GLOBAL ALLIANCE FOR TIMESHARE EXCELLENCE
(GATE)

INTRODUCTION

The Global Alliance for Timeshare Excellence (GATE)1 was created by leaders of trade associations in the United States, Canada, Latin America, Europe and the Middle East, Argentina, South Africa and Australia, who shall be considered the “charter members” of GATE, to promote the timeshare resort development industry around the world. From time to time, the GATE members may invite additional trade associations representing other countries or regions, or may entertain petitions from trade associations in other countries or regions, to join GATE.

This new global coalition is exploring ways to serve as a resource to develop and adopt regulatory and governmental rules which set reasonable guidelines conducive to the industry's business; and serve as a resource and positive influence to encourage the industry to conduct its business in a manner to create a positive public perception.

GATE PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

To create an alliance of regional and national timeshare associations located around the globe. Each association will retain its individual identity but collectively they will cooperate in order to advance the interests of their members, of the consumers they serve and of the timeshare resort development industry of all nations.

In order to avoid potential conflict with existing timeshare associations dedicated to lobbying, public relations, educational and research issues of the industry, this alliance initially will focus upon the business aspects of the timeshare industry and related issues, including assisting the creation of legal and regulatory programs. Eventually the scope can enlarge to include all sectors when deemed appropriate by the member associations.

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1 At the end of 2005, GATE represented thousands of developers and suppliers in a $9 billion global industry operating more than 3,000 resorts. ARDA membership includes 1,000 members throughout the United States operating more than 1,668 resorts. ATHOC membership includes 73 timeshare resorts accounting for 2,308 holiday apartments. CRDA represents members throughout Canada operating more than 106 resorts. AMDETUR/LADETUR represents members throughout Latin America operating more than 1145 resorts. OTE includes members throughout Europe and the Middle East operating more than 1500 resorts, with 1.45 million timeshare owners. TISA membership includes 115 members throughout Southern Africa operating more than 162 resorts. The members of these associations comprise a majority of the timeshare developers and suppliers in the regions represented.
KEY OBJECTIVES OF THE ALLIANCE

- Coordinating the views of the timeshare industry and its suppliers in the participant nations relative to any legislation and business regulations pertinent to their respective enterprises.

- Advising their respective governments on ways to implement appropriate regulations related to the timeshare industry.

- Stimulating, supporting and coordinating cross-border business relationships between timeshare developers and suppliers located in member countries.

- Seeking ways to maximize timeshare industry contributions to the consumers of timeshare and vacation ownership around the world.

ORGANIZATION

The Global Alliance for Timeshare Excellence (GATE) will serve as a coordination alliance of representatives of regional and national timeshare associations around the world.

The Global Alliance for Timeshare Excellence is composed of up to 10-member delegations from each association represented. Each delegation consists of at least five (5) developers and the President (or other executive officer designated by the association) and elected Chairman of the association. These delegations meet annually as the Global Alliance for Timeshare Excellence (GATE).

The president of each country or region's trade association also serves as the president of the respective delegation to the Alliance. The Chairmanship of the Alliance rotates every two years. Beginning in the spring of 2004, and biannually thereafter, the Chairman of GATE shall be selected from among the GATE delegations’ membership, shall be elected by the GATE membership and shall serve a two-year term.

The Charter Members of the Alliance are as follows:

ARDA
ATHOC
CRDA
LADETUR/AMDETUR
OTE
TISA
ADMINISTRATION

The Chairman and Secretary General of the Alliance, who in principle will be members of the same organization to facilitate their administration, will serve a two-year term effective in 2004. Beginning in 2006 and every two years thereafter, the Chairman and Secretary General shall be elected from among the membership of current GATE organizations.

The Chairman and Secretary General will be responsible for the expenses of their own travel and the administration of the Alliance during their chairmanship until some financing mechanism is developed and agreed upon by all members, which may include self-assessment of dues, self-assessment of any funds to complete projects for GATE that implement its objectives, or any other financing mechanism.

ISSUES OF INTEREST

Members will decide what issues are to be evaluated collectively according to their requirements. ARDA originally found the following to be of priority multi-national consideration:

1. Exchange of information concerning all elements of timeshare operations and business aspects of the industry in order to advance the interests of all members.

2. Evaluation of common problems and the development of a coordinated program to mutually assist in finding solutions to priority problems facing the sales and marketing sector.

3. Review of national and regional timeshare-related legislation and regulations, with the objective of advising each government of the collective recommendations, and thereby harmonize pertinent legislation and regulations.

4. Organization of industry missions and other programs for development of mutual understanding, cooperation, and business opportunities.

5. Any other issues that may arise to affect the worldwide timeshare industry and which are consistent with the GATE objectives.

AFFIRMATION AND SUBSCRIPTION OF CHARTER MEMBERS:
On the 10th day of April 1999, the leaders of the timeshare associations in the United States, Canada, Latin America, Europe and the Middle East, and South Africa met in Orlando, Florida with the purpose and intent of affirming and subscribing their organization’s commitment to the Global Alliance for Timeshare Excellence (GATE) as founding signatories.
Witness their hands and seal below: (original signatories represented the following organizations)

American Resort Development Association (ARDA)

Australian Timeshare and Holiday Ownership Council (ATHOC)

Canadian Resort Development Association (CRDA)

Latin America Timeshare Federation (LADETUR)
   CAMARA ARGENTINA TIEMPO COMPARTIDO
   AMDETUR

Organization for Timeshare in Europe (OTE)

Timeshare Institute of South Africa (TISA)