UNWTO Commission for the Middle East
Thirty-sixth meeting
Madrid, Spain, 27-28 November 2012

Item 9 of the Provisional Agenda

REPRESENTATION OF THE COMMISSION ON THE PROGRAMME AND BUDGET COMMITTEE

Note by the Secretary-General

The attached document contains background information on the Terms of Reference and composition of the Programme and Budget Committee, so as to enable the Commission to appoint its representative on the said Committee.
Election of the Programme and Budget Committee members

I. Background information

1. At the 19th General Assembly (Republic of Korea), the following resolution was adopted regarding the merging of the Programme Committee (PC) and the Committee on Budget and Finance (CBF):

   The General Assembly, (…)
   - Approves the merger of the Programme Committee (PC) and the Committee on Budget and Finance (CBF) into a single Committee: the Programme and Budget Committee (PBC);
   - As a transitory measure, maintains current PC and CBF Members in their function until all PBC Members are designated;
   - Entrusts the Secretary-General to carry out the implementation of this merger, taking into consideration the particular suggestions expressed by the General Assembly; (…)

2. In this context, this document is a complement of the document A/19/11 ann.1: Report on the progress of the reform of the Organization (White Paper), Annex 1: Merging of the Programme Committee (PC) and the Committee on Budget and Finance (CBF), approved by the 19th General Assembly. It sets operational rules for running the elections of PBC Members both during Regional Commission (RC) meetings and Executive Council (EC) sessions.

II. PBC Members elected during Regional Commission meetings

3. The term of PBC Members elected during Regional Commission meetings shall be four years, starting and ending at a General Assembly. The first committee members will therefore be appointed until the 2015 GA. It should be noted that if a PBC member elected by a Regional Commission were to become a member of the Executive Council, its term on the PBC would automatically come to an end, with the Regional Commission electing a replacement for the remaining part of the term.

III. PBC Members elected during Executive Council sessions

4. The term of PBC Members elected during Executive Council sessions shall be four years, starting and ending at a General Assembly. The first committee members will be appointed until the 2015 GA; however, their PBC term ends when their EC term ends.

IV. PBC Members’ profile

5. The PBC will deal with technical issues related to the Programme of Work of the Organization as well as with financial considerations. Full, Associate and Affiliate Members composing the PBC are therefore required to designate a representative of high level with most of the following characteristics, if not all:
   a. Good knowledge of the work already carried out by UNWTO
   b. Holistic vision of the tourism sector and of its challenges
   c. Comprehensive knowledge in public accountability

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1 A/RES/602(XIX)
V. Logistical considerations

6. Since eight out of the fourteen PBC Members belong to the EC, it is logical to hold PBC meetings just before EC sessions, at the same venue. Otherwise, these eight members will have to travel four times a year (two EC sessions in host countries and two PBC meetings in Madrid) instead of two.

7. A similar situation already exists with the current CBF during General Assembly sessions: the CBF meets one day before the EC. The report of the CBF Chair to the EC is prepared in situ and presented the day after.

8. Having PBC meetings and EC sessions held together has an additional advantage: PBC members elected by Regional Commissions can seize the opportunity to attend EC sessions as observers.

The cost of participation at PBC meetings will be on the Members.

VI. Representation of the Middle East on the PBC

9. As can be seen in the attached list, the Executive Council, at its 93rd session (Madrid, June 2012), appointed Saudi Arabia to occupy the first seat corresponding to the Middle East region on the PBC.

10. In accordance with the operational rules set above, the Commission is invited to appoint a second representative of the region on the said Committee. In this respect, it should be pointed out that Lebanon has presented its candidature to this seat.

Point for decision: paragraph 10
PROGRAMME AND BUDGET COMMITTEE

(2012-2015)

Chairperson  
Vice-Chairman  

to be designated  
to be designated  

Africa:  
Kenya* (2013)  
Benin **  

Americas:  
Argentina* (2013)  
Guatemala**  

East Asia and the Pacific:  
Indonesia* (2015)  
Malaysia**  

Europe:  
Italy* (2015)  
Croatia**  

Middle East:  
Saudi Arabia* (2015)  
………………**  

South Asia:  
India* (2013)  
Maldives**  

Representative of the Associate Members
Flemish Community of Belgium

Representatives of the Affiliate Members
Association of Greek Tourist Enterprises – SETE
(Chairman of the Affiliate Members Board)

Note:  PBC Members elected by the Executive Council have a mandate limited to their EC mandate