ELECTION OF THE COUNCIL'S OFFICERS FOR 2009

Addendum 1

Note by the Secretary-General

The purpose of this document is to provide the Executive Council with the necessary background information to enable it to elect its Officers for 2009, in accordance with the relevant rules.
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Addendum 1

1. It is reminded that on 30 July 2008, H.E. Mrs. Ambika Soni, Minister of Tourism of India, current Chairman of the Council, officially communicated to the Secretary-General the intention of India to be re-elected to preside over the Executive Council in 2009.

2. After the preparation of the main document, on 17 September 2008, H.E. Mr. Carlos Ricardo Benavides Jiménez, Minister of Tourism of Costa Rica, also submitted to the Secretary-General the candidature of his country for the chairmanship of the Council in 2009.

3. It should be mentioned that at its seventy-third session the Council adopted decision 27(LXXIII) regarding the rotation of the chairmanship on a geographical basis, by which it confirmed the principle of the desirable geographical rotation of the chairmanship among the regions, which should be applied with the necessary flexibility with a view to the smooth functioning of this organ.

4. In the spirit of this decision and as follows from Annex I of the main document, it seems that the region of the Americas has not performed the duties of chairmanship since 2001.