourism operators and their staff, of local communities, and sensitization of tourists on biological diversity, cultural and social issues, on how they can help conserve the unique environmental and cultural qualities of destinations, and on the positive and negative aspects of tourism

Develop and distribute educational and training materials.

Distance itself publicly from illegal, abusive or exploitative forms of tourism

Education and training programmes for tourism professionals

Increase awareness among tourists of the environmental impact of tourism

Provision of well-targeted information to tourists (e.g., sports tourists) so as to motivate them to behave appropriately and in ways that minimize adverse impacts

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