

ASSOCIATION OF CARIBBEAN STATES (ACS)

FIFTH SUMMIT OF HEADS OF STATE AND/OR GOVERNMENT OF THE ACS

Pétion-Ville, Haiti, 26th April, 2013

EXTRACT FROM THE PLAN OF ACTION OF PÉTION VILLE RELATED TO SUSTIANABLE TOURISM

The tasks contained in the following Plan of Action of the Association of Caribbean States (ACS) shall be completed within a two-year period for the years 2013 and 2014. The Secretariat shall present regular reports and recommendations on the implementation of this Plan of Action to the Ministerial Council and its subsidiary organs, which will decide on action to be taken and possible modifications to be made, bearing in mind changes in circumstances.

All Member States and Associate Members are urged to support the projects and activities identified herein.

SUSTAINABLE TOURISM

1. **Establishment of the Sustainable Tourism Zone of the Greater Caribbean (STZC).** This is the flagship project of the ACS Special Committee on Sustainable Tourism which seeks the establishment and recognition of the Greater Caribbean as a Region that supports and promotes the Sustainable development of Tourism. Implementation of this project currently in the third phase of execution will include the establishment of support mechanisms, conducting studies and research and establishing regional and international linkages to enhance the profile, visibility and value of the STZC. These activities are expected to facilitate the exchange of information and best practices among STZC Stakeholders, and also support consultation and integrated planning for the further development of the STZC.
2. **Annual Regional Tourism Safety and Security Capacity-building Seminar.** To facilitate dialogue and cooperation among Tourism, National Security and Disaster Management Agencies on issues related to crime and harassment against tourists, and also to contribute to the development of coordinated and integrated response mechanisms and strategies in relation to disaster and risk mitigation and management, an Annual Regional Tourism Safety and Security Capacity-building workshop and/or seminar will be hosted. The First Annual Seminar will be hosted in collaboration with the Tourism Development Company of Trinidad and Tobago.
3. **Implementation of a Tourism Policing Project.** This project seeks to deliver training, technical assistance and subsequently documentation to increase the competencies of law enforcement and tourism stakeholders in the Greater Caribbean Region, in the area of visitor safety and security, while also creating employment opportunities for the youth. This project will include a Survey and Study on Tourism Policing in the Greater Caribbean Region, which will inform the development of a Regional Best-Practice Framework and Curriculum on Tourism Policing. It is expected to subsequently implement a pilot training project comprising of a mix of ACS Member States with due consideration to the geographical and linguistic representation. Implementation of this project will facilitate the transfer of knowledge, best practices

and experiences of countries with Tourism Police units utilising knowledge exchange mechanisms and co-operation.

4. **Establishment of the Centre for the Promotion of Languages and Cultures of the Greater Caribbean (CPLC).** The objective of this project is to prioritize the implementation of student exchange programs among the countries of the ACS for language training and cultural immersion. As such, this project is aimed at promoting the cultural diversity of the region and strengthening the language skills of nationals in the main languages spoken in the Greater Caribbean: English, French, and Spanish; and also to foster the learning of the Creole language and culture as well as the other indigenous languages and cultures of the Greater Caribbean.
5. **Forum of Airline and Tourism Executives for the Promotion Multi-Destination Tourism in the Greater Caribbean.** To promote multi-destination tourism, intra-regional travel and facilitate synergies between the tourism and transport sectors, the project, *Forum of Airline and Tourism Executives for the Promotion Multi-Destination Tourism in the Greater Caribbean: Exploring Closer Ties & Opportunities for Connectivity* will be implemented. Activities for the upcoming period include, hosting of a Meeting of Airline Executives and Regional Tourism and Transport Authorities and commissioning of a Study which collates the diverse regional approaches to MDT, with recommendations for a Greater Caribbean MDT Strategy. The First Regional Dialogue will be held in collaboration with the Latin American and Caribbean Air Transport Association (ALTA) and the Caribbean Tourism Organisation (CTO). These activities are expected to, inter-alia, increase partnerships and linkages between the tourism and air transport sectors and further advances the dialogue on issues pertaining to connectivity within and access to the region.
6. **Cruise Tourism and Entrepreneurial Strengthening in the Greater Caribbean: Opportunities for Women.** This project will seek to deliver training and capacity building tools to women with Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in the tourism industry, and tools for training and capacity building. Activities for the period will include a Study on the role and contribution of women in the Tourism Sector in Greater Caribbean and development of a Training Program Curriculum. Subsequently, a Regional Training Workshop and Symposium will be conducted. This project is expected to highlight the importance of cruise tourism as an engine for the socio-economic development of women; transfer knowledge and resources for capacity-building geared towards entrepreneurial strengthening of women with MSMEs in the tourism industry; and more importantly, showcase women-owned MSMEs to generate interest, exposure and opportunities for increased business.