No. 22889

MEXICO and CUBA

Agreement on co-operation in the field of tourism. Signed at Havana on 2 August 1980

Authentic text: Spanish. Registered by Mexico on 26 April 1984.

MEXIQUE et CUBA

Accord de coopération touristique. Signé à La Havane le 2 août 1980

Texte authentique : espagnol. Enregistré par le Mexique le 26 avril 1984. 1984

[TRANSLATION --- TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT¹ ON CO-OPERATION IN THE FIELD OF TOURISM BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF CUBA AND THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES

The Revolutionary Government of the Republic of Cuba and the Government of the United Mexican States, bearing in mind the friendly relations between the two countries, mindful of the importance of tourism both as an economic factor and in promoting understanding between the two peoples, desiring to develop and encourage tourist relations between the two countries and co-operation between their official tourist organizations, and desiring to promote mutual awareness of the tourism potential of the two countries and the advantages of exploiting their tourist resources effectively, have agreed as follows:

Article 1. The Parties shall adopt such measures as they deem necessary to promote the development of tourism in the two countries and increase tourist exchanges between them.

Article 2. The two Parties shall exchange information: on their tourist resources, the public or private enterprises rendering services connected with the promotion of international tourism, the services provided in their respective territories to foreign tourists, measures to facilitate the import and export of tourist documents of a promotional nature, and the carrying capacity of services designed for tourism by students in particular, and tourism by young people in general.

Article 3. Within the limits set by their respective domestic legislations, each of the Parties shall encourage:

- 1. Activities to promote and advertise tourism;
- 2. The adoption of measures to facilitate communications and the transport of tourists between the two countries;
- 3. The adoption of measures to simplify and relax travel formalities.

Article 4. The Parties shall evaluate the progress made with regard to tourist services.

Article 5. 1. The two Parties shall exchange information and shall cooperate in promoting research on their natural resources which could have tourist appeal.

2. They shall encourage the creation of new tourism development centres, particularly in rural areas.

¹ Came into force on 28 March 1982, i.e., 30 days after the exchange of the instruments of ratification, which took place at Mexico City on 26 February 1982, in accordance with article 12.

3. They shall exchange information on current legislation in each of the two countries governing the protection and conservation of natural and cultural resources of interest to tourists.

Article 6. 1. The Parties shall share, through their official tourist agencies, their experiences in hotel management, the management of other types of accommodation, and the provision of tourist services.

2. They shall make every effort to improve co-operation in the fields of specialized instruction and vocational training in the tourism sector, including advanced instruction and research.

3. They shall consider the formulation of special fellowship and internship programmes. They shall also strengthen co-operation between the two countries' professionals, with a view to raising the level of tourism expertise.

4. They shall exchange information on their respective regulations governing professional tourism activities, particularly information on their experiences concerning youth hostels, social tourism, tourist accommodation standards, the status of travel agencies and the status of tour guides.

5. They shall encourage the joint organization of cultural and artistic events for the purpose of fostering tourism.

Article 7. The Parties shall lay the foundations for continuous cooperation in planning, research and development relating to tourism infrastructure. This co-operation may lead, in certain cases, to the implementation by Mexican and Cuban professionals of jointly-designed projects.

Article 8. The Parties shall determine the conditions under which certain officials of their tourist boards, especially experts in tourism planning, may compare their methodologies with respect to questions of infrastructure and marketing. They shall devote particular attention to any measures likely to encourage co-operation betwen the two countries' tourism professionals.

Article 9. Within the framework of their respective domestic legislations, the Parties agree to promote joint investments in the field of tourism, particularly in the accommodation sector.

Article 10. 1. With a view to monitoring, promoting and evaluating the programmes and activities resulting from this Agreement, a Technical Committee on tourism shall be established.

2. This Committee shall be composed of representatives of each Party's tourist board, and may include experts and representatives of other boards.

3. The meetings of the Committee shall be held alternately in the two countries on dates set by mutual agreement through the diplomatic channel.

4. The Committee shall present an annual report on its activities to the Mexican-Cuban Joint Commission on Economic Co-operation.

Article 11. The Parties hereby consent to the immediate conclusion of an agreement on joint action, with a view to co-ordinating all efforts in planning the construction of a new tourism-development centre at Cayo Largo and the southern part of the Isla de la Juventud that would have enough appeal to attract tourists to destinations in both countries.

Article 12. This Agreement shall be subject to ratification, and shall enter into force 30 days after the date of the exchange of the instruments of ratification.

The exchange of the instruments of ratification shall take place in Mexico City. This Agreement is concluded for a period of five years beginning on the date of its entry into force, and shall be automatically renewed for additional two-year periods unless one of the Parties gives the other notice in writing of its intention to terminate it, at least six months before its original expiry date or before the expiry of any additional two-year period.

Denunciation of this Agreement shall not affect ongoing projects and programmes approved while it was in force, unless the two Parties decide otherwise. In witness whereof the plenipotentiaries designated for that purpose have signed this Agreement at Havana on 2 August 1980, in two original copies in the Spanish language, both texts being equally authentic.

[Signed] JOSÉ LUIS PADRÓN GONZÁLEZ President of the National Institute of Tourism [Signed] GUILLERMO ROSSELL DE LA LAMA Minister of Tourism