

Tourism Law and Legislation

Assignment 2

14.01.2025



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Submission Date: 20-Jan -2025

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

Ans>

International Tourism Governance of subsidiary Bodies

Subsidiary bodies are specialized committees, working groups, and organs of the principal governing bodies of international organizations that are constituted to execute a certain functions, give expert advice, or deal with certain aspects of the mandate of the organization. Under UNWTO, these organizations act under the General Assembly and the Executive Council to boost the performance of the organization and to cover the niche sections of tourism development.

Subsidiary bodies play a number of important functions in the governance structure of UNWTO. They also offer technical skills in specialized matters on tourism like statistics, sustainable development, education and training and regional development. Such bodies unite professionals, government officials and other stakeholders with high levels of expertise in certain fields and therefore UNWTO is able to formulate evidence based policies and practices. Subsidiary bodies also help to engage a narrow discussion of complicated issues that may need a long period of attention that cannot be achieved by the General Assembly or the Executive council during their usual sessions. An example is the tourism statistics committees which create a standardized methodology to measure the economic impact of tourism, and the working groups on sustainable tourism which deal with the issues of environment and social issues.

The other important role is the regional coordination. The regional commissions of the African, the Americas, East Asia and the Pacific, the Europe, Middle East and South Asian regions of UNWTO are subsidiary organizations that not only carry out the tourism concerns of a region, but also provide knowledge sharing experiences among the neighboring nations and also carry out the UNWTO programs at the regional levels.

These institutions also improve inclusivity and participation through provision of platforms where member states, affiliate members, and external experts can make a significant contribution towards a particular area of policy. This enhances the widening of knowledge base and makes the work of UNWTO to be diverse in view and experiences.

The decisions of the main organs of UNWTO are based on the results of the work of subsidiary bodies such as recommendations, technical guidelines, research reports, and policy frameworks that set the strategic direction of the organization. They fill the segmentation between the top-level governance and practicality, as well as keep UNWTO sensitive to the changing trends and issues in the sphere of tourism.

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

Ans>

Manila Declaration on World Tourism (1980)

The Manila Declaration on World Tourism, which was adopted in October 1980 in Manila, Philippines, during the World Tourism Conference, is a historic document that essentially transformed the role of tourism in our society and laid down foundations upon which the policy of international tourism remains based.

This statement was a paradigmatic reversal of considering tourism as a mere economic pursuit to the understanding of tourism as a primary human right and a phenomenon. In its opening statements, the declaration has stated that tourism is an activity that is vital in the existence of

nations and that the right to rest and leisure, a reasonable limitation of working time and the right to periodic holiday with remuneration, and the right to freedom of movement are essential human rights and some of the fundamental human rights that tourism is based on.

The declaration of Manila has been regarded as a milestone in a number of reasons. To begin with, it made tourism a peace-making and understanding instrument and focused on the power of tourism to promote cultural exchange and mutual respect and global cooperation. This pegged tourism in the wider United Nations goals of enhancing peace and development.

Second, the statement expressed the social and cultural aspects of tourism and economic gains. It saw the effects of tourism on host population, cultural heritage and social structures that demanded tourism development that is sensitive to local people and their cultural identities. This holism was a revolutionary concept of the day.

Third, it presented pioneer ideas in sustainable and responsible tourism development, where governments should make sure that tourism development places into focus environmental protection and cultural conservation. The declaration declared that the world tourism could serve as an important source of world peace and that it could be the source of moral and intellectual foundation of international understanding and international interdependence.

Fourth, Manila Declaration offered a wide-ranging policy framework that stipulated the roles of governments, the national sector, and the international bodies. It demanded combined planning, conservation of resources as well as fair sharing of tourism profits-doctrines that still hold in the present times.

The impact of the declaration has been carried over to other international arrangements, such as the Global Code of Ethics in Tourism (1999) and other sustainable development endeavors. It has set the guiding principles that have helped define tourism as more than a business and that it is a human development driver, an international cultural driver and a unifying agent to the world.

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