UNWTO COMMISSION FOR SOUTH ASIA
Fifty-fourth meeting
Victoria Falls, Republic of Zimbabwe
25 August 2013

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS TO
STATUTORY ORGANS AND THEIR SUBSIDIARY BODIES

Note by the Secretary-General

The present document is submitted to all Regional Commissions for information and appropriate action.
Nominations and elections to statutory organs and their subsidiary bodies

1. The following information is based on the membership of the Organization as of the date of this document. An update of this information will be submitted to the Members at the meetings of their Regional Commissions, to be held in Victoria Falls, Republic of Zimbabwe on 25 August 2013 on the occasion of the twentieth session of the General Assembly.

I. GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Nomination of the Officers of the General Assembly during its twentieth session

2. For the conduct of its business and in accordance with rule 16(3) of its Rules of Procedure, the General Assembly is called upon to elect its President and Vice-Presidents "on the basis of equitable geographical distribution, making allowance for the region represented by the President".

3. The Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly should therefore represent the UNWTO regions as follows: two for Africa, two for the Americas, two for Europe, one for East Asia and the Pacific, one for South Asia and one for the Middle East.

4. It is pointed out that, to elect its Vice-Presidents, the Assembly must make allowance for the region represented by the President in accordance with rule 16(3) of its Rules of Procedure. If the Assembly follows the tradition of nominating as President the head of delegation of the host country which means Zambia and Zimbabwe will be Co-Presidents, there would be no post of Vice-President for the region of Africa.

5. Bearing this in mind, the Regional Commissions are required to nominate candidates to represent their regions as Vice-Presidents of the twentieth session of the Assembly.

6. The Officers of the previous sessions of the General Assembly are listed in Annex I to this document.
II. SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

A. Credentials Committee: appointment of Members

7. Rule 13(1) of the Assembly’s Rules of Procedure provides for the appointment by the Assembly, on the proposal of its President, of a Credentials Committee composed of nine delegates chosen from among the Full Members.

8. The Regional Commissions are called upon to suggest to the President of the General Assembly the same number of representatives for the Credentials Committee as they have Vice-Presidents of the Assembly (including two for Africa). The nine Members of the Committee thus nominated will then elect from among themselves a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman in accordance with rule 13(2) of the Assembly’s Rules of Procedure.

9. To assist the Regional Commissions in their deliberations, the offices held by Members at previous sessions of the General Assembly are listed in Annex II.

B. Regional Commissions: election of Officers

10. In accordance with rule 57 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly, as they apply mutatis mutandis to the Regional Commissions, and consistent with the practice followed so far, each Regional Commission should elect one Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen from among its Members for a term of two years, commencing from the twentieth session of the General Assembly.

11. So far as the candidatures presented for the chairmanship are concerned, it should be pointed out that, as of the date of this document, no member country from the Commission for South Asia (CSA) or from the Commission for East Asia and the Pacific (CAP) has submitted its candidature to the Secretariat for the chairmanship / vice-chairmanship of the Commissions for the forthcoming biennium.

12. A list of the Officers of the Regional Commissions since 1976 is given in Annex III.

13. The Regional Commissions are called upon to elect their respective Chairman and Vice-Chairmen accordingly.

C. World Committee on Tourism Ethics

14. By the Resolution of the Ninetieth session of the General assembly (A/RES/607(XIX.)) the WCTE members are directly elected by the General assembly upon the proposal of a Selection Committee. (President of the General Assembly, Chairman of the Executive Council, Chairman of the Board of Affiliate Members, Legal Advisor and the UNWTO Secretary-General). The members of the Regional Commissions were already informed about this process during the respective meetings held in the first semester 2013. The Selection Committee will have a final meeting on 25th of August. From the proposal of this Committee the General Assembly will elect, in plenary session (item 10), eight WCTE members and a Chair.

III. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL: ELECTION OF MEMBERS

15. The General Assembly is required to elect, at each of its sessions, one-half of the membership of the Executive Council, in accordance with Article 14(1) of the Statutes of the Organization, which
reads as follows¹:

"The Council shall consist of Full Members elected by the Assembly in the ratio of one Member for every five Full Members, in accordance with the Rules of Procedure laid down by the Assembly, with a view to achieving fair and equitable geographical distribution."

16. Article 15 of the Statutes also stipulates that:

“The term of elected Members shall be four years (...). Election for one-half of the membership of the Council shall be held every two years.”

17. This provision is enlarged upon in rule 55(1) of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly, paragraph 4 of which reads:

“The term of office of the Members of the Council shall begin immediately following their election by the Assembly and shall end on the election of their successors.”

18. Article 14(1) of the Statutes provides that the total number of the Organization's Full Members determines the number of seats on the Council. In order to achieve, so far as possible, fair and equitable geographical representation, the number of seats per region is calculated on the basis of one seat for every five Members out of the total number of Members in each region.

19. At the date of this document, the total number of Full Members of the Organization is 156 including Myanmar, Trinidad and Tobago and United Arab Emirates which have re-joined (see Annex IV.). Consequently, and in accordance with Article 14(1) of the Statutes, the Council will be composed of thirty one Members (as it is today), in addition to Spain as a permanent Member, during the period between the twentieth and twenty first sessions of the General Assembly.

20. The current membership of the Executive Council is indicated in Annex V.

21. Annex VI. provides a graphical representation of terms of office, broken down by region, since the creation of the UNWTO.

22. The table in Annex VII. illustrates the situation, subject to the submission of other possible candidatures for membership, or the possible renunciation of a candidate. Needless to say, the data given would have to be changed to reflect such modifications.

23. Columns 5 and 4 of Annex VII. shows that the terms of office of fifteen Members expire at the twentieth and that sixteen members stay until the twenty-first session of the General Assembly. Column 6 shows that eleven Full Members will have to be elected to the Council in the ratio of one Member for every five Full Members, as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Seats</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Americas</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Asia</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle East</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ The same provision is repeated in rule 1(1) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council.
East Asia and the Pacific

Column 7 shows that to represent the 21 remaining Full Members, 4 more Members should be elected to the Council. Consequently, it is necessary to vote in the General Assembly for the allocation from among all the regions of the seats corresponding to the surplus Members (so-called "floating" seats).

None of the four remaining seats to be allocated by the General Assembly in order to reach the total of 31 seats corresponds to an exact multiple of 5 Members from any of the six regions of the Organization; rather, the seats result from the sum of the surplus Members from the different regions, as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Americas</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Asia and the Pacific</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle East</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Asia</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL 21 Members**

This total gives rise to the right to assign four so-called "floating" seats.

It is worth to recall that on various occasions in the past, it has been possible to reach prior consensus on the assignation of the seats of the different regions.

At the time of preparation of this document, the following States had communicated to the Secretariat, their intention of presenting their candidatures for membership of the Council for the period 2014-2017.

**AFRICA** (3 seats to be filled)*

Angola
Seychelles
Tunisia

**AMERICAS** (2 seats to be filled)*

Argentina
Colombia
Ecuador
Jamaica
Peru
The Bahamas

**EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC** (no seat)*
EUROPE (4 seats to be filled)*
Azerbaijan
Bulgaria
Croatia
Germany
Lithuania
Romania
Serbia
Slovakia

MIDDLE EAST (1 seat to be filled)*
Egypt

SOUTH ASIA (1 seats to be filled)*
Islamic Republic of Iran

28. Any other candidatures reaching the Secretariat before the date of the Assembly will be announced in an addendum to this document.

29. It should be recalled that Executive Council decisions 4(XXXIII) and 4(XXXIV) recommend that "...only Members of the Organization having no unjustified arrears (paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes) shall be eligible for election to the Executive Council".

30. The Regional Commissions are called upon to recommend to the Assembly, on the basis of the regional distribution of new Council seats shown in paragraphs 23 and 24 of this document the fifteen (including floating seats) Council Members to be elected for the period 2014-2017.

31. The Board of Affiliate Members is required to nominate its representative to serve on the Executive Council. This function is traditionally shouldered by the Chairman of the Board.

IV. SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL: ELECTION OF MEMBERS

A. Programme and Budget Committee

32. In accordance with the Resolution of the Ninetieth Session of the General Assembly (A/RES/602(XIX Annex 1.)) and the decision 5(LXXIX) taken by the Council at its 89th session (24-26 October 2010, Kish Island, Islamic Republic of Iran), the newly formed Programme and Budget Committee is composed of:

- 2 full members by region, as follows:
  - 6 members of the Executive Council, one by region, each designated by the Council itself;
  - 6 members, one by region, designated by their respective regional commission;

- The representative of the Associate Members in the Executive Council;
- The representative of the Affiliate Members in the Executive Council.

33. The memberships of the PBC are indicated in Annex VIII to this document.
B. Technical Committees

34. The Executive Council at its 95th session (Belgrade, Serbia, 27-29 May 2013) having read the report of the Secretary-General on technical committees on competitiveness and sustainability issues by its decision (CE/DEC/7(XCV)) decided to redefine name, mandate, composition and modus operandi of these Committees as follows:

a.) **Sustainable Development of Tourism Committee (SDTC) to “Committee on Tourism and Sustainability (CTS)”**

b.) **Committee on Market and Competitiveness to “Committee on Tourism and Competitiveness (CTC)”**

and requested the Secretary General:

a.) To organize the first meetings of both committees in the framework of the forthcoming General Assembly (2013, Zambia and Zimbabwe) and;

b.) To submit to the 97th session of the Executive Council the rules of procedures proposed for the two committees as well as the list of invited participants for each committee as stipulated under “Composition of the Committees”

35. Approved that the representative of the Associate Members in the Executive Council be temporarily their representative in both committees until the Associate Members designate a Member for each committee.

36. Also approved that the Chair of the Board of the Affiliate Members be temporarily their representative in both committees until the Board designates an Affiliate Member for each committee.

37. And further approved the addition of a representative of each committee to the Programme and Budget Committee.

38. The present membership of the two Committees is indicated in Annex IX and Annex X to this document.

C. Committee for the review of applications for affiliate membership

39. Pursuant to Executive Council decisions 8(XXV), 5(XXVI), 2(XXVII), 16(XXVIII) and General Assembly resolution 172(VI), and by virtue of Article 19(g) of the Organization’s Statutes, a Committee for the Review of applications for affiliate membership was established within the framework of the Executive Council. This Committee is composed of six Members of the Council, appointed biennially on a regional basis by the Council itself. The Committee elects its own Chair and authorizes the Chair of the Board of Affiliate Members to participate in its business without the right to vote.

40. The past and present membership of the Committee is indicated in Annex XI. Since the two-year term of office of the present Members of the Committee expires at the nineteenth session of the General Assembly, the Executive Council, at its ninety-seventh session (Livingstone, Zambia, 29 August 2013) will appoint, from among its number, the six new Members of the Committee for the period 2014-2015.

41. When formulating their recommendations, Members should take into account the fact that this
Committee always meets during Council sessions and that it is therefore essential to propose Members currently serving or required to serve on the Council.

42. In accordance with the established practice for the election of the Members of the other subsidiary organs of the Executive Council, the Regional Commissions are each called upon to recommend a representative to the Council for appointment to the Committee for the Review of applications for affiliate membership for the period 2014-2015.

V. DESIGNATION OF THE HOST COUNTRIES FOR WORLD TOURISM DAY 2014 AND 2015

43. By resolution 470(XV), the General Assembly designated Malaysia and Qatar as host countries of World Tourism Day in 2004 and 2005. By the same resolution, the General Assembly endorsed the proposal of the Executive Council and decided that the following geographic order would apply to World Tourism Day celebrations beginning in 2006: 2006 in Europe; 2007 in South Asia; 2008 in the Americas; and 2009 in Africa.

44. Noting that previous World Tourism Day celebrations were awarded to:

- WTD 2006: Portugal (Europe)
- WTD 2007: Sri Lanka (South Asia)
- WTD 2008: Peru (Americas)
- WTD 2009: Ghana (Africa)
- WTD 2010: China (East Asia and the Pacific)
- WTD 2011: Yemen (Middle East),
- WTD 2012: Spain (Europe)
- WTD 2013: Maldives (South Asia)

and following the geographic order as decided by the General Assembly, World Tourism Day 2014 would be celebrated in the Americas and World Tourism Day 2015 in Africa.

45. In this regard, the Executive Council in its 95th session (CE/DEC/21/XCV) approved for submission to the 20th session of the General Assembly the proposals of Regional Commission for the Americas and the Regional Commission for Africa the following host countries for World Tourism Day 2014 and 2015.

a.) World Tourism Day 2014: Mexico  

b.) World Tourism Day 2015: Burkina Faso

Taking note that the themes for World Tourism Day 2014 and 2015 will be proposed by the Secretariat to the 96th session of the Executive Council