

# Tourism European Ecumenical Network - TEN

## Press Release

**20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the “Wijgmaal-Declaration”, the Constitutional Declaration of TEN**

**22<sup>nd</sup> Annual meeting of the TEN Network in Italy, 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> June 2004**

At the occasion of their annual meeting in Tavarnuzze, Florence, the members of the Tourism European Ecumenical Network – TEN reinforced the principles laid down in the 1984 Wijgmaal Declaration\* to work towards building just, participatory and sustainable societies. The TEN members expressed their concern that there is a growth of undemocratic and unfair practises in tourism developments, especially in destinations of Asia, Africa and Latin-America.

This was highlighted at the World Social Forum (WSF) held in Mumbai in January 2004 in a programme of seminars and panel debates which for the first time brought tourism issues to the forefront of the WSF agenda. Many global experiences, illustrating exploitation within the tourism industry which are severely detrimental to human rights, were presented.

In particular, the TEN Network expresses solidarity with the people of Burma currently living under an anti-democratic and military dictatorship, whilst members of the elected government continue to remain under house arrest. The TEN Network supports the Burmese Democracy Movement who continues to struggle both inside and outside of Burma for a just and democratic society. Therefore, TEN supports the ongoing requests from the Democracy Movement of Burma asking tourists not to travel to Burma and businesses not to operate in Burma as long as the military junta remains in power.

Associazione RAM, Centro di Attenzione al Turismo  
Organizer of the annual TEN Meeting 2004

*TEN has twelve members in eight European countries. Participants in Florence were*  
*Arbeitskreis Tourismus & Entwicklung, Basle*  
*EED-Tourism Watch, Bonn*  
*Karavaan, Brussels*  
*Associazione RAM, Genoa*  
*Studienkreis für Tourismus und Entwicklung, Ammerland*  
*Tourism Concern, London*  
*Tourès-Tourisme responsable ASBL, Brussels*  
*Transverses, Paris*

For further information:

Renzo Garrone, Marta di Cesare, RAM, Italy. Tel +39 0185 776028, email: [orzonero@hotmail.com](mailto:orzonero@hotmail.com)

\*This declaration can be found on [www.ten-tourism.org](http://www.ten-tourism.org)