

SUBSIDIARY BODIES

Subsidiary Bodies in International Tourism Governance and Their Role in UNWTO:

The period between the main international organization and its specialized bodies is referred to as the subsidiary bodies of international tourism governance. The subordinate bodies were set up by the main organization to help it in its operations in the regions. The United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) has some subordinate bodies that deal with the technical and operational work of tourism which cannot be managed by its General Assembly and other governing bodies.

Role in the UNWTO:

The subsidiary bodies of the UNWTO are very important for the overall process of policy development and implementation and monitoring. The subsidiary bodies contribute their expertise and look after the representation at the regional level and address matters such as sustainability and ethics in tourism as well as statistics and crisis management.

Important Types of Subsidiary Bodies of UNWTO

- **Executive Council:**

Serves as the governing body for UNWTO during periods between General Assembly Meetings. This ensures effective implementation of decisions and programs.

- **Regional Commissions**

The representatives come from different regions (Africa, Americas, East Asia & Pacific, Europe, Middle East, South Asia). They highlight regional needs, and this makes global tourism strategies to regional contexts.

- **Committees & Working Groups**

These focus on specific areas such as tourism ethics, sustainability, tourism statistics, and market trends. They provide technical expertise and policy recommendations.

- **Specialized Bodies and Networks**

Include groups dealing with education, crisis response, innovation, and sustainable tourism development.

Importance in International Tourism Governance

Subsidiary bodies ensure:

- Efficient decision-making
- Expert-driven policy guidance
- Regional balance and inclusiveness
- Better implementation of sustainable tourism policies

In summary, subsidiary bodies strengthen UNWTO's capacity to govern global tourism by translating broad goals into practical actions and region-specific strategies.

References

1. UNWTO. (2023). *UNWTO Statutes and Rules of Procedure*.
2. UNWTO. (2022). *Structure of the World Tourism Organization*.
3. Hall, C. M. (2011). *Tourism and Global Environmental Change*. Routledge.

The Manila Declaration on World Tourism (1980) and Its Importance

The Manila Declaration on World Tourism (1980) was a result of the World Tourism Conference held in Manila, Philippines, under the auspices of the UNWTO. It is considered as a key document that redefined the impact of tourism from an economic activity to a cultural phenomenon.

What Is the Manila Declaration?

The declaration highlighted tourism's many aspects, viz. social, cultural, educational, and economic. Besides, it connected tourism with the right to rest, leisure and freedom of travel by declaring it to be a basic human activity.

Key Principles of the Declaration

- Tourism should foster peace, international understanding and cultural interchange
- The developments in the tourism industry must be considerate of people's dignity, local traditions and nature
- It is the duty of governments to include tourism in their national development planning
- Tourism should be a source of economic growth, jobs, and social progress, especially in the case of poor countries

Why It Is Considered a Milestone

- **Shift in Policy Perspective:**

Tourism policy was broadened to incorporate human, cultural and ethical values along with profit-making.

- **Foundation for Sustainable Tourism:**

It was the declaration which set the very concept of minimum impact tourism and responsible travel that later emerged.

- **Government Responsibility:**

Tourism was no longer considered private only, public policy was the acknowledgment that came with it.

- **Global Recognition of Tourism's Role:**

It amplified the significance of tourism in international development and cooperation.

In conclusion, the Manila Declaration is considered a watershed because it redirected the global tourism policy towards sustainability, ethics, human development as well as economic growth.

References

1. UNWTO. (1980). *Manila Declaration on World Tourism*.
2. Sharpley, R. (2009). *Tourism Development and the Environment*. Earthscan.
3. Hall, C. M., & Jenkins, J. (2004). *Tourism and Public Policy*. Routledge.