

Final statement and recommendations of the fourth tourism consultative meeting that held in Sana'a 12-13 / 12 / 2009 .

Dr. - Ali Mohamed Mujawar - the Prime Minister has sponsored the slogan (***for the development of the tourism industry on the basis of strategic planning***) during the consultative meeting of the fourth annual tourism that held in Sana'a from 12-13 / 12 / 2009 which organized by **the Ministry of Tourism and Tourism Promotion Board.**

The objectives set within the framework of consultative meeting are represented as follows:

- 1 – Identify the National Tourism Development strategy for (2010 to 2025 m).
- 2 – Presenting the new projects for the development of tourism in 2010.
- 3 – Looking for the update performance of tourist offices in the provinces.
- 4 –The implementation level of the resolutions pertaining to the activity of tourism facilities.

The consultative meeting could stress on the regularity importance of the consultative meeting to reflect the communication between the leaders of tourism at the both national and local levels , and to strengthen the partnership between the parties of tourism activity in the government , private sector and professional organizations .

The participants in the work of the consultative meeting are as below :

- 1 –The Members of the Tourism Supreme Council for - Ministers / agents
- 2 –The Leaders of the Ministry.
- 3 – Directors general of public departments of the Ministry
- 4 - Members of the Tourism Promotion Board.
- 5 – Directors of the Ministry's offices in the governorates and directors, seven in number from the affairs services of tourist facilities in some governorates of the republic.
- 6 - Leaders of professional organizations:
 - Executive Office of the Yemeni hotels Union

- The governing body of the Yemeni Federation tourism
- The department authority of the Book Society tourists .
- 7 - Number of different media .

- Different speeches have been addressed in the opening of the meeting as stated below

- The Speech of His Excellency , Mr. / Nabil Hassan al-Faqih – The Minister of Tourism.
- The Speech of the private sector by Mr. / Yahya Mohammed Abdullah Saleh – chairman of the Yemeni tourism Union.
- His Excellency , Mr. / Sadeq Amin Abu Ras - The Deputy Prime Minister for Internal Affairs.

During the working sessions, the discussion running on such presentations , working papers and the reports submitted to the consultative meeting , which addressed the following themes:

**Axis I: The national tourism strategy for (2010-2025 m) ,
address following:**

- (1) strengthen the institutional structure for tourism.
- (2) Sustainable development of the product.
- (3) Encouraging and Stimulating tourism investment and developing the tourism establishments .
- (4) Improving the quality of tourism services.
- (5) Human resource development in tourism.
- (6) Develop tourism awareness and enhance the security of tourism.
- (7) develop the marketing and promotion of tourism.

**Axis 2 : the new projects for tourism development in (2010) ,
had addressed the following:**

1) The new projects approved by the Supreme Council of Tourism:

Firstly : the project of economic program diversification (tourism sector).

Second: the project of developing traditional crafts, local crafts, the rehabilitation and development of tourism information centers in the framework of tourism development and poverty alleviation, including the (draft operational mechanism of the National Tourism Strategy 2010-2025 AD).

Thirdly: The Project of baths mineral Development for medical tourism.

Fourth: The rehabilitation project and the development of prominent palaces and historical monuments, and specifying the functions and uses of appropriate tourism investment for each one.

2) Project of improving the quality of tourism services

3) Control system on the quality of tourism services.

4) Project of Renewal Survey of tourism facilities and the labor force working in.

5) completing and reviewing of tourism legislation.

Axis 3 : The resolutions implementation level pertaining to the activity of tourism facilities.

Axis 4: updating tourism offices performance in the provinces through the working papers and other activities from the general managers of the offices in the capital and the provinces of Aden, Taiz / Lahj / Ibb / Dhamar / Sana'a / Hodeidah / Mahweet / Hajjah / Mukalla, Hadhramout / Hadramaut Mukalla / Dalea` / Al- Baidha / Shabwa // Raimah).

Meeting Resolutions:

- 1.** The meeting sets up a word of thanks and gratitude to His Excellency / Ali Abdullah Saleh - President of the Republic - may God protect him – about his care and his keen interest on tourism sector , growth and development, That the recommendations are Annexed in .
- 2.** The meeting send a message of thanks and appreciation to His Excellency Mr. / Nabil Hassan al-Faqih - Minister of Tourism, for his large and distinguished efforts in the development and promote of tourism sector in addition to the good management of the work of the meeting.

The recommendations of the meeting

- After discussion and extensive research of work papers and presentations of the reports submitted at the meeting, the meeting came out by the following recommendations:

First: the National Strategy for Tourism Development 2010 - 2025 :

- 1.** Appreciation on the ministry's efforts and leadership in the preparation and approval of the Supreme Council of Tourism of the National Strategy for Tourism Development 2010-2025 , and emphasizes on the completion of plans and mechanisms in five-year implementation of the strategy in collaboration with the World Tourism Organization, United Nations Development Program.
- 2.** Emphasis on that , the national strategy for tourism development to be as the basis of reference for the preparation, financing and implementation of plans , programs and annual and five-year tourism development projects at the national level and local levels in all governorates.
- 3.** The necessity for national strategy for tourism development to be

the basis of reference for the national partnership active and responsible through the integration of trends and strategic requirements for the development of the tourism developments within the strategies and relevant sector plans related to tourism.

4. Reflect the actual partnership between the public and the private sector and local authority and civil society organizations associated to the development of the tourism industry in order to achieve optimal exploitation of tourism resources and the reduction of poverty and unemployment.

Second: The new tourism projects for tourism development 2010-2012, the Consultative Meeting recommends the following:

1. The Ministry of Finance need to provide finance, human resources and technical to follow up the implementation of projects and tourism development, namely:

- The project program of economic diversification (tourism sector)
- The Project development of traditional and local handicrafts, rehabilitation and development of tourism information centers in the framework of tourism development and poverty alleviation, including the (project operational mechanism of the National Strategy for Tourism Development 2010-2025 AD).
- Project of improve the quality of tourism services.
- Project of updating survey of tourism facilities.
- Project Sub-Account for tourism and tourism expenditure survey and statistical surveys.

2. Participants appreciated the cooperation of the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation in supporting tourism development

projects and hoping to assist it in speeding the search for funding the project and rehabilitation and developing the palaces and monuments, and the development of mineral baths, as to the consequences of implementation of economic returns and social benefit to the national economy and local communities.

3. The necessity of providing Potential qualified and trained human capabilities and financial possibilities and technical resources required for the application of the classification specifications tourist list all over the tourist facilities, (hotel / food and drink / recreation).

4. Emphasizing on the issuing the list controlling and inspecting on tourist facilities services and the provision of human potential and technical and financial assistance to the Ministry's offices in the provinces to carry out the continued control and inspection.

Third : assessing the level of tourism implementation decisions.

The consultative meeting recommends the following:

1. The leadership of the local authority and the Ministry's offices in the governorates and districts must follow up effectively the application of laws, regulations and decisions of tourism, including the offices of the ministry's commitment to get the accession card membership to the tourist facilities and hotels as a condition for renewal of professional licenses of tourism annual activities for tourist facilities and hospitality.

2. The Council of Ministers ordered the Ministry of Electricity , Public Electricity Corporation TO implement the decision of the Council of Ministers No. (475) for the year 2008.

3. The Council of Ministers ordered the relevant authorities to compel the implementation of resolution No. (50) in 2009 and applied to all tourist facilities in the provinces identified in the resolution.

4. Demanding the tourist offices in the provinces to play its` role in

following up the implementation of decisions related to tourism.

5. The Importance of activating the role and work of activation-committees of tourism in the provinces in accordance with what is specified to it , and finishing its creation in the provinces which have not yet.

6. Implementation of the Supreme Council decisions Tourism and the decisions of the Council of Ministers associated with tourism, and to forming permanent secretariat – committee to follow up the implementation of the Supreme Council for Tourism resolutions and other resolutions subject to tourism .

7. The government demands the ministries and the government authorities to pay the arrears dues specified for hosting guests.

Fourthly: Performance of the Tourism Ministry's offices in the governorates:

1. Emphasize the necessity to establish tourism agent in the provinces of throng tourist facilities (Sana`a city / Aden / Hadhramout (Sayoun , Mukalla) Ibb, Taiz / Hodeidah) .

2. Participants assured in the meeting that the managers of tourist offices should investigated the accuracy of the selection of staff, who will gain the status of judicial officers according to the law of those known for their competence and integrity to the task of monitoring and inspection of tourism.

3. The local authority should work in the provinces to increase the annual budgets, operational and functional development of local tourism projects , and provide the means and equipment necessary for the functioning of the offices (transportation means / information networks / computers, etc. ...) in accordance with actual needs, as the core of its` specialization .

4. The meeting recommends the application of the decision of Council of Ministers on the tourism development plan and work on the

allocation of land needed in the areas and sites of tourist attractions for service projects of tourism development, and protect it from the robbery, destruction and pollution.

5. Issuance of a regulation governing the work and activities of the Ministry's offices in the provinces to cope with the organizational structure of the Ministry, according to the Regulation of the Ministry in coordination with the relevant authorities.

6. The importance of continued training and qualifications of employees in the ministry and the offices of the ministry, and the allocation of funding for the implementation of appropriate financial plans and programs, and the participants appreciated the initiative of His Excellency the Minister of Tourism to fund and organize induction visits programs for workers in the Ministry's offices in the governorates, in order to gain more knowledge and experience of different tourism. The participants recommended that the Tourism Promotion Board to support the training and qualifications to the staff of tourist offices in the governorates, and monitor an annual budget to do so.

7. Develop models and forms of statistical offices of the ministry in the provinces including the requirements of the statistical system of tourism, and development of the tourism database .

8. Revitalization the continuous control work and inspection of tourist facilities, hotels, restaurants and parks, and pay attention to the training and qualification of employees in tourist facilities, particularly in the governorates (Aden / Lahj / Shabwa) to achieve an excellent tourist services to reflect the image of a prestigious tourism to Yemen to host Gulf of twenty.

9.The Participants recommended the Ministry and the Tourism Promotion Board to organize a workshop aimed the leaders of the local authority in the governorates in order to raise awareness of the importance of tourism and its role in development at the local and national levels.

10. Participants call upon the Yemeni Union for hotels, and the Yemeni tourism for travel and tourism to all members to facilitate the task of teams participating in the implementation of the survey of tourism facilities to be implemented during the period (December 19, 2009 to February 25, 2010).

11. Participants call upon the local authorities to allocate a percentage of revenues for the implementation of the tasks associated with the work of the offices in the control and inspection of tourism establishments, based on resolutions on this matter.

12. The Ministry / Tourism Promotion Board should implement Phase II of the boxes proposals and complaints, to improve the quality of tourism services.

13. The meeting recommended to stop temporarily the process of exporting group tourism to cities, villages and tourist sites that offend the appearance and bad practices and the reputation of tourism in the forefront of the city of Thula / Amran, Shibam / Mahweet / Al- Hajarah / Sana`a, due to a lack of understanding and interaction of the local authority to maintain hygiene and reduce the spread of begging phenomenon and the intrusive at the tourists.

14. The meeting ordered Yemen tourism Union and Yemen Hotel Union to issue version of the ethics code and conduct and ethics of the profession to ensure the prevention of speculation in the price and quality of tourism services and maintains the reputation of the tourism and services in our country, and we would regulate the relationship between tourist facilities, hotels and tourism agencies and companies.

Other recommendations:

1 – the necessity to implement the strategy of tourism media , and invite the public and private, local authorities and civil society organizations and the specialized media, educational and religious groups to play a role in this aspect and active participation in implementation and in view of the importance of improving and

creating community awareness of the importance of tourism and its role in the development and strengthening the promotional role and marketing for Tourism Promotion Board internally and externally.

2 - Re-institutes the tourism and hospitality to the Ministry of Tourism, as being the most familiar with the nature of the work of tourism and its requirements.

3 - The meeting recommends the necessity for Yemen's accession to the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC of the Tourism Committee).

4 - The meeting recommends the necessity to adopt a daily special fee on the island of Socotra to all tourists, so devoted to the benefit of improved environmental hygiene and in the island.

5 - The meeting recommends the Interior Ministry to support and provide the resources (material and technical) to the Security Unit of tourism and tourist police, and raise their readiness to perform their tasks efficiently and high capacity.

6 - The meeting recommends to amending the fine of kidnapping and banditry, in line with Islamic law.

7 – the meeting strongly condemns the rebel Hawthiah gang, and all acts against the security of the homeland and citizen, and meeting calls the government to take firm action against anyone tempted to compromise the security and stability of the homeland