

OIC/6-ICTM-2008/RES/FINAL

RESOLUTION
ON
"SUSTAINABLE TOURISM DEVELOPMENT IN A
CROSS-BORDER NETWORK AND PROTECTED
AREAS IN WEST AFRICA"

ADOPTED
BY THE SIXTH SESSION OF THE
ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF TOURISM MINISTERS

DAMASCUS, SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

27-28 Jumadial Thani 1429H
(29 JUNE - 2 JULY 2008)

RESOLUTION
ON "SUSTAINABLE TOURISM DEVELOPMENT IN A CROSS-BORDER
NETWORK AND PROTECTED AREAS IN WEST AFRICA"

The Sixth Session of the Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, held in Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic, from 25 to 28 Jumadiul Thani, 1429H. (29 June – 2 July, 2008);

Recalling Resolutions No.6/35-E adopted by the Thirty-Fifth Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers, held in Kampala, Republic of Uganda, on 18-20 June 2008;

Recalling the resolution on Tourism Development of the 5th Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers held in Baku in the Republic of Azerbaijan in September 2006;

Recalling the relevant provisions of the Plan of Action of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) to Strengthen Economic and Commercial Cooperation, and the COMCEC resolutions relating to the project on the "'Sustainable Tourism Development in a Cross-Border Network of Risks and Reserves in West Africa"; which gathers nine Member States of the OIC: Benin, the Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal and Sierra Leone.

Taking into account the interest given by H.E. Prof. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu, the Secretary General of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC), to the Implementation of this project, was appointed the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) as a coordination of this project on behalf of the OIC.

Considering the importance of this project for sustainable Development of Tourism, poverty alleviation and protection of environment in West Africa;

1. **Reaffirms** its support for the regional project on the creation of a Network of Cross-Border Parks and in West Africa submitted by nine OIC Member States;
2. **Expresses** its thank the Republic of Guinea for its efforts to coordinate and follow up this Project;
3. **Expresses** its thanks to the Republic of Korea and the World Tourism Organisation and ST-EP Foundation for having graciously supplied a financial contribution to work out the feasibility study of this project;
4. **Notes with satisfaction**, that ICDT is ensuring with great efficiency the coordination of the project committee at the level of the OIC in cooperation with SESRIC;

5. **Decides** to set up a Steering Committee consisting of all the West African countries concerned with the project in order to validate the programme of activities of the project;
6. **Calls on** the IDB Group to extend its financial assistance for the implementation of the project;
7. **Expresses** satisfaction at the progress made in the implementing this project, notably the launching of the feasibility study;
8. **Requests** the Secretary General to follow up the implementation of this resolution, and to report thereon to the 7th Session of the Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers.
