

Subregional Tourism Working Group: Terms of Reference

Background and Rationale

The Subregional Tourism Working Group (TWG) had its beginnings in the Workshop on Tourism Development in Countries along the Mekong River held in Kunming, Yunnan Province, People's Republic of China on 13-17 December 1994. The Workshop was convened to pursue the implementation of five priority subregional tourism projects that were earlier endorsed by the GMS Ministers at the Third Conference on Subregional Cooperation held in Hanoi, Viet Nam on 20-23 April 1994 based on the tourism sector study. During the workshop, it was agreed that the successful implementation of the five tourism projects would require regular consultations among the national tourism organizations (NTOs) of the six countries, representatives of the regional and international agencies concerned, and the private sector. The Workshop recommended the establishment of a Tourism Working Group which was subsequently endorsed by the Fifth Ministerial Conference on Subregional Cooperation. The TWG reports to the Ministerial-level Conference and the respective governments.

Main Objectives

The objective of the TWG is to provide guidance and professional support for the implementation of subregional tourism projects.

Membership

The TWG is composed of senior level representatives of the NTOs designated by the governments of each of the six countries.

Venue and Frequency of TWG Meetings

The venue (host country) of the TWG meetings rotates among the participating countries. In principle, the Working Group meets twice a year.

TWG Meetings Held

- Seventeenth Meeting, 28-30 March 2006, Luang Prabang, Lao PDR
- Sixteenth Meeting, 25-27 March 2005, Siem Reap, Cambodia
- Fifteenth Meeting, 26-28 March 2004, Chiang Mai, Thailand
- Fourteenth Meeting, 28-30 March 2003, Hanoi, Viet Nam
- Thirteenth Meeting, 4-6 April 2002, Yangon, Myanmar
- Twelfth Meeting, 30 March - 1 April 2001, Kunming, People's Republic of China
- Eleventh Meeting, 6-8 April 2000, Phnom Penh, Cambodia
- Tenth Meeting, 28-30 November 1999, Vientiane, Lao PDR
- Ninth Meeting, 4-5 May 1999, Yangon, Myanmar
- Eighth Meeting, 25-26 November 1998, Kunming, People's Republic of China

- Seventh Meeting, 6-7 April 1998, Phnom Penh, Cambodia
- Sixth Meeting, 30-31 October 1997, Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam
- Fifth Meeting, 29-30 May 1997, Chiang Rai, Thailand
- Fourth Meeting, 22-23 November 1996, Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam
- Third Meeting, 15-16 April 1996, Pattaya, Thailand
- Second Meeting, 18-21 December 1995, Vientiane, Lao People's Democratic Republic
- First Meeting, 3-5 April 1995, Bangkok, Thailand