ANNEX IV

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

— on the impact of tourism on the development of ACP countries (ACP-EU 3871/06/fin.) 15
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RESOLUTION (1)

on the impact of tourism on the development of ACP countries

The ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly,

— meeting in Bridgetown (Barbados) from 20 to 23 November 2006,
— having regard to Article 17(1) of its Rules of Procedure,
— having regard to Article 24 of the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement signed in Cotonou on 23 June 2000,
— having regard to the Fiji Declaration, adopted on 20 October 2004 at the seventh regional seminar of the ACP/EU economic and social interest groups under the aegis of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly,
— having regard to the resolution on tourism and development in the context of the management and control of the European Development Fund (EDF), adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly in March 2001 in Libreville (Gabon) (2),
— having regard to the resolution on tourism and development adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Assembly on 14 October 1999 in Nassau (Bahamas) (3),
— having regard to the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism adopted by the General Assembly of the World Tourism Organisation in Santiago (Chile) on 1 October 1999 and endorsed by a resolution of the UN General Assembly adopted on 21 December 2001 (4),
— having regard to the resolution on the cultural dimension in development cooperation, including matters relating to heritage and tourism adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Assembly in Strasbourg on 1 April 1995 (5),
— having regard to the resolution of the Development Council held in Brussels on 30 November 1998 on sustainable tourism in developing countries,
— having regard to the European Parliament resolution on tourism and development adopted on 8 September 2005,
— having regard to the report by the Committee on Economic Development, Finance and Trade (ACP-EU 3871/06/fin.).

(1) Adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on 23 November 2006 in Bridgetown (Barbados).
(3) OJ C 59, 1.3.2000, p. 41.
(4) A/RES/56/212.
Tourism as a factor in economic development and international trade

A. whereas tourism undeniably constitutes a driving force behind growth in developing countries at all levels; whereas its role in international trade tends to increase in spite of recent natural disasters that have affected tourism flows to several regions of the world,

B. whereas an organised tourism programme, or an individual trip, increasingly encompasses multiple tourism destinations in more than one country, thereby contributing to increased regional cooperation and the strengthening of ties between countries,

C. whereas tourism is one of the fundamental aspects of any coherent development policy to be implemented in developing countries; whereas its links to other economic sectors, particularly agriculture and fisheries, food and beverage production and processing, other manufacturing industries, handicraft production, transport, and financial services, should be encouraged,

D. whereas tourism activities may require infrastructure projects in the areas of transport, energy, new communication technologies, housing, sanitation, health and hygiene in developing countries,

E. whereas it is fundamental that such projects should benefit both local communities and the tourist industry,

F. whereas the tourism industry has often failed to establish strong links within national economies; whereas tourism infrastructure is mostly foreign-owned and investment is driven by substantial financial and tax incentives granted by individual countries in competition with one another,

G. whereas tourism accounts for more than twice as much in financial transfers from rich to poor countries than governments give in aid; whereas, of the 50 Least Developed Countries, 46 now have tourism as the largest foreign exchange earner,

H. whereas, in 41 of the 50 poorest countries in the world, tourism constitutes over 5 % of GDP or 10 % of exports,

I. whereas the 2001 New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD) base document specifically refers to the importance of African tourism and draws up a Tourism Action Plan, endorsed by the African Union (AU) in 2004, which includes the recognition of the role of ecotourism and cultural tourism for Africa,

J. whereas local investment in the hospitality sector should be encouraged, either by policies allowing the creation of local private and cooperative forms of enterprises that could produce goods and services previously imported, or through joint ventures between local and international enterprises,

K. having regard to the current negotiations on Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs), which will, as from 1 January 2008, replace the unilateral preferential trade regime for commercial relations between the ACP countries and the EU,

Tourism as a factor in environmental protection and the conservation of heritage and culture

L. whereas sustainable tourism can develop only if it respects natural and cultural conditions and the traditions of the local communities where it evolves,

M. whereas tourism must not be seen as an enemy of the environment but rather as its ally, since tourism’s profitability is conditional on preserving the environment and heritage,

N. whereas special attention needs to be paid by the authorities to environmentally friendly forms of tourism such as ecotourism, rural tourism and ‘solidarity tourism’,

O. whereas tourism is sustained by the conservation and improvement of local heritage — be it natural or cultural, tangible or intangible — and of historic buildings,
P. whereas the safety of tourists and tourist facilities and sites requires special attention on the part of the authorities,

Q. whereas sensitive areas should be opened to tourism investment only after evaluation of their capacity to withstand the impact of tourism-related activities,

R. whereas it is legitimate for governments, after consulting representative tourist sector organisations, to lay down strict rules for visitors to very popular sites,

S. whereas the concept of limiting tourist numbers in small island States, mountain areas and coastal areas affected by overwhelming numbers of tourists needs to be integrated and accepted by the national authorities concerned,

T. whereas unplanned and uncoordinated tourism development may put pressure on scarce water and energy supplies, add to the stress on wildlife and marine resources in protected areas and threaten ecologically fragile areas,

U. whereas it may be necessary for the EU to assist governments in framing, monitoring and implementing legislation controlling access to, and use of, ecologically fragile areas,

V. whereas it is necessary to reconcile energy practices with transport policies, with a view to protecting the environment and complying with the targets of the Kyoto Protocol aimed at sustainable development,

Tourism as a factor in public health and education, including the social impact of sex tourism

W. whereas a country's public health standards are an element of its attractiveness,

X. whereas tour operators should provide tourists with information on risks of disease and injury linked to a given destination or tourism activity and on the norms and values of host societies,

Y. whereas tourism necessarily impacts on public health standards on account of hygiene requirements, healthcare measures, vaccination campaigns and the dissemination of information on disease prevention,

Z. whereas an appropriate fiscal policy directed towards the tourism sector can provide governments with revenue to provide improved health facilities that benefit both local residents and tourists,

AA. whereas traveller behaviour may exacerbate tourist health problems and put undue pressure on local health services,

AB. whereas HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria are now global scourges,

AC. whereas the risk both to tourists and local people from the spread of highly contagious diseases such as diarrhoeic infections, respiratory infections, fevers of unknown cause and hepatitis cannot be ignored or downgraded in developing countries' health policies,

AD. whereas nationals should receive appropriate education and training to participate in tourism activities at all levels,

AE. whereas tourism impacts on education, providing local communities with access to language learning and new information and communication technologies, thereby enabling them to promote their cultural heritage on the basis of respect for customs and traditions while at the same time requiring greater awareness of, and adaptation to, the evolution of society and modern habits,
AF. whereas it is nonetheless essential for public authorities to ensure the preservation of local traditions that respect human rights, especially the rights of women and children,

AG. whereas tourism in some countries is associated with violations of human rights such as child labour, prostitution and sexual exploitation,

AH. whereas sex tourism must be dealt with by means of a permanent and concerted campaign on the part of European and local authorities, in coordination with non-governmental organisations,

AI. whereas only coordinated measures, the spread of information and the introduction of penalties on the basis of respect for international law can be genuinely effective,

AJ. whereas widespread publicity regarding the penalties for sex tourism should have a deterrent effect, crimes related to sex tourism must be prosecuted, and it must be possible to bring prosecutions both in the country of origin and in the country where they are committed,

AK. whereas policies and measures implemented by tour operators, travel agencies and airlines, such as distributing brochures or screening videos on journeys to sensitive destinations, have a positive impact,

AL. whereas Member States of the World Health Organisation (WHO) have been called upon to take measures to protect the poorest and most vulnerable groups from ‘transplant tourism’ and the sale of tissues and organs,

Tourism as a factor in poverty reduction

AM. whereas the World Tourism Organisation’s programme ‘Sustainable Tourism for Eliminating Poverty’ contributes to the Millennium Development Goal of poverty reduction, by seeking to develop and support tourism projects in least developed and other developing countries, support micro-entrepreneurial initiatives in tourism, create job opportunities, facilitate market access and develop local capacities to favour those people living on less than one dollar a day,

AN. whereas tourism is not the answer to all problems, but should be part of a broader pro-poor national growth policy,

AO. whereas in some countries tourism has emerged accidentally, sometimes as the only economic development option when the traditional agro-export sector has failed to retain its position in the global market place,

AP. whereas tourism is a major employment generator; whereas all job creation measures must comply with International Labour Organisation (ILO) standards,

AQ. whereas forms of tourism seeking to guarantee fair payment for local workers and entrepreneurs merit particular attention from the authorities, especially in the case of ‘fair tourism’,

AR. whereas tourism is labour intensive, has high female employment ratios and is not necessarily import intensive; whereas it has low barriers to entry, encompassing all types and dimensions of enterprises, and it provides opportunities for downstream economic links in the local economy, thereby allowing poor people to gain opportunities for unskilled and semi-skilled employment,

AS. whereas governments could create incentives for companies to invest and operate in ways favouring the poor, by adapting their licensing, concessioning, supply-chain and marketing policies,
Tourism as a factor in economic development and international trade

1. Calls for the impact of tourism and the principles of sustainable tourism and good governance to be systematically and coherently taken into account in the drafting of EU and ACP development policy;

2. Considers that, to be sustainable, tourism must improve the lives of local people, protect their environment and health, and support the local economy through the purchase of food, processed goods, handicraft, services and other resources locally; calls on the governments of developing countries to ensure the full involvement of local communities in tourist activities and to ensure the fair sharing of the economic, social and cultural benefits generated;

3. Recommends that the Commission focus on sustainable tourism in its cooperation and development policy and in the context of its development guidelines and its efforts to consolidate entrepreneurial structures, specifically within its relationship with the ACP countries; regrets that the current Strategy for Africa does not include any reference to tourism; asks, therefore, in order to allow for effective development of the recommendation, that the personnel in the Tourism Unit of the European Commission's DG Enterprise and in the services dealing with tourism in the AU and ACP Secretariats should be reinforced, and their expertise be used in subjects directly or indirectly concerning tourism;

4. Calls on ACP governments to examine policies designed to guarantee ‘planning gain’ benefits for the local communities where tourism projects take place;

5. Insists on the need to reinvest the profits of tourism in local development; calls on tour operators to review their ‘all-inclusive’ packages which prevent spin-off benefits to the local communities, and encourages these operators as far as possible to source materials and staff locally, including managerial staff;

6. Encourages governments to promote the creation and development of public-private partnerships and to facilitate the setting-up of private and cooperative enterprises in the tourism sector;

7. Calls for an increase, where appropriate, in the proportion of sustainable tourism-oriented projects financed under the European Development Fund (EDF);

8. Proposes that the issue of sustainable tourism and its economic impact be included in the current negotiations on the EPAs, and that the interests of developing countries in relation to the European market be given positive consideration when tourism-related issues are raised by them in the General Agreement on Trade and Services (GATS);

9. Notes that in many developing countries the tourism sector is fundamentally a private-sector activity, and that the Community must therefore find ways to ensure that interested parties and other social partners are fully involved in all discussions regarding development policy affecting the tourism sector;

10. Demands that the governments of the countries concerned and EU tour operators enforce human rights standards, workers' rights in accordance with ILO core labour standards, the protection of the European tourism-consumer and the recommendations concerning tour operators;

11. Calls on the governments of developing countries to introduce transparent and properly regulated procedures for access to national markets in accordance with the recommendations of the UN World Tourism Organisation, as a necessary condition for all foreign investment;

Tourism as a factor in environmental protection and conservation of heritage and culture

12. Calls for the establishment of sustainable tourism policies and regulations to protect and conserve natural resources, the cultural heritage and traditional land tenure systems;

13. Encourages the optimisation of existing technical and scientific resources with a view to preventing the degradation or destruction of architectural heritage and environmental deterioration;
14. Calls for EU support to the tourism sector also to incorporate the environmental dimension, particularly with regard to waste management and coastal zone development;

15. Calls for all European investments in tourism in developing countries to be subject to the same rules applicable to EU funding for investment within the EU, such that any investment which is manifestly detrimental to the environment, human rights, ILO core labour standards, the way of life of indigenous communities or the historical and cultural heritage of the recipient country must not be supported;

16. Calls on the EU to provide technical support to countries which, under the impact of mass tourism, are obliged to take measures to preserve their tourist sites; calls also for an exchange of best practices in this field;

17. Stresses the urgent need for the Community to aid countries hit by natural disasters that affect their tourist industry; calls for special attention to be paid to the situation of small island States;

18. Encourages local authorities which are confronted with an over-rapid tourist boom to take measures to limit numbers where necessary;

19. Calls, in the interests of accessible, protected and secure tourism, for initiatives to tackle crime directed against tourism, including specialist training for police services;

20. Calls on the Commission, in its activities in support of sustainable development, to recognise the right of a country or a region to define its own priorities democratically when financing regional cooperation projects;

21. Calls on the governments of the Member States, and the Commission, with the support of tour operators and experienced organisations, to act to promote ethical standards in tourism by introducing a certified European Fair Trade Tourism label;

22. Calls on the EU to assist governments in framing, monitoring and implementing legislation controlling access to, and use of, ecologically fragile areas on land or sea;

Tourism as a factor in public health and education, including the social impact of sex tourism

23. Considers that income from sustainable tourism may contribute to improving the standard of living of the population in developing countries and to public health, as well as to housing, communications, energy and technology infrastructures;

24. Considers that appropriate fiscal policy directed towards the tourism sector can provide governments with revenue to offer improved health facilities and other infrastructure that benefit both local residents and tourists;

25. Underlines that tourism has an impact on public health standards and local health services; recognises, therefore, the need to mobilise research at European level to combat malaria, tuberculosis, sexually transmitted diseases (including HIV/AIDS) and neglected diseases;

26. Calls once more on the Commission to ensure financial support for the vaccination of children, targeted at urgent needs regarding vaccines combining antigens against the following diseases: diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, hepatitis B and Haemophilus Influenzae type B meningitis;

27. Calls on tour operators and travel agencies to inform their clients of the risks of disease and injury they may face when choosing a destination or tourism activity and of the norms and values of host societies;
28. Calls on the EU to support the creation in ACP countries of schools teaching professional skills in tourism, languages and new information and communication technologies, aiming to train personnel for regional and local tourism activities in developing countries or groups of developing countries with the same needs;

29. Calls on the Union and the Member States to make their experience and know-how available to developing countries with tourist potential with a view to offering on-site training of personnel; calls on the Commission to support projects in developing countries requesting such know-how;

30. Calls on the governments of the countries concerned to circulate among themselves an annual list of visa refusals on the grounds of male and female sex tourism offences, crimes against humanity or terrorism;

31. Calls, with a view to combating child sex tourism:
   — on the Commission and Council to give greater priority to the fight against child sex tourism, including restoring the budget line ‘Combating child sex tourism in third countries’ in order to ensure that resources are dedicated to this;
   — on the Commission to recognise the link between child pornography and sex tourism and ensure that this is raised in political dialogue with third countries;
   — on the Commission and the Member States to ensure that children’s needs and rights are given priority in development aid, in particular the rehabilitation and reintegration needs of children affected by sex tourism;

32. Encourages tour operators, travel agents and airlines who have already done so to continue to act against sex tourism by raising their clients’ awareness and informing them of potential legal risks, and calls on those who have not taken such steps to begin to do so; calls on all operators to cooperate with the authorities in identifying potential criminal activity;

33. Calls on all States to ensure the ethics of transplantation by adopting measures to eliminate ‘transplant tourism’;

Tourism as a factor in poverty reduction

34. Calls for the above-mentioned Global Code of Ethics for Tourism to be incorporated into national law by all countries;

35. Calls for the promotion of locally-controlled sustainable tourism initiatives aimed at poverty alleviation, the conservation of biodiversity and the promotion of human rights;

36. Calls on the EU and its Member States to provide financial support to the UN World Tourism Organisation initiative ST-EP (Sustainable Tourism-Eliminating Poverty) and other initiatives that work towards alleviating poverty in developing countries;

37. Recommends a new pro-poor vision in national policies and in tourism policies that is aimed at the empowerment of local populations and their organised economic activities;

38. Calls on the governments of the Member States to ensure that the rules applicable to EU companies are fully implemented in cases of relocation to, or execution of contracts in, developing countries, giving special consideration to the rights of the workers affected and to a sustainable supply chain, using mainly national inputs;

39. Recognises the role of tourism in offering an alternative source of income for traditional farmers in small States who have lost their competitiveness in the global market due to new trade agreements;

40. Stresses the fact that tourism is a major employment generator; stresses, therefore, that all job creation measures must comply with ILO standards;
41. Recognises tourism is labour intensive, has high female employment ratios, is not necessarily import intensive, has low barriers to entry, encompasses all types and dimensions of enterprises and provides opportunities for downstream economic links in the local economy, and thereby allows poor people to gain opportunities for unskilled and semi-skilled employment;

42. Considers that governments could create incentives for companies to invest and operate in ways that favour the poor, by adapting their licensing, concessioning, supply-chain and marketing policies;

43. Instructs its Co-Presidents to forward this resolution to the ACP-EU Council, the European Commission, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and the African Union.

RESOLUTION (1)

on small arms and light weapons and sustainable development

The ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly,

— meeting in Bridgetown (Barbados) from 20 to 23 November 2006,

— having regard to Rule 17(1) of its Rules of Procedure,

— having regard to the Cotonou Agreement, particularly Article 12,

— having regard to the Millennium Summit and Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals and its resolution calling for concerted action to end illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons,

— having regard to the United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects (henceforth referred to as the UNPoA) as adopted in July 2001,

— having regard to the first United Nations Biennial Meetings of States to Consider the Implementation of the UNPoA held, respectively, in July 2003, July 2005 and July 2006,

— having regard to the adoption by the United Nations General Assembly in December 2005 of the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons (2),

— having regard to the entry into force on 6 July 2005 of the 2001 Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition (3),

— having regard to UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000), which addresses the impact of war on women, and women's contributions to conflict resolution and sustainable peace,

— having regard to the conclusions of the G8 Summit in Gleneagles (United Kingdom) of June 2005, in particular concerning the doubling of aid by 2010 — an extra USD 50 billion worldwide and USD 25 billion for Africa — and the conclusions of the G8 Summit held in St Petersburg (Russia) on 16 and 17 July 2006,

— having regard to the Rome Statute establishing the ICC,

(1) Adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on 23 November 2006 in Bridgetown (Barbados).

(2) A/60/463 (L.55) decision, 8 December 2005.

(3) The Protocol known as the ‘UN Firearms Protocol’ was adopted in May 2001 by General Assembly Resolution 55/255.