

## **AGREEMENT**

### **Between the Government of the Republic of Armenia and the Government of the Republic of Lebanon on cooperation in the field of Tourism**

The Government of the Republic of Armenia and the Government of the Republic of Lebanon named below Parties,

sharing the Provisions of the Manila Declaration on the World Tourism (1980) and the Main Principals of the Hague Declaration on Tourism (1989),

expressing the desire to strengthen the friendly relations and to promote a better acquaintance with historical and cultural heritage of Armenia and Lebanon,

realizing that tourism is one of the important means of strengthening the mutual understanding, expressing good will and friendly relations between nations,

have agreed on the following:

#### **Article 1**

The Parties in compliance with the present Agreement, and in conformity with the laws and regulations in force in each country, will encourage the development of cooperation in the field of tourism on the basis of mutual advantages and equal rights.

#### **Article 2**

The two Parties will encourage the development of cooperation between Armenian and Lebanese tourist Associations, organizations, enterprises and companies, They will promote capital investment in the tourism sector of each of the two countries.

#### **Article 3**

The Parties shall strive to simplify customs and other formalities in tourism exchange between both countries.

#### **Article 4**

The two Parties shall foster the development of tourism, exchange of specialized groups with the objective of attending sport events, musical and theatre festivals as well as exhibitions, symposiums and congresses held in the field of tourism.

#### **Article 5**

The two Parties shall encourage and support the exchange of statistics and information in the field of tourism concerning:

- laws regulating tourism activity in both countries;
- national legislation ensuring the protection and preservation of natural and cultural resorts as tourist attractions;
- tourist resorts in their countries;
- hotel management and other types of tourist accommodations;
- reference and advertising materials.

#### **Article 6**

The two Parties shall endeavor, within their available resources, to provide training of professional staff in the field of tourism, encourage the exchange of experts and journalists, promote comprehensive contacts and joint activity of the Armenian and the Lebanese tourism research organizations.

#### **Article 7**

The two Parties shall coordinate cooperation between their national tourist administration bodies within the framework of the World Tourism Organization (WTO) and other international tourist organizations.

#### **Article 8**

The two Parties may open an official tourism bureau in the territory of the other Party. The issues related to the establishment and activity of tourist representations, shall be agreed between State administration bodies of both Contracting Parties subject to the national legislation of the country in which the tourist representation is established and its staff, functions and statute are subject to an explicit intergovernmental agreement.

#### **Article 9**

A common committee (hereinafter referred to as "the Committee") will be formed and will be charged to study and apply the measures, which will help and participate in the achievement of the purpose hereabove mentioned.

The delegation of each of the two countries to the above said committee will be presided by the person in charge of the official tourism body or his substitute.

The committee may secure the assistance of representatives from all the concerned administrations in both countries if the matters listed in the agenda of the meeting will require such assistance.

#### **Article 10**

The committee will meet once every two years at least, and may held, when necessary, exceptional meetings in agreement between the two presidents of the national delegations.

The meetings of the committee will be held in both countries and on a date fixed in agreement between the presidents of the national delegations.

The meeting of the committee will be presided by the president of the delegation of the country where the meeting is held.

The delegation of the country where the meeting is held will assume the duties of the secretary and will support all the expenses of the meeting.

### **Article 11**

The official language of the committee is the English language or any other language accepted by the two presidents.

### **Article 12**

The committee will establish the program of its activities and the classification of the matters by preference, and the steps decided by the committee will be applied after the approval of the competent authorities in both countries.

### **Article 13**

The presidents of the two national delegations have to follow up the decided steps in order to apply the decisions and resolutions of the committee.

### **Article 14**

The present Agreement shall enter into force on the date of the last notification with which the Parties notify each other, by diplomatic channels, that the internal legal procedures for entry into force of the Agreement have been fulfilled.

The Agreement will be valid for a period of one year and will be extended automatically for the same periods unless either of the Parties expresses its desire to terminate it in a written form six months prior to its expiry.

The termination of the present Agreement will not affect the implementation of programs and projects that may have been coordinated during the Agreement's prevalence unless the Parties agree otherwise.

Done at Beirut on the 16<sup>th</sup> of September 1998 in two original copies each in Armenian, Arabic and English languages, all the texts are being authentic.

In case of divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

***The Agreement has entered into force on October 1, 1999.***