Appendix

APPENDIX - I

Survey on Tourist Traffic to Sikkim

I. Interview Schedule for tour operators

1. Name of the Travel Agency

2. Contact person

3. Address

4. Designation

5. Telephone

6. Location of your office

7. Organizational Details: - *- Proprietorship*
- Partnership
- Joint venture
- Company
- Corporation

8. Group if any:

9. Location of your Travel Agency:
Urban ------, Sub-urban -------, Rural --------, others-----

10. Do you tie-up with any other travel agency?
Yes ----- No -----

If yes, please elaborate on the nature of tie-up.

11. What type of services you facilitate to tourist /clients?

- Ticketing –Airlines: Domestic & International,
- Ticketing – Railways.
- Hotel Bookings
- Car Hire Services
- Travel guidance and information
- Tour Packages
- Visa / passport
- Furnishing Information / Consultation
- Foreign Exchange
- Cruise Line services
- Any other

12. Type of client you get?
GIT -------, FIT ------, Walk in ------.

13. Total number of guest you receive every year

14. From which state or country you receive tourist most?

15. Tourist Traffic during – 1) Jan. to June ---------- (Domestic)
Jan. To June ---------- (International)

2) July to Dec. ---------- (Domestic)
July to Dec. ---------- (International)

16. What type of tourism you promote mostly and why?

17. What is your idea about Eco-Tourism?

18. Do you think Sikkim is ideal for Eco-tourism?

19. Do your organization conversant with Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)? Please comment.

20. Whether your package tour follows environmental code of conduct? Please justify.

21. What is your idea about best Eco-tourism product?

22. Whether Sikkim has any popular Eco-tourism site? If yes, what are?

23. What are the loopholes of Eco-tourism development in Sikkim?

24. What steps should be taken by both the governments i.e. State and Center to enhance tourism in the state especially in case of Eco-tourism?

25. Whether your company floats any Tour Package based on Eco-tourism concept?

26. Any suggestion:

Place

Date Signature

II. Interview Schedule for tourists

1. Name

2.Address:

Ph.----------

3.Age 4. Sex

5. Occupation

6. Places already visited: Darjeeling ------ Sikkim-----Sunder ban ------Digha -----
Delhi ------- Agra-----T.N.------- Karnataka-----
Kerala -------Rajasthan -----Andaman----Kulu-Manali-----
Mumbai------Goa-----Kashmir------Any other-----

7. Nationality

8. State of Origin

9. Date of Arrival

10. Duration of Stay

11. Mode of Transportation (Arr.)

12. Expenditure per day per tourist (a.) Hotel.....

(b.) transportation .....(c.) Misc.....

11. Mode of Accommodation.....

12. Total No. of tourists visiting with you .....

13. What motivated you to visit Sikkim?.....

14. How many destinations/sites/attractions you have covered till date .....

15. What Forms/Types of tourism attracted you the most & why?.....

16. How many times you have visited Sikkim?.....

18. You wish to visit Sikkim again?.....

19. What difference do you find between Sikkim and other states.....

20. Whether you have availed any Tour Package for Sikkim?.....

21. Your opinion on eco-tourism?

22. What steps should be taken by both the governments i.e. State and Center to enhance tourism in the state especially in case of Eco-tourism?

23. How did you come to know about Sikkim?

24. Spending Habit?

25. Suggestions (if any)

Place
Date

Signature of the Respondent

APPENDIX - II
GUIDELINES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF ECO-TOURISM
State Tourism Ministers' Conference

Definition

The activities of persons raveling to and staying in places outside their usual environment for not more than one consecutive year for leisure, business and other purposes constitute tourism. Such visit for being with nature to enjoy its enormous creations both biotic and abiotic, in a most environment friendly manner without any adverse impact on the ecosystem is particularly known as eco-tourism. According to the World Tourism Organization (WTO), "tourism that involves traveling to relatively undisturbed areas with the specified object of studying, admiring and enjoying the scenery and its wild plants and animals, as well as any existing cultural aspects (both of the past or the present) found in these areas" is defined as eco-tourism. Nature tourism (eco-tourism) is distinguished from mass tourism or resorts tourism by having a lower impact on the environment and by requiring less infrastructure development. The key elements of eco-tourism include a natural environment as the prime attraction, an optimum number of environment friendly visitor's activities, which do not have any serious impact on the ecosystem and the positive involvement of the local community in maintaining the ecological balance. Eco-tourism can take many forms and magnitudes. For example, forget oneself in a beautiful natural forest or landscape; watching of animals, birds and trees in a forest or corals and marine life in a sea; engaging in trekking, boating, or rafting; wandering in sand dunes, etc., are some of the common forms of ecotourism. Though the concept has gained importance only recently, India has been experiencing various forms of eco-tourism all through the ages.

Ecotourism resource of India

The geographical diversity of India has given a wealth of ecosystems, which are well protected and preserved. These ecosystems have become the major resources for ecotourism in India. These consist of:

- Biosphere Reserves
- Mangroves
- Corals and Coral Reefs
- Deserts
- Mountains and Forests

- Flora and Fauna and
- Sea, lake and Rivers

a. Biosphere Reserves

Biosphere reserves are multipurpose protected areas to preserve the genetic diversity and integrity of plants, animals and micro-organisms in representative ecosystems.

There are seven such reserves in India at present. These are:

i. Nilgiris
ii. Nanda Devi
iii. Nokrek
iv. Great Nicober
v. Gulf of Mannar
vi. Manas and
vii. Sunder bans

b. Mangroves

Mangroves are very specialized forest ecosystems of tropical and sub-tropical regions of the world bordering the sheltered seacoasts and estuaries.

Major mangrove areas are:

1. Northern Andaman and Nicobar
2. Sunder bans (West Bengal)
3. Bhitarkanika and Mahannadi Delta (Orissa)
4. Coringa, Godavari Delta and Krishna Estuary (Andhra Pradesh)
5. Pichavaram and Point Calimere (Tamil Nadu)
6. Goa
7. Gulf of Kutch (Gujarat)
8. Coondapur (Karnataka)
9. Achra/Ratnagiri (Maharashtra) and
10. Vembanad (Kerala)

c. Corals and Coral Reefs

There are four coral reefs identified in the country so far. These are:

i. The Gulf of Mannar

ii. Andaman and Nicobar Islands

iii. Lakshadweep Islands

iv. Gulf of Kutch

d. Deserts

The great and little deserts in the North-Western Region of the country are distinct ecosystems, which have attracted the fascination of several tourists from all over the world.

e. Mountains and forests

The great Himalayas and other mountain ranges in the country along with their forests, rivers and snow have also become great attractions for eco friendly tourists. The country has an area of about 752.3 lakh hectares notified as forests and of this about 406.1 lakh hectares are classified as Reserve forests and 215.1 lakh hectares as Protected forests.

f. Flora and fauna

India is floristically very rich. There are about 45000 species of plants including shrubs. The country is also having a great variety of fauna numbering a little over 65,000 known species including 1,228 birds, 428 reptiles, mammals, 204 amphibians and 2,546 fishes.

In order to protect and preserve these genetic constituents, India has created 75 National Parks and 421 Wildlife Sanctuaries in different parts of the country. Some of these, which have already become popular with the tourists, are Kaziranga and Manas in Assam; Jim Corbett Park in Uttar Pradesh; Bharatpur, Ranthambore and Sariska in Rajasthan; Kanha and Bandhavgarh in Madhya Pradesh; Bandipur in Karnataka; Simlipal in Orissa, etc.

g. Sea, Lake and River

The Arabian Sea, the Indian Ocean and the Bay of Bengal brace the three sides of Indian subcontinent except the northern boundary and the landmass of India is crisscrossed by several lakes and rivers. These water bodies provide attractive opportunities for water sports activities.

Policies and Planning

The national policy on tourism stipulates that tourism should become a unifying force nationally and internationally, fostering better understanding through travel. It should also help to preserve, retain and enrich our world-view and life-style, our cultural expressions and heritage in all its manifestations. The prosperity that tourism brings should cause accretion and strength rather than damage to our social and cultural values and depletion of our natural resources. Realization of these policy objectives particularly in the context of eco-tourism would involve a selective approach, scientific planning, effective control and continuous monitoring. The developmental process itself should meet the following cardinal principles:

i. It should involve the local community and lead to the overall economic development of the area.

ii. It should identify the likely conflicts between resource use for tourism and for the livelihood of local inhabitants and attempt to minimize such conflicts.

iii. The types and scale of tourism development should be compatible with the environment and socio-cultural characteristics of the local community.

iv. It should be planned as a part of the overall area development strategy, guided by an integrated land use plan and associated with commensurate expansion of public services.

The biosphere, mangroves, coral reefs, deserts, mountains, etc, which form the core resources for eco tourism, are fragile eco-systems. Hence decisions for development of tourism in such areas have to be based on a thorough understanding of local resources, social and economic factors and other characteristics. The objectives of tourism development in any specific areas as well as the intended beneficiaries, dependency and scales also have to be decided on the basis of these factors and discussions and negotiations with those most directly concerned.

The development of physical infrastructure for tourism should be preceded by the preparation of an inventory of resources and a Zoning / management plans to ensure preservation and public use of valuable natural sites.

Wherever destruction or serious alteration of areas of high primary productivity like wetland, sea grass beds, coral reefs, rainforests, is contemplated, benefits and costs should be carefully assessed before planning tourism development activities. Further, planning and promotion of tourism should be undertaken as a component part of an

integral part of an integrated, comprehensive resource management plan founded on sound ecological principles.

The tourism management plan should also establish standards for resort development, covering among others, the style and locations of structures, treatment of sewage and control of litter, preservation of open spaces and public use of fragile areas. It should further lay down procedures to ensure that sewage is not directed to the beach or around water and solid waste like litter, garbage, trash etc. are systematically collected and disposed suitably. Adequate precautionary measures should also be taken to avoid noise pollution. It should specify methods and materials for constructions activities and minimize any possible adverse impact on local materials.

Physical planning and design should integrate community services, transportation and tourism. Transportation and access should also be integrated with other purposes such as industry and trade. Physical planning for all travel modes, especially modern tours by buses also needs to be integrated between outside and inside the area of attraction.

Operational guidelines

The key players in eco tourism business are the government including the State Governments and local authorities, the developers and operators, the visitor and local community. Each one of them has to be sensitive to the environment and local traditions and follow a set of guidelines for the successful development of tourism.

i. The Government

- The Management plan for each area should be prepared through professional landscape architects and urban planners and in consultation with the local community as well as others directly concerned.
- Integrated planning should be adopted to avoid inter-sectoral conflicts.
- The architectural programme for eco-tourism centers should include controlled access points and cabins, roads, self-guided nature trails, signs, observation towers, lodging and dining facilities, docks, garbage disposal facility, etc. as per requirement. If needed, living quarters and facilities for project personnel also have to be provided.
- Structures creating visual pollution, unaesthetic values and non-compatible architecture should be controlled.

- Exclude developments in ecologically unstable zones and define development and buffer zones after proper environmental impact assessments.
- Establish standards, building codes and other regulations.
- Specify environmental, physical and social carrying capacities to limit developmental activities.
- Ensure continuous monitoring of adverse effects of tourism activities and initiate suitable corrective measures.
- Recognize and award quality labels to eco-tourism operators.
- Provide visitor information and interpretation services covering particularly:

  i. What to see

  ii. How to see and

  iii. How to behave.

  It can be by way of brochures, leaflets, specialized guides, self-guided trails, wilderness trails, visitor information centers, etc.

  - Prepare and widely distribute codes of conducts to all visitors.
  - Launch training programmes on eco-tourism to tourism administrators, planners, operators and general public.

ii. Developers and operators

- Respect and follow the planning restrictions, standards and codes provided by the Government and local authorities.
- Implement sound environment principles through self-regulation.
- Practice environmental impact assessment for all new projects and conduct development of environmental audit for all ongoing activities leading to the development of environmental improvement programmes.
- Be sensitive to conservation of environmentally protected or threatened areas, species and scenic aesthetics, achieving landscape enhancement wherever possible.
- Ensure that all structures are unobtrusive and do not interfere with the natural eco-system to the maximum extent.
- Recognize the optimal environmental, capacity and sociological use limits of the site in creating tourist facilities. They should also take into account safety and construction.

- Building should be designed strictly on functional and environmental considerations and avoid over construction.
- Local materials and designs should be used in all constructions to the extent possible.
- Physical planning, architectural design and construction of tourist facilities should employ techniques like solar energy capture and reutilization of rain water, recycling of garbage, natural cross ventilation instead of air-conditioning, a high level of self–sufficiency in food generation through orchards, ecological farms, aquaculture, etc.
- Energy and water saving practices should be employed to the extent possible. Also practice fresh water management and control sewage disposal.
- Control and diminish air emissions, pollutants and noise levels.
- Control and reduce environmentally unfriendly products such as asbestos, CFCs, pesticides and toxic, corrosive, infectious, explosive or flammable materials.
- Respect and support historic or religious objects and sites.
- Provide information and interpretive services to visitors especially on attractions and facilities, safety and security, local customs and traditions, prohibitive rules and regulations, self- conduct, and behavior, etc.
- Ensure adequate opportunities to visitors for communion with nature and native cultures.
- In marketing eco-tourism products, customers should be given correct information, as the visitors who appreciate eco-tourism products are also environmentally aware target groups.
- Training and research programmes for the company should include environmental issues.
- Prepare tourists to minimize possible negative impacts while visiting sensitive environments and cultures before departing to the site.
- Ensure safety and security of visitors and inform them about precautions to be taken.
- Exercise due regard for the interests of local population, including their history, tradition and culture and future development.
- Involve the local community to the extend possible in various activities.

iii. Visitors

Contribute to the conservation of any habitat of flora and fauna and of any site whether natural or cultural, which may be affected by tourism. Make no open fires and discourage others from doing so. If water has to be heated with scarce firewood, use as little as possible. Where possible, use kerosene or fuel, wood stoves.

- Remove litter, burn or bury paper and carry back all non-degradable litter.
- Keep local water clean and avoid using pollutants such as detergents in streams or springs. If no toilet facilities are available, try to confirm yourself at least 30 meters away from cuttings, seeds and roots.
- Leave the campsites clean after use. Remember that another party will be using the same campsite after your departure.
- Help the guides and porters to follow conservation measures. Do not allow the cooks or porters to throw garbage in streams or rivers.
- Respect the natural and cultural heritage of the area and follow local customs.
- Respect local etiquette and wear loose, lightweight cloths in preference to reveling shorts, skimpy tops and tight fitting action wear. Local people disapprove hand holding or kissing in public.
- Respect privacy of individuals and ask permission and use resistant in taking photographs of others.
- Respect holy places and never touch or remove religious objects. Strictly follow the guidelines for person's safety and security.

iv. Local population

- Realize and respect the value of environment, flora and fauna, monuments and cultural heritage.
- Practice conservation of nature and culture as a way of life.
- Establish guidelines to protect valuable local resources and foster tourism development.
- Realize and react to the potential threat of investors who opens opportunities for development but lack sensitivity to local values.

- Become effective nature guides and conservationists of natural areas by enhancing the practical and ancestral knowledge of the natural features of the area.
- Be friendly with the visitors and help them to practice eco-tourism codes.

APPENDIX - III

Global Code of Conduct / Ethics in Tourism

It has been realized that if the negative impacts of tourism are not mitigated, then the ultimate sufferer, besides the environment and local people will be tourism itself. That is why, it is essential that all players in tourism industry, i.e., governments, tourists, hosts, industry and businesses must agree on certain practices, rules, etc. which should be followed by every one. This must be done at all levels, global, national, regional, local government industry etc. but this is only possible if they have an understanding in relation to their acts, attitudes, plans, business, operations etc. So, there is utmost need for Global Code of Ethics for Tourism along with the varied perceptions on ethics.

The Global Code of Ethics for Tourism negotiated by the WTO on behalf of industry and NGO seeks an ethical framework for tourism services delivery. While the WTO and industry were motivated by the desire for standardization and assurance to the consumers that they are getting a fair deal, the NGOs were concerned with labour issues in the tourism industry and the impacts of tourism, particularly in the Third world or in Least Developed Countries (LDCs). Whereas European researchers had researched the consumers' point of view, which had led to strict consumer protection laws in several countries, particularly Germany and France; it was an American research that brought out the host side of the problem. This was probably due to the resistance to back packers who had made a trail across the third world.

Perception on Ethics

Generally, ethics can be described as a limitation on freedom in the interest of social conduct. An ethics originates in the propensity of interdependent social groups to evolve modes of cooperation. Follow points have been discussed in a detailed manner:

1. *Ecological:* Usually the perceptions of local residents on actual and potential impacts of tourism are negative. These have to be recognised by the industry. While the scientific approach redresses the ecological balance the human issue is mostly ignored.
2. *Marketing:* Since Tourism is a community based service industry, marketing efforts should be more collaborative.
3. *Sustainable development:* The needs of the future as well as present have to be considered from the local level to the Global level. The need

to preserve the unique qualities for destinations is therefore, not only in terms of the marketing needs of the business but the life world of the residents. The pressure of the mass tourism to universalize culture is also seen as an unsustainable impact.

4. *Humanistic and social issues:* The primary issue is to regenerate the pride of local communities in the historical past. This will be the basis of authenticity, not the staged cultural forms that have emerged through tourism demand. The heritage and culture movement have also been negotiated from the local and not the hegemonic point of view. Tourism decision-making should, therefore, be more socially responsible and sensitive to local control an ideology.
5. *Tourism education:* Guests satisfaction, public responsibility etc are ethical issues that reflect consumer concerns. Particularly, at undergraduate level the introduction of ethics has been recommended.

Tourism is a big business and is getting bigger. Over a decade ago, it was predicted that tourism is the fastest growing industry as it grows there is a risk of tourism being taken to seriously. The spirit of amateurism and spontaneity have been replaced by financial and prestige values. As the economic benefits of tourism are promoted in a one sided way it's spirit of uplifting, uncontrolled, pre-reflective and intrinsically rewarding experience is in danger being lost at the expenses of extrinsic values, like income to be earned from tourism. The issues of ethics are closely linked with quality. The Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) see quality as being based on the intrinsic value of tourism while the industry and governments look at quality as a factor of extrinsic value. It is apparent that, the manner in which the code of ethics in which the Code of Ethics has been negotiated.

Non Governmental Organization' view on Code of Ethics

A global code of Ethics for Tourism submitted by Ten ECTWT Equations, whose prospective over the issue is mentioned here under:-

Tourism is a worldwide phenomenon effecting human society and the environment. While the tourist and people are working in the tourism industry may benefit, people in tourists receiving areas experience a threat to their self-determination and dignity. Against the dynamics of globalisation the vital rights of local communities have been threatened.

There is a need for change towards the sustainable development. Recognising the urgency to raise awareness about the complex nature of tourism, and its impacts both positive and negative, it should be apparent that tourism has played an ambivalent role in the growth and development of sustainable practices and products in global consumption. Tourism has observed to many inherent dangers, which have been reported from all over the world. Representatives of groups, initiatives and organisations from around the world met in Stuttgart, July 6th to 9th, 1998, to discuss ways for constructively shaping tourism development. This has been done in the conviction that change in tourism is necessary and possible, requiring a positive self-commitment of all stakeholders involved.

Global Ethics

All cultures and societies are committed to specific ethical values with which common areas of concern have been accepted. These values draw back upon secular traditions and regulations, which guide the interaction of individuals, communities and societies as well as to the different beliefs of the religions of the world. Representations of these ethics can be found, for example, in various UN conventions and declarations, like, the Universal Declaration of human rights adopted by the UN general assembly, the International Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Rio declaration on the Environment and Development and the recommendations of Agenda 21. They have also been expressed as fundamental principals of the parliament of the world's religion.

These principals embody the untouchable inviolable dignity of every human being as the very first fundamental ethical which means that every person has a responsibility to treat all people every where and at all times in the humane way. These principles employ broad guidelines for human behaviour, such as the commitment to a culture of:

- Non violence and respect for all life;
- Solidarity and a just economic and political order;
- Sustainability of consumption with respect for fragile environments and scarce resources;
- Tolerance and a life of truthfulness;
- Equal rights and partnership between men and women and
- Protection of rights of children.

Global Ethics in tourism

The ethical principles applicable to all individuals, communities and societies, are also in the same way applicable to all stakeholders in tourism in their respective specific roles. This entails both rights and responsibilities. Concrete and specific ethical standards for behaviour and practice in tourism must follow these said principles.

This means for example:

- *Democracy and peace* in the management and resolving of conflicts connected with tourism, which includes the openness and preparedness for a reciprocal understanding and the observance of the general principle of justice;
- *Solidarity* with those who are directly and strongly affected by tourism and who suffer from unjust structures connected with tourism, and solidarity with those who need material or political and philosophical support in defending their interests and rights which are threatened by tourism development or which are ignored in decision making processes;
- *Justice in a world tourism order*, an aim which intends to change all structures of injustice that exists in the fields of economics, politics, social and cultural life.
- *Respect of diversity* in the various areas of life- societies, environment, cultures, religions and policies-which calls for sensitive to difference and the practice of tolerance.
- *Authentic information* for all people involved or interested in tourism. Such authentic information is a basic need for a just world tourism order. This places a particular responsibility on the media to be objective, fair and truthful when reporting on tourism. Professionals engaged in tourism education should also promote need for authentic research and information to develop sensitized and aware personnel in tourism.
- *Equal rights* for all, women and men, children and old people, at home and abroad.

To improve the present situation in tourism and to minimize its negative impacts, the stakeholders are urged to involve to contribute the best of their knowledge, abilities, and skills towards a tourism that is in the line with these ethical principles. The stakeholders involved in tourism such as governments, other public authorities, decision makers and professionals in the field of tourism, public and private associations and

institutions whose activities are related to tourism , tourists and local communities to adopt the following principles and work towards the following objectives:-

1. ***Political***

- The control of tourism development in line with sustainability criteria- for the sake of the world of today, its present inhabitants and future generations,
- To adopt the principle of subsidiary presupposing decentralization, so that performance is giving to local participants in decision-making rather than global, supranational and centralised institutions. They should be brought in only when problems cannot be resolved by local stakeholders themselves.
- The recognition and protection of political diversity,
- The participation of all persons involved, an aim which presupposes the freedom to participate and the duty to use this freedom responsibility,
- The empowerment of local communities who are affected by, involved in, engaged in and concerned with tourism development,
- Protection of decision-making structures of minorities and marginalized people/groups and the rights to fight for their rights,
- The principle of good governance, which is to be determined by the concerned local, regional and national governments, through democratic institutions.

2. ***Economic***

- The recognition and protection of economic diversity,
- The observance of labour rights,
- The fair sharing of profits and redistribution of income,
- The restriction of non-resident ownership,
- The responsibility connected with ownership,
- The protection of local economics against displacement and disruption,
- The training for local entrepreneurship and support of local investment,
- The protection of the informal sector and its values,

- The protection of attractions against free consumption

3. Environmental

- The recognition and protection of ecological diversity,
- Protection of natural resources,
- The provisions just access to natural resources,
- The implementation of special programmes to save endangered species,
- The protection of the rights of communities who are being displaced by wildlife tourism or losing their access to forest resources.

4. Social

- The recognition and protection of social diversity,
- The principle of self- reliance,
- Gender equality,
- The right of children to childhood,
- The stabilization of communities,
- The protection from exploitation or dependence,
- Education and information skills,
- The participation in the setting up of master plans,
- The principle of accountability,
- The local/ public definition of infrastructure standards,
- The integration of the local entrepreneur or co-operatives, investors and tourism,
- The abolition of child prostitution,
- Local access to and sharing of all facilities between tourists and hosts.

5.Cultural

- The recognition and protection of cultural diversity/ multi-culturalism.

- Tradition vs. modernization so that the pluralism and historical basis of social practice is homogenised by tourism, in its drive towards modernization,
- The protection of local culture as opposed to tourist culture,
- The protection of basic values,
- The avoidance of zoo syndromes.

Global Code of Ethics for Tourism (GCET)

Global Code of Ethics for Tourism (GCET) as adopted by "the representatives of the States, bodies, enterprises and institutions, Members of the World Tourism Organisation (WTO)", who had "gathered for the General Assembly at Santiago, Chile on 1st Oct.1999:-

Global Code of Ethics for Tourism sets a frame of reference for the responsible and sustainable development of world tourism at the dawn of the new millennium. It drawn inspiration from many similar declarations and industry codes that have come before and it adds new thinking that reflects our changing society at the end of the 20th century. With international tourism forecast to nearly triple in volume over the next 20 years, members of the World Tourism Organisation believe that the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism is needed to help minimize the benefits for residents of tourism destinations. The code was called for in a resolution of the WTO General Assembly meeting in Istanbul in 1997. Over the following two years, a special committee for the preparation of Global Code of Ethics was formed and a draft document was prepared by the Secretary-General and the legal adviser to WTO in consultation with WTO Business Council, WTO's Regional Commissions, and the WTO Executive Council.

The United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development meeting in New York in April 1999 endorsed the concept of the code and requested WTO to seek further input from the private sector, non-governmental organisations and labour organisations. Written comments on the code were received from more than 70 WTO Member States and other entities. The resulting 10-point Global Code of approved unanimously by the WTO General Assembly meeting in Santiago in October 1999.

The code includes nine articles outlining the "rules of the game" for destinations, governments, tour operators, developers, travel agents, workers and travellers themselves. The tenth article involves the redress of grievances and marks the first time that a code of

this type will have a mechanism for enforcement. It will be based on conciliation through the creation of a World Committee on Tourism Ethics made up of representatives of each region of the world and representatives of each group of stakeholders in the tourism sector - governments, the private sector, labour and non-governmental organisations.

The General Assembly,

Recalling:

- That it had provided at its Istanbul session in 1997 for the formation of a Special Committee for the preparation of the Global code of Ethics for Tourism and that this Committee met at Cracow, Poland on 7th October 1998, in conjunction with the Quality Support Committee meeting, in order to consider an outline of the said Code,
- That based on these initial considerations, the draft Global Code of Ethics for Tourism was prepared by the Secretary-General, with the assistance of the Legal Advisor to WTO and was studied by the WTO Business Council, the Regional Commissions and finally by the Executive Council at its sixtieth session, all of which were invited to formulate their observations,
- That the WTO Members were invited to communicate in writing the remarks or suggestions that they could not make at those meetings;

Noting:

- That the principle of a Global Code of Ethics for Tourism aroused great interest among the delegations that participated in the seventh session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) in New York in April 1999,
- That after the CSD session, additional consultations were undertaken by the secretary-General with institutions representative of the tourism industry and the workers, as well as with various non-governmental organisations interested in this process,
- That, as a result of these discussions and consultations, many written contributions were received by the Secretary-General, which have so far as possible been reflected in the draft submitted to the Assembly for consideration;

Reaffirming that the aim of the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism is to establish a synthesis of the various documents, codes & declarations of the same kind or with comparable aspirations published over the years, to complement them with new considerations reflecting the development of our societies and thus to serve a frame of reference for the stakeholders in world tourism at the dawn of the next century and millennium.

Reasserting the aims set out in Article 3 of the Status of the World Tourism Organisation, and aware of the "decisive and central" role of this Organisation, as recognised by the General Assembly of the United Nations, in Promoting and developing 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.

Firmly believing that, through the direct, spontaneous and non-mediatised contacts it engenders between men and women of different cultures and lifestyles, tourism represents a vital force for peace and a factor of friendship and understanding among the peoples of the world,

In Keeping with the rationale to reconciling environmental protection, economic development and the fight against poverty in a sustainable manner, as formulated by the United Nations in 1992 at the "Earth Summit" of Rio de Janerio, and expressed in Agenda 21, adopted on this occasion.

Taking into Account the swift and continued growth, both past and foreseeable, of the tourism activity, whether for leisure, business, culture, religious or health purposes, and its powerful effects, both positive and negative, on the environment, the economy and the society of both generating and receiving countries, on local communities and indigenous people, as well as on international relations and trade.

Aiming to promote responsible, sustainable and universally accessible tourism in the framework of the right of all persons to use their free time for leisure pursuits or travel with respect of the choices of society of all people,

But convinced that the world tourism industry as a whole has much to gain by operating in an environment that favours the market economy, private enterprise and free trade and that serves to optimize its beneficial effects on the creation of wealth and employment.

Also firmly convinced that, provided a number of principles and a certain number of rules are observed, responsible and sustainable tourism is by no means incompatible with the growing liberalisation of the conditions governing trade in services and under whose aegis the enterprises of this sector operate and that is possible to reconcile in this sector economy and ecology, environment and development, openness to international trade and protection of social and cultural identities.

Considering that, with such an approach, all the stakeholders in tourism development-national, regional and local administrations, enterprises, business associations, workers in the sector, non-governmental organisations and bodies of all kinds belonging to the tourism industry, as well as host communities, the media and the tourists themselves, have different albeit inter-dependent responsibilities in the individual and social development of tourism and that the formulation of their individual rights and duties will contribute to meeting this aim.

Committed, in keeping with the aims pursued by the World Tourism Organisation itself since adopting resolution 364 (XII) at its General Assembly of 1997 (Istanbul), to promote a genuine partnership between the public and private stakeholders in tourism development, and wishing to see a partnership and cooperation of the same kind extent, in an open and balanced way, to the relations between generating and receiving countries and their respective tourism industries,

Following up on the Manila Declarations of 1980 on World Tourism and of 1997 on the Social Impact of Tourism, as well as on the Tourism bill of Rights and Tourist Code adopted at Sofia in 1985 under the aegis of WTO.

But believing that these instruments should be complemented by a set of interdependent principles for their interpretation and application on which the

stakeholders in tourism development should model their conduct at the dawn of the twenty- first century.

Using for the purposes of this instrument, the definitions and classifications applicable to travel, and especially the concepts of "visitors" and "tourism ", as adopted by the Ottawa International Conference, held from 24th to 28th June1991 and approved in 1993, by the United Nations Statistical Commission at its twenty-seven session,

Referring in particular to the following instrument:-

- Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 10th Dec.1948;
- International Covenant of Economic, Social and cultural rights of 16th Dec.1966;
- International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights of 16th Dec.1966;
- Warsaw Convention on Air Transport of 12th Oct 1929;
- Chicago Convention on International Civil Aviation of 7th Dec.1944, and the Tokyo, the Hague and Montreal Conventions in relation there to;
- Convention on Customs facilities for tourism of 4th July 1954 and related Protocol;
- Convention concerning the protection of the world cultural and natural heritage of 23rd Nov.1972;
- Manila declaration on World tourism of 10th Oct.1980;
- Resolution of the Sixth General Assembly (Sofia) adopting the tourism bill of rights and tourists court of 26th Sept.1985;
- Convention on the Rights of the child of 26th Jan 1990;
- Resolution of the Ninth General Assembly of WTO (Buenos Aires) concerning in particular travel facilitation and safety and security of tourist of 4th Oct.1991.
- Rio declaration on the environment and development of 13th June 1992.
- General Agreement on trade in Services of 15th April 1994;
- Convention of bio-diversity of 5th January 1995;
- Stockholm declaration of 20th Aug.1996 against the commercial, Sexual exploitation of children;
- Manila Declaration on the Social Impact of tourism of 27th May 1997;

- Conventions and Recommendations adopted by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) in the area of collective conventions, prohibition of forced labour and child labour, defense of the rights of indigenous people and equal treatment and non discrimination in the work place;
- Affirm the right to tourism and freedom of tourists movements;
- State are wish to promote an equitable, responsible and sustainable World Tourism Order, whose benefits will be shared by all sectors of society in the context of an open and liberalized international economy; and solemnly adopt to these ends the principles of the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism.

APPENDIX IV

A CODE OF CONDUCT FOR ECOTOURISM IN SIKKIM

1. Conserve Sikkim's natural and cultural heritage

i. Do not trample high altitude vegetation, do not pick any flowers or medicinal plants
ii. Do not disturb wildlife or its habitats
iii. Do not allow clients to purchase endangered animal parts or antique cultural artifacts
iv. Support local conservation efforts and income generation activities

2. Avoid use of fuel wood. Use alternative fuels

i. Use kerosene, L.P.G. (or other non–wood fuel) for all cooking, heating, lighting including that by staff and porters.
ii. Discourage campfires, encourage camp fun
iii. Follow safely rules when carrying, storing and using kerosene and gas

3. Leave all camps and trails clean

i. Separate and properly dispose of litter, burn burnable, bury biodegradable, and carry out all other non-biodegradable materials for deposit at designated trash site or for recycling.
ii. Use toilet tents on all treks, set up and use toilets tents in an environmentally sound manner so as to avoid pollution of water sources (at least 100m away).
iii. Use established campsites and kitchen sites, avoid trenching around tents

4. Practice Conservation

i. Avoid fuel-consumptive menu items, e.g. baked foods and large menu selections
ii. Re-package food into reusable plastic containers to reduce waste
iii. Reduce waste by de-and replacing also

5. Practice proper hygiene and sanitation

i. Teach all staff about personal hygiene, sanitary, kitchen and camp routines
ii. Properly treat the drinking water and uncooked vegetables for clients
iii. Dispose of washing and bathing water well away from streams, use biodegradable soaps

6. Take Responsibility for staff and porter welfare

i. Provide adequate warm clothing, sleeping cover, shoes, snow gear, food for cooking, stoves and fuel, and take care of hired staff
ii. Periodically train staff in first aid, guide responsibilities, sanitation etc

7. Properly brief clients before leaving on a trek

i. Address cultural "do's" and "don'ts", environmentally friendly behaviour, safety precautions, proper dress and respect for local beliefs, peoples and religious sites
ii. Plan days for proper altitude acclimatisation when ascending, know how to identify and treat high altitude illness and how to provide emergency rescue

DO'S AND DON'TS OF ECOTOURISM

Do's

- Carry back all non-degradable litter such as empty bottles, tins, plastic bags etc. These must not litter the environment or be buried. They must be disposed in municipal dustbins only.
- Observe the sanctity of holy sites, temples and local cultures.
- Cut noise pollution. Do not blare aloud radios, tape recorders or other electronic entertainment equipment in nature resorts, sanctuaries and wildlife parks.
- In case temporary toilets are set-up near campsites, after defecation, cover with mud or sand. Make sure that the spot is at least 30 meters away from the water source.
- Respect people's privacy while taking photographs. Ask for prior permission before taking a photograph

Don'ts

- Do not take away flora and fauna in the forms of cuttings, seeds or roots. It is illegal, especially in the Himalayas. The environment is really delicate in this region and the bio-diversity of the region has to be protected at all costs.
- Do not use pollutants such as detergent, in streams or springs while washing and bathing.
- Do not use wood as fuel to cook food at the campsite.
- Do not leave cigarette butts or make open fires in the forests.

- Do not consume aerated drinks, alcohol, drugs or any other intoxicant and throw bottles in the wild.
- Do not tempt the locals, especially children by offering them foodstuff or sweets. Respect local traditions.
- Polythene and plastics are non bio-degradable and unhealthy for the environment and must not be used and littered.

LIBRARY
NBU, DARJEELING