

## **Tourism Law and Legislation**

### **Assignment 2**

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**In no more than 500 words, each explain and 2-4 references:**

1- What are subsidiary bodies in international tourism governance? Explain their general role within UNWTO.

2- What is the Manila Declaration on World Tourism (1980)? Why is it considered a milestone in tourism policy?

#### **1. Subsidiary Bodies in International Tourism Governance**

Within the framework of UN Tourism (formerly UNWTO), subsidiary bodies serve as specialized auxiliary organs designed to execute technical, regional, or administrative functions that support the overarching goals of the organization. They act as the "operational heart," transforming high-level resolutions into actionable policy.

##### **Operational Roles within UN Tourism**

These bodies ensure that the organization's mandate is both technically precise and geographically relevant through two primary channels:

- \* **Regional Commissions:** Comprising six distinct geographical blocks (Africa, the Americas, East Asia and the Pacific, Europe, the Middle East, and South Asia), these commissions customize global policies to fit local realities and foster cross-border cooperation.

- \* **Technical Committees:** Specialized groups—such as those dedicated to Statistics, Competitiveness, or Tourism and Sustainability—act as advisory units. They develop global standards and conduct the rigorous research necessary to guide the Executive Council's decisions.

By synthesizing specialized expertise with regional perspectives, subsidiary bodies ensure that international tourism governance remains inclusive, evidence-based, and culturally adaptable.

#### References

- \* UN Tourism (2024). Structure of the World Tourism Organization.
- \* Vellas, F. (2011). The International Marketing of Travel and Tourism.
- \* Fletcher, J., et al. (2017). Tourism: Principles and Practice.

## 2. The Manila Declaration on World Tourism (1980)

The Manila Declaration is widely recognized as the foundational "Magna Carta" of tourism policy. Adopted at the World Tourism Conference in the Philippines, it marked a paradigm shift, moving the global discourse beyond commercial interests to recognize tourism's profound socio-political impact.

#### Significance as a Policy Milestone

Prior to 1980, tourism was analyzed primarily as a tool for economic gain and foreign exchange. The Declaration disrupted this narrow view by establishing three core pillars:

- \* Humanistic Value: It positioned tourism as a vital force for world peace, moral enrichment, and the spiritual advancement of mankind.
- \* The Right to Leisure: By aligning tourism with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, it asserted that access to travel and rest is a fundamental right, not a luxury reserved for the elite.
- \* Public Governance: It redefined tourism as a primary responsibility of the State, requiring public sector intervention to protect national heritage and ensure environmental integrity. This document effectively laid the ethical and conceptual groundwork for today's focus on social equity and sustainable development in the travel industry.

#### References

- \* UNWTO (1980). Manila Declaration on World Tourism.
- \* Higgins-Desbiolles, F. (2006). More than an "industry": The forgotten power of tourism as a social force.
- \* Edgell, D. L. (2019). Managing Sustainable Tourism: A Critical Approach.