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THE ROLE OF BILATERAL AGREEMENTS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL TOURISM IN THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

Annotation: In this study, the author analyzed bilateral agreements on tourism which were signed by Uzbekistan and continues expanding till now. Classification of these treaties was elaborated and as the example case of China was analyzed. It was developed conclusion and proposals on specifying treaties for tourism development. Accordingly, the research puts forward to sign some special agreements in several fields of tourism with perspective countries.

Key words: agreement, development, cooperation, international relations, tourism, treaty, Uzbekistan.

Аннотация: Мазкур тадқиқотда муаллиф туризм соҳасида Ўзбекистон Республикаси томонидан имзоланган ва ҳозиргача кенгайиб бораётган икки томонлама битимлар таҳлил қилган. Шунингдек, ушбу шартномалар таснифланиб, Хитой мисолида тадқиқ этилди. Мақолада туризмни ривожлантириш бўйича тақлифлар ишлаб чиқилди. Унга мувофиқ, истиқболли давлатлар билан сайёҳликнинг бир неча соҳаларида махсус битимлар имзолаш тақлифи билдирилган.

Калит сўзлар: битим, ривожланиш, ҳамкорлик, халқаро муносабатлар, туризм, шартнома, Ўзбекистон.

Аннотация: В этом исследовании автор проанализировал двусторонние соглашения по туризму, которые были подписаны Узбекистаном и продолжают расширяться до сих пор. Классификация этих договоров была разработана и в качестве примера рассматривался Китай. Было разработано заключение и предложения по уточнению договоров по развитию туризма. Соответственно, исследование предлагает заключить специальные соглашения в нескольких областях туризма с перспективными странами.

Ключевые слова: договор, международные отношения, развитие, соглашение, сотрудничество, туризм, Узбекистан.

Introduction

Bilateral agreements play an important role in maintaining collaboration and partnership among states. From 2017, tourism becomes one of the important factor of development of economy and source of increasing international image of Uzbekistan. It is known that, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan SH.

Mirziyoyev signed a Decree "On the Action Strategy for the Further Development of the Republic of Uzbekistan in 2017-2021 years." The document, in particular, provides for the implementation of "constructive foreign policy aimed at strengthening the independence and sovereignty of the state, creating a security belt around Uzbekistan, stability and good

neighborly relations, strengthening the country's international image." Thereby as above mentioned, strengthening country's international image inasmuch as depends on developing tourism. The tourist sphere of Uzbekistan cannot develop, without affecting formality of international level. One of such directions are the bilateral agreements, which were signed by the republic with other countries. Moreover, it became normatively-legal basis for not only departure of citizens outside a republic but also activity of tourism establishments, strengthening of their partner connections, advancements of national tour product to the markets of foreign states/regions/continents. The author will analyze "a legal tool", which called bilateral agreement in the field of tourism with participation of Uzbekistan by classifying them into two group. Furthermore, real proposals on developing bilateral collaboration in the field of tourism were elaborated by the PhD candidate.

Classification of bilateral agreements for tourism development

Integrative function of tourism was noted in a variety of international-legal norms, namely there were mentioned humanistic potential, ability of contribution in maintaining peace and mutual understanding of people, establishment of new international economic order, which is more justice and in the interests of all parties. (Manila Declaration, from 1980, Document of Acapulco, 1982.; Charter of tourism and Code of tourist, 1985). Considering the integral role of tourism in maintaining peace and its integrative function among states, it should be emphasized that, integration of states for developing tourism would possess an important place in growing their economy, promoting peaceful relations between countries and sustainable development of the world society.

Uzbekistan carries out international relations in the field of tourism on the basis

of bilateral collaboration. Presently a republic is sign more than 45 intergovernmental agreements in area of tourism. (1, p.36) It should emphasize that, these statistics renew and multiple month by month after 2017 and interagency agreements which counts around 40, play a remarkable role in foreign activity of Uzbekistan in this field.

The contractual practice of the Republic of Uzbekistan disposes the wide list of bilateral international agreements, containing norms about tourism, in this connection, bilateral agreements are subdivided into 2 groups:

1. Agreements, setting bases of collaboration of the states in different areas, where tourism is also examined as component part and method of deepening cultural, economic, trade, technical and another collaboration, with the effluent from here mechanism of intergovernmental settlement of corresponding sphere. For instance, Agreement between Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan and Government of Kirghiz Republic about deepening of collaboration on culture, health protection, science, education, tourism and sport, which was signed in Bishkek, on January, 16, 1994; Or, the Agreement between Government of Republic of Uzbekistan and Government of Islamic Republic of Pakistan about a collaboration in the sphere of culture, health protection, science, technique, training of staff, tourism, sport and mass medias from June, 27, 1992 and etc.);

2. To the second group intergovernmental and interdepartmental agreements on collaboration in the field of tourism. Agreements, which are signed between governmental agencies-interdepartmental agreements ("UzbekTourism", now Committee for tourism development of Uzbekistan, from one side and agencies of different states from another side) in the field of tourism.

According to Committee's statistics there are 23 interdepartmental treaties are signed till 2018. (5) Interdepartmental agreements about a collaboration on tourism with companies and firms of Malaysia, Indonesia, Egypt, Vietnam, Turkey, Pakistan, Israel, OАЭ, India, Korea, Japan, Brunei and Russian Federation. At the same time, text of these agent agreements is not plugged in itself by a point stipulating the financial obligations of parties, because the obligation of foreign agent-representative to conduct promotional- informative events for the personal funds makes a reservation in agreements.

A primary purpose of agreements is the creation of favorable terms for tourism development and the best acquaintance with cultural life of population of the states of parties, expansion of international cooperation. International agreements are based on principles of equality, mutuality and mutual benefit. The signed agreements assist for the progress of collaboration in next directions:

- conducting advertising companies in mass media;
- conducting various activities for the development of tourism;
- promotion of health tourism;
- organization of study tours for representatives of tourism organizations and mass media;
- assistance in the training of staff for the tourism industry through the exchange of specialists from interested institutions and students;
- exchange of information and experience in the field of tourism;
- promoting cooperation in the construction, equipment and management of hotels and other tourist institutions by expanding the corresponding opportunities;
- distribution of tourist publications and other materials, in particular, audio and video materials, advertising the tourist

potential of both states. (5)

Here, we should emphasize that, nowadays it is observed a new type of agreement in the field of tourism, which combines three parties for sustainable tourism in Uzbekistan. In particular, Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Uzbekistan, The State Committee for Tourism Development of the Republic of Uzbekistan, and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (hereinafter referred to as the "EBRD") which was signed on 08.02.2018, is considered to be one of the important treaties with agenda to establish a strategic partnership in order to work together towards the areas of common interest. The purpose of this MOU is to form the basis for cooperation between the Parties at strategic level (to identify cultural heritage priorities and developing projects to support them) and operational level (to define and implement an action plan for the sustainable development of Khiva-Khorezm region as an important cultural heritage destination). (6, p.3)

As an institutional body of MOU was organized Committee's Department for Co-ordination of the Regional Tourism Potential Development as the implementation agency to support the implementation of this MOU, and facilitate information sharing and mutual understanding. We consider that, this legal act provides future development of tourism in Uzbekistan, in Khorezm particularly, which leads the adoption of another economic and cultural agreements.

Strategic partnership in the field of tourism (Case of China)

Considering China's being one of the first countries which propose to establish contractual relations in the sphere of tourism with Uzbekistan and current development and renewing these relations, noting the role of this country in Asia, we

decided to analyze as an example the relations on tourism of these two countries. China has been striving for the establishment of partnership with other countries as a new type of State-to-State relations in the post-Cold War era. According to a report by one of the Chinese media outlet, China has so far established partnerships with foreign countries or regions or international organizations. (8) Among them Uzbekistan is considered to be the strategic partner of China. According to Giovanni, strategic partnership implicates both the "strategic" quality and the "partnership" nature of cooperative relations of both parties, requiring that both parties regard it as essential to achieve their basic goals with national security as the core and stressing the win-win effect of such astrategic relationship. (4, pp.2-3)

China was one of the first states that suggested to Uzbekistan establish contacts in the sphere of tourism. Thus, on March 13, 1992, an intergovernmental Agreement was signed on cooperation on culture, education, health, tourism and sports. According to the document, "the Parties agreed to encourage and support cooperation and exchange in the field of culture, art, education, health, tourism and sport between relevant institutions of both countries on the basis of the principle of equality and mutual benefit", and "to stimulate the development and strengthening of links between sports and tourist organizations ". Interdepartmental treaties of Uzbekistan and PRCH (People's Republic of China) in the field of scientific and cultural- humanitarian relations, which are signed by specific departments, are considered to be legal form of collaboration between Uzbekistan and China in before mentioned field. (5, p.63)

The list of bilateral norms in the sphere of tourism is continuing year by year, in particular:

- Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the

Government of the People's Republic of China on cooperation in the field of tourism November 29, 2013

- Framework agreement on cooperation between the State Committee for Tourism and the Chinese company CAISSA Tourism Group on April 25, 2017.

- Framework agreement on cooperation between the State Committee for Tourism and the Beijing Youth Travel Agency on April 25, 2017.

- And last but not least, the Program of development of cooperation in the sphere of tourism between the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Tourism Development and the State Administration for Tourism of the PRC for 2017-2020.

According to this Program spheres of cooperation include: in the area for development of tourist exchange, on advancement of national tourist product, on protection of rights and legal interests of tourists, providing of their safety, for realization of investment projects in the field of tourism and in the field of development of tourist collaboration between the regions of the state Parties.

Perspectives of bilateral collaboration

Bilateral partnership on religion (Islamic) tourism coordinates the future attractive strategy of Uzbekistan, the use of Islamic potential- in Samarkand, Bukhara and Tashkent shows remarkable economic impact to country. For this purpose, special agreements on religion tourism were signed with several Muslim countries (Malaysia, Singapore, Pakistan). It should be noted that for the first half of 2017, the diplomatic missions of the country abroad were issued 742 tourist visas, while for the same period in 2016 this indicator was equal to 287 tourist visas. Thus, the growth was 61.3%. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs sent relevant proposals to simplify the procedure for obtaining entry visas to Uzbekistan (within 5 working days) for citizens of Malaysia and

Indonesia, planning to visit the country through pilgrimage tourism. (6)

Moreover, as an institutional form of bilateral cooperation in the form of joint commissions (for example, Agreement between Uzbekistan and South Korea for cooperation on tourism from 2012) (3), working groups (Agreement between the government of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the government of India for cooperation on tourism from 06.07.2015) (2) and other institutional bodies may be created from the representatives of official tourist bodies of the contracting states, are envisaged in most agreements.

Except this type of agreement, in connection with importance of health of citizens and that providing in time of necessary and quality healthcare to the tourists, it is an inalienable constituent and index of strength of tourism security, from one side, and less secured of citizens in this plan, on the other hand, in-process an author offers the settlement of this problem by the conclusion of new type of intergovernmental agreement about a collaboration in the sphere of medical insurance and providing of healthcare to the citizens (to the tourists) of another Party in the agreement, which have been on tourist tours, on the territory of other Party.

So, it is necessary to set obligatory medical insurance of tourists driving out from one contracting state to other on tourist tours, within the framework of the organized tours, and also, that the states will authorize certain insurance organization (s) to register tourists of other contracting Part, taking advantage of healthcare (without some payment), and on completion of fiscal year to conduct mutual settlements. The information in the indicated insurance organizations will act from different medical establishments of the corresponding state, including hotel doctors, whose healthcare will be paid by

the authorized insurer. In turn, the current financing of insurance organization will come due to their basic insurance activity, including amounts covered after medical insurance persons, driving out in other contracting state, plugged in the cost of tour and enumerated by tour operators. For execution of agreement, elaboration of the regulatory legal and practical mechanism for its implementation, the states will establish a joint body of representatives of official tourism administrations.

Conclusion

Regulation of tourism issues on bilateral basis occupies an important position for foreign economic policy of state. This type of agreement, notwithstanding its general character, is considered to be mutual willingness of both parties, based on principals of equality and mutuality on the regulation of tourism issues. These relations are perspective, because it influences the development of cooperation with foreign countries on tourism, respond the interests of parties and give an opportunity to both states and its citizens to move freely. The researcher announces some critics and proposals regarding bilateral cooperation for tourism development of Uzbekistan.

Namely:

" After analyzing the unique Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Uzbekistan, The State Committee for Tourism Development of the Republic of Uzbekistan, and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (hereinafter referred to as the "EBRD") which was signed on 08.02.2018, it would be advisable to sign interdepartmental MOUs or agreements with international financial and cultural organizations such as UNESCO, International Bank of Reconstruction and Development, Islamic Bank of Reconstruction and Development Islamic

Bank of Reconstruction and Development from one party, The State Committee for Tourism Development of the Republic of Uzbekistan, and several departments of Uzbekistan, which function is connected with tourism;

" It is proposed to sign more detailed agreements in the field of tourism (for instance, youth tourism, ecological, cultural, ethnic, pilgrim and etc.), depending on local (cultural, natural, geographical and etc.) terms and possibilities of the states, about the visa facilitation of formalities, about obligatory of health insurance of tourists; and duty of the states to provide the terms of the simplified access to the medical aid to the tourists and qualities of rendered medical service (according to the provisions of the additionally concluded bilateral contract about a collaboration in the area of medical insurance and providing of medical aid to the tourists (by building additional international hospitals in the regions of Uzbekistan) of the corresponding states),

about measure on simplification administrative, judicial and other legal procedure concerning foreign citizens (during their temporary stay) and etc.;

" Considering poor contractual basis with Latin American countries, it is also advisable to enlarge and renew the contractual basis on tourism of Uzbekistan with those states by learning in-bound and out-bound tourism of Latin America states in order to attract tourists' attention from those countries;

" Due to the improvement of Muslim tourism in the Republic of Uzbekistan, the legal strengthening is expedient on introduction of international standards and special terms and conditions for development of religious tourism (Halal tourism) in our country. In particular, creation of legal foundation for introduction of tourist business in the field of Halal tourism (religious tourism) according to Muslim rules (Sharia Law) in Uzbekistan is considered to be the demand of present day.

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