regional and international institutions to prioritize the provision of adequate support to programmes and projects relating to ecotourism, which included both financial and technical assistance. The Assembly might wish to recommend that all Member States review their current tourism frameworks and policies; invite governments and relevant stakeholders to consider using tourism to engage indigenous and local communities in order to preserve indigenous knowledge and know-how; establish and join the framework of the UNWTO Global Observatory of Sustainable Tourism; encourage all relevant stakeholders to provide more evidence-based information on how women were integrated into the planning of and decisions on tourism development; and encourage governments, the tourism sector and relevant organizations to adopt policies and practices to promote the full participation and involvement of local and indigenous communities, in addition to the full empowerment of women, in all tourism operations and development.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 19 December [meeting 75], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Second Committee [A/69/472], adopted resolution 69/233 without vote [agenda item 23].

Promotion of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, for poverty eradication and environment protection

The General Assembly,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration, the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development, the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation), the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development, the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, the report of the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the outcome document of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, entitled “SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway”,


Recalling its resolution 67/223 of 21 December 2012, entitled “Promotion of ecotourism for poverty eradication and environment protection”,

Stressing that poverty is a multifaceted problem that requires a multifaceted and integrated approach in addressing its economic, political, social, environmental and institutional dimensions at all levels,

Stressing also that sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, is a cross-cutting activity that can contribute to the fight against poverty, the protection of the environment and the promotion of sustainable development,

Stressing further the role of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, in promoting rural development and better living conditions for sustainable rural populations,

Welcoming the efforts of the World Tourism Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity to promote ecotourism and sustainable tourism worldwide,

Welcoming also the efforts of the Marrakech Process on sustainable consumption and production, the achievements of the International Task Force on Sustainable Tourism Development and the objectives of the Global Partnership for Sustainable Tourism, which was launched in 2011 as a permanent successor to the International Task Force,

Noting the initiatives launched and the events organized at the subregional, regional and international levels in the field of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, and sustainable development,

1. Welcomes the report of the Secretary-General of the World Tourism Organization transmitted by the Secretary-General of the United Nations;

2. Recognizes that sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, represents an important driver of sustainable economic growth and decent job creation, that it can have a positive impact on income generation and education, and thus on the fight against poverty and hunger, and that it can contribute directly to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

3. Also recognizes the potential of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, to reduce poverty by improving individual livelihoods in local communities and to generate resources for community development projects;

4. Emphasizes the need to optimize the economic, social, cultural and environmental benefits stemming from sustainable tourism, including ecotourism activities, in all countries, particularly developing countries, including African countries, the least developed countries and small island developing States;

5. Also emphasizes that sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, can contribute to sustainable development, in particular environment protection, and can improve the well-being of indigenous peoples and local communities;

6. Recognizes that sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, creates significant opportunities for the conservation, protection and sustainable use of biodiversity and of natural areas by encouraging indigenous peoples and local communities in host countries and tourists alike to preserve and respect the natural and cultural heritage;

7. Underlines, in this regard, the importance of establishing, at the national level, where necessary, appropriate policies, guidelines and regulations, in accordance with national priorities and legislation, for promoting and sup-