

**For immediate release**



**Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association (CHTA) Congratulates the Dominican Republic for Withdrawing Tax Reform Bill Through Successful Public-Private Sector Collaboration**

*As many Caribbean destinations face similar challenges, CHTA stands armed and ready to help advocate for others across the region*

**FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (October 23, 2024)** – The [Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association](#) (CHTA) congratulates the Government of the Dominican Republic and President Luis Abinader for withdrawing the proposed Tax Reform Bill following widespread consultation with the public and private sectors. The decision reflects the government’s commitment to good governance and democratic practices.

In support of its partner the Association of Hotels and Tourism of the Dominican Republic (ASONAHORES), CHTA played a valuable role in this process, sharing global industry insights and critical data from across the region as well as providing dual-language statements for ASONAHORES and industry stakeholders to utilize in their presentation and remarks. The swift action of the government is acknowledged, and CHTA is pleased that its engagement in advocating for balanced policies supporting tourism growth contributed to the dialogue that helped lead to this decision.

This outcome underscores the importance of incorporating key stakeholders in discussions, particularly when addressing issues with far-reaching economic impacts such as tourism. CHTA commends the private sector, especially ASONAHORES, for effectively voicing their concerns and ensuring that the significance of tourism to the Dominican Republic’s economy was recognized.

Particularly in regions with already high operating costs, tax incentives and other measures designed to promote tourism are crucial for the continued success of the region’s economies, ensuring competitiveness and supporting jobs across multiple sectors. CHTA firmly believes that collaboration between governments and the private sector is essential for safeguarding the region’s economic future.

“President Abinader’s decision to withdraw the bill demonstrates the power of collaboration between governments and stakeholders,” said CHTA President Sanovnik Destang. “It also highlights the importance of consultation when decisions could impact key sectors like tourism.”

“It is important for other destinations to witness this outcome, as many are facing similar challenges in balancing economic growth with the preservation of critical sectors. By observing the collaborative approach taken in the Dominican Republic, governments and stakeholders across the Caribbean can gain valuable insights into how effective consultation and policy advocacy can drive sustainable solutions in their respective countries.”

CHTA continues to encourage such partnerships throughout the region, as they enable effective advocacy and policymaking. Collaboration with local hotel and tourism associations and

governments is vital to ensuring that tourism remains a central pillar of economic development. When working together, the ability to address challenges and seize opportunities for the benefit of all is strengthened.

CHTA reaffirms its commitment to providing support and guidance to its members, advocating for policies that foster sustainable tourism growth, and ensuring that the voices of tourism stakeholders are heard in critical discussions.

“As demonstrated in this case in the Dominican Republic, we are stronger when working together regionally and collaboratively,” concluded Destang.

For more information on CHTA, visit [www.caribbeanhotelandtourism.com](http://www.caribbeanhotelandtourism.com).

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### **About the Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association (CHTA)**

The Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association (CHTA) is the Caribbean’s leading association representing the interests of national hotel and tourism associations. For more than 60 years, CHTA has been the backbone of the Caribbean hospitality industry. Working with some 1,000 hotel and allied members, and 32 National Hotel Associations, CHTA is shaping the Caribbean’s future and helping members to grow their businesses. Whether helping to navigate critical issues in sales and marketing, sustainability, legislative issues, emerging technologies, climate change, data and intelligence or, looking for avenues and ideas to better market and manage businesses, CHTA is helping members on issues which matter most.

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