No. 50310

South Africa and Zimbabwe

Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of Zimbabwe and the Government of the Republic of South Africa on cooperation in the field of tourism. Durban, 12 May 2012

Entry into force: 12 May 2012 by signature, in accordance with article 16

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Afrique du Sud

et

Zimbabwe

Mémorandum d'accord entre le Gouvernement de la République de Zimbabwe et le Gouvernement de la République sud-africaine sur la coopération dans le domaine du tourisme. Durban, 12 mai 2012

Entrée en vigueur : 12 mai 2012 par signature, conformément à l'article 16

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[ENGLISH TEXT – TEXTE ANGLAIS]

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZIMBABWE

AND

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF TOURISM

PREAMBLE

The Government of the Republic of Zimbabwe and the Government of the Republic of South Africa (hereinafter jointly referred to as the "Parties" and in the singular as a "Party");

INTENDING to strengthen their existing ties of friendship between their countries through the development and enhancement of their cooperation in the field of tourism;

WILLING to deepen the relationship between their peoples through the development of their respective heritages;

RECOGNISING that tourism is a growing economic sector and a catalyst for employment creation;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the development of tourism respects the principles of sustainable development and creates economic, social and environmental balance, specifically in order to contribute to the fight against poverty and the protection of the environment;

AWARE of the potential contribution that tourism can make to the enrichment of bilateral relations between the Parties;

HEREBY AGREE as follows:

Article 1

Objectives

This Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as "this MoU") shall set out the general framework for the promotion and increase of tourism exchanges and co-operation between the Parties for their mutual benefit in accordance with the domestic law in force in the countries of the Parties and international agreements signed by the Parties.

Article 2

Competent Authorities

The Competent Authorities responsible for the implementation of this MoU shall be-

- (1) in the case of the Republic of South Africa, the Department of Tourism; and
- (2) in the case of the Republic of Zimbabwe, the Ministry of Tourism and Hospitality Industry.

Article 3

Establishment of Joint Tourism Technical Committee

- (1) The Parties shall establish a Joint Tourism Technical Committee (hereinafter referred to as the "JTTC") comprising of six (6) officials from relevant government departments and agencies.
- (2) The JTTC shall develop a five (5) year plan of action.
- (3) The JTTC shall meet twice a year alternately in the Republic of South Africa and the Republic of Zimbabwe, *inter alia*, to review and evaluate progress on the implementation of the plan of action.
- (4) The JTTC shall develop its own procedures.

Article 4

Heritage and Cultural Tourism

The Parties shall share best practices on how to integrate culture and heritage into the tourism sector.

Article 5

Tourism Investment

The Parties shall-

- (1) promote and support the activities and efforts of professionals and other bodies, associations and organisations in the field of tourism in their respective territories with a view to encourage and implement joint capital investment and entrepreneurship in the field of tourism; and
- (2) organise joint seminars periodically for investors to introduce projects and promote joint ventures in the field of tourism.

Article 6

Research, Policy Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation

The Parties undertake to-

- harmonise the collection of tourism statistics in accordance with the guidelines of the United Nations World Tourism Organisation ("UNWTO");
- (2) share expertise in the field of research, policy planning and monitoring and evaluation; and
- (3) collaborate in the area of policy planning, monitoring and evaluation of tourism development projects and programmes.

Article 7

Marketing and Promotion Programmes

The Parties shall -

- (1) share expertise on the marketing and promotion of programmes:
- (2) create a platform to market and promote the tourism programmes of each country; and
- (3) facilitate the joint packaging of products to strengthen the positioning of their countries.

Article 8

Quality Assurance

The Parties shall strive to-

- (1) develop common standards in respect of tourism products, facilities and services; and
- (2) harmonise grading procedures and other relevant regulations between their countries so as to ensure seamless delivery of quality tourism products and services.

Article 9

Human Resources Development

Subject to the domestic law in force in their countries, each Party shall -

- share expertise in the promotion of human resources development in the tourism sector;
- allow qualifying citizens of the other Party to train at its tourism institutions; and
- (3) facilitate the exchange of researchers, lecturers and other personnel in the tourism industry.