

**WORLD TOURISM ORGANIZATION
(WTO)**

STATUTES

Establishment

Article 1

The World Tourism Organization, hereinafter referred to as "the Organization", an international organization of inter-governmental character resulting from the transformation of the International Union of Official Travel Organizations (IUOTO), is hereby established.

Headquarters

Article 2

The headquarters of the Organization shall be determined and may at any time be changed by decision of the General Assembly.

Aims

Article 3

1. The fundamental aim of the Organization shall be the promotion and development of tourism with a view to contributing to economic development, international understanding, peace, prosperity, and universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion. The Organization shall take all appropriate action to attain this objective.

2. In pursuing this aim, the Organization shall pay particular attention to the interests of the developing countries in the field of tourism.

3. In order to establish its central role in the field of tourism, the Organization shall establish and maintain effective collaboration with the appropriate organs of the United Nations and its specialized agencies. In this connection the Organization shall seek a co-operative relationship with and participation in the activities of the United Nations Development Programme, as a participating and executing agency.

Membership

Article 4

Membership of the Organization shall be open to:

- (a) Full Members
- (b) Associate Members
- (c) Affiliate Members

Article 5

1. Full membership of the Organization shall be open to all sovereign States.

2. States whose national tourism organizations are Full Members of IUOTO at the time of adoption of these Statutes by the Extraordinary General Assembly of IUOTO shall have the right to become Full Members of the Organization, without requirement of vote, on formally declaring that they adopt the Statutes of the Organization and accept the obligations of membership.

3. Other States may become Full Members of the Organization if their candidatures are approved by the General Assembly by a majority of two-thirds of the Full Members present and voting provided that said majority is a majority of the Full Members of the Organization.

Article 6

1. Associate membership of the Organization shall be open to all territories or groups of territories not responsible for their external relations.

2. Territories or groups of territories whose national tourism organizations are Full Members of IUOTO at the time of adoption of these Statutes by the Extraordinary General Assembly of IUOTO shall have the right to become Associate Members of the Organization, without requirement of vote, provided that the State which assumes responsibility for their external relations approves their membership and declares on their behalf that such territories or groups of territories adopt the Statutes of the Organization and accept the obligations of membership.

3. Territories or groups of territories may become Associate Members of the Organization if their candidature has the prior approval of the Member State which assumes responsibility for their external relations and declares on their behalf that such territories or groups of territories adopt the Statutes of the Organization and accept the obligations of membership. Such candidatures must be approved by the Assembly by a majority of two-thirds of the Full Members present and voting provided that said majority is a majority of the Full Members of the Organization.

4. When an Associate Member of the Organization becomes responsible for the conduct of its external relations, that Associate Member shall be entitled to become a Full Member of the Organization on formally declaring in writing to the Secretary-General that it adopts the Statutes of the Organization and accepts the obligations of full membership.

Article 7

1. Affiliate membership of the Organization shall be open to international bodies, both intergovernmental and non-governmental, concerned with specialized interests in tourism and to commercial bodies and associations whose activities are related to the aims of the Organization or fall within its competence.

2. Associate Members of IUOTO at the time of adoption of these Statutes by the Extraordinary General Assembly of IUOTO shall have the right to become Affiliate Members of the Organization without requirement of vote, on declaring that they accept the obligations of affiliate membership.

3. Other international bodies, both intergovernmental and non-governmental, concerned with specialized interests in tourism, may become Affiliate Members of the Organization provided the request for membership is presented in writing to the Secretary-General and receives approval by the Assembly by a majority of two-thirds of the Full Members present and voting and provided that said majority is a majority of the Full Members of the Organization.

4. Commercial bodies or associations with interests defined in paragraph 1 above may become Affiliate Members of the Organization provided their requests for membership are presented in writing to the Secretary-General and are endorsed by the State in which the headquarters of the candidate is