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Mexico and Belize

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[ENGLISH TEXT – TEXTE ANGLAIS]

AGREEMENT ON TOURISM COOPERATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES AND THE GOVERNMENT OF BELIZE

The Government of the United Mexican States and the Government of Belize (hereinafter "the Parties"),

CONSIDERING

That the friendly relations existing between both countries should be strenghthened through increased tourism exchange;

That development of cooperation in the field of tourism will also strengthen the historical, cultural and scientific bonds that unite both countries;

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE I

Both Parties shall give each other the greatest possible facilities so that tourism promotion campaigns of each Party may be carried out in the territory of the other.

ARTICLE II

In order to encourage tourism between both countries, the Parties, subject to their respective legislation, shall provide facilities to travel agencies, tourism operators, airlines, if

such were the case, and bus companies of the other Party.

ARTICLE III

Both Parties shall promote designation of sales representatives of air and land transportation companies of the other Party so that they may offer their services to the market, particularly encouraging the integration of the tourism circuits of Southeast Mexico and Belize. They shall likewise encourage the transporters of the other Party to improve their services and promote special or excursion rates that increase the tourism exchange.

The Parties shall encourage measures that lessen or simplify the procedures for tourists to enter their respective territories.

Both Parties shall make their best efforts and use their influence to institute and maintain the Maya World Project and coordinate tourism developments related to said Project in both countries.

ARTICLE IV

The Parties shall exchange information on their respective tourist centers, and for this purpose, they may use printed materials such as pamphlets, posters, tourism guides, etc., as well as press, radio and television services or film

materials and carry out exhibits, symposia and seminars.

The Parties shall promote familiarization and itinerary-planning trips by tour wholesalers and operators, travel and publicity agents of third countries, in order to facilitate the development and commercialization of tourism packages of mutual benefit.

The planning, financing, and operation of the portion of the familiarization and itinerary-planning trips shall be the responsibility of the State in whose territory they take place.

The Parties shall promote reduced transportation rates for participants in jointly operated trips.

ARTICLE V

The Parties shall promote marketing mechanisms to encourage trips that attract tourism from Europe and the United States to Mexico and Belize, specifically in relation to the Maya Route interest centers.

ARTICLE VI

The Parties, based on their national plans, shall analyze the possibilities of joint investment in tourism development centers.

ARTICLE VII

In order to achieve a similarity of programs and courses between the two countries, both Parties shall facilitate the exchange of tourism study programs and scholarships in order to upgrade their tourism technicians and tourism services in general.

Whenever possible, the Parties shall exchange, share and provide the other Party experts in systems and methods that aid in training specialists in technical areas, and exchange tourism development plans and assistance in training human resources in the tourism sector, particularly hotel operation and management, food and beverage preparation, maintenance, marketing, recreation and hosting skills.

They shall promote the interest of students and teachers for enjoying the scholarships offered by schools, institutes, universities, and training institutions of the other country.

ARTICLE VIII

To monitor the development of this Agreement, its promotion and results assessment, the Parties shall establish a Working Group comprising an equal number of representatives of both countries, to which members of the private tourism sector may be invited to participate, in order to aid the fulfillment of the objectives set herein.