FORUM: Special Conference

QUESTION OF: The role of ecotourism in the promotion of economic and environmental sustainability.

SUBMITTED BY: The Dominican Republic

COSUBMITTERS: Madagascar, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Chile, Bolivia, Palau, El Salvador, Paraguay, IFAD, Guinea, Thailand

SIGNATORIES: Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, Paraguay, Portugal, Italy, Ecuador, Interpol

Recognizing the quickly rising popularity of ecotourism;

Taking into account the past effects of tourism on the environment;

Considering the wellbeing of the flora and fauna;

The Special Conference Committee,

1. Urges countries to set up precautions for the animals and plant life in eco touristic areas to prevent the harm of the area:
    a. any harm to the animals or plant life in the area will lead to heavy taxation to repair or replace the damage,
        i. this would include waste of any kind,
    b. the hiring of crew members to clean up any harmful plastics or residue left behind by tourists,
        i. this crew would be paid by the government through the funds received from tourism in the area;

2. Demands countries to introduce regulations preventing the money made from ecotourism being used on anything other than keeping the environment of the area stable:

a. this would mean the money could only go to paying for the nourishment of the wildlife and plant life in this area as well as the people who would care for them,
    i. if this law is to be broken by the government of the said country it would result in a strict fine to be used on the eco touristic area in question;

3. Requests that all endangered species be kept out of the eye of the public in these areas to avoid the chance of them being harmed:
    a. this includes all animals under the category of vulnerable to critically endangered;

4. Emphasizes the importance of limiting the amount of tourism in the areas to avoid the harm of the areas:
    a. the amount of tourism allowed would be flexible and the rule is in place to prevent a mass of people touring and hurting the protected area,
        i. the number of people allowed in would be based on the amount of money being used to keep the area in good condition;

5. Calls for laws to be put forth that prohibit building on the area where the ecotourism takes place:
    a. this includes centers and shops related to ecotourism in the area;

6. Suggests that fines be put in place for any kind of behavior that upsets or discomforts the inhabitants of the area:
    a. this includes any kind of disturbance through noisy, visual or harassing behavior,
    b. the fine would vary depending on the gravity of the disturbance;

7. Insists countries use the money funded from this new branch of tourism on supplying the area with the correct tools for it to environmentally thrive and grow:
    a. this would include supplying the area with fresh water, fixing issues with the removal of soil and erosion and accommodating any inhabitants near the area of ecotourism for possible disturbances;

8. Proposes that countries set up tour paths and guides throughout the eco touristic area:
    a. this would allow for the ecotourism projects to start up quickly and generate income more quickly for each countries economy,
    b. These tour paths could not move through an area in which endangered animals tend to live, as well as not hurting the natural plant life in the area,
    c. these guides could also come from companies which must share the income they generate with the countries government;

9. Asks that countries set laws against hunting both in the area and near the area:
    a. Preventing hunting around the area would prevent animals from getting flustered and not allowing the tourists in the area to see the wildlife that attracts income,
    b. It would allow for the animals to feel safer and more at comfort around the tourists in the area;

10. Recommends that countries advertise their ecotourism locations to generate higher income and awareness for their environment:
    a. This should be advertised to as many people as possible through,
        i. News,

ii. TV,

iii. Websites,

iv. however else the country sees fit,

b. These advertisements would also include a chance to donate to the preservation of the area, to further generate funds for the area.