

## DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AT ITS 110TH SESSION

Baku, Azerbaijan, 16-18 June 2019

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CE/DEC/1(CX)

**Adoption of the Agenda**  
Agenda item 1  
(document CE/110/1 prov.)

*The Executive Council,*

*Having heard* the proposals of the Chair,

1. *Decides* to consider provisional agenda item 5(a), Draft Programme of Work and Budget for 2020-2021, immediately after agenda item 4(c);
2. *Also decides* to consider provisional agenda item 9, World Tourism Day: themes and host countries for 2020 and 2021, immediately after agenda item 5(a);
3. *Further decides* to remove provisional agenda item 7, Communication of the Chair of the Affiliate Members; and
4. *Adopts* the agenda of its 110th session as proposed, with the aforementioned modifications.

CE/DEC/2(CX)

**Report of the Secretary-General on the current trends of international tourism**

Agenda item 3  
(document CE/110/3)

*The Executive Council,*

*Having examined* the report of the Secretary-General on international tourism trends,

1. *Takes note* of the report; and

*Having heard* the statement of the United States of America,

2. *Welcomes* the fact that the United States of America is exploring possibilities to re-join the Organization.

CE/DEC/3(CX)

## Implementation of the General Programme of Work for 2018-2019

Agenda items 4(a), 4(b) and 4(c)  
(documents CE/110/4(a), 4(b) and 4(c))

*The Executive Council,*

*Having examined* the report of the Secretary-General on the Programme of Work and its different annexes,

1. *Takes note* of the activities implemented and progress achieved;
2. *Endorses* the UNWTO Recommendations on Urban Tourism and requests the Secretary-General to submit them to the General Assembly for approval;

*Having taken cognizance, in particular,* of the activities related to the initiative Measuring the Sustainability of Tourism and the Report of the Statistics Committee,

3. *Encourages* UNWTO Members to support the international consensus process towards the approval by the United Nations of the Statistical Framework for Measuring the Sustainability of Tourism (SF-MST) by:
  - (a) Liaising with their country's respective National Statistical Institute at the highest level to raise awareness and garner support in preparation to the UN Statistical Commission's fifty-first session in March 2020, and
  - (b) Becoming active at any stage in the MST project through for example nominating experts for partaking in the Working Group of Experts on MST, ensuring their country's contribution to the global consultations and pioneering the implementation of the SF-MST through the development of a pilot study;
4. *Thanks* the Committee for its continued contribution to the Organization's statistical work;
5. *Commends* the countries that have implemented the Tourism Satellite Account and carried out pioneering work in the implementation of the SF-MST;
6. *Accepts* the Secretariat's suggestion to rename the Committee on Statistics and the Tourism Satellite Account as the "Committee on Statistics";

*Having examined* the report on the Programme of Work of the UNWTO Academy,

7. *Welcomes* the creation of an online tourism academy and requests the Secretary-General to further report on its development to the Executive Council;

*Having examined* the report on the creation of the UNWTO Tourism Innovation Hubs Network,

8. *Supports* the creation of the UNWTO Innovation Hubs Network; and

*Having heard* the explanations of the Secretary-General regarding the implications for UNWTO of the United Nations Reform, and notably, of the UNWTO's membership in the United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG),

9. *Decides* that UNWTO shall not be part of the UNSDG for the forthcoming biennium, and that UNWTO membership will be reconsidered for 2022-2023.

**UNWTO financial report and audited Financial Statements  
for the year ended 31 December 2018**

Agenda item 4(d)  
(document CE/110/4(d))

*The Executive Council,*

*Having examined* the UNWTO financial report and audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2018 (CE/110/4(d)),

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the unqualified opinion of the External Auditor that the UNWTO Financial Statements for the year ended 2018 present a true image of the financial position of the UNWTO as at 31 December 2018 and of its performance, its cash flows and changes in equity for the year ended 31 December 2018, in compliance with UNWTO Financial Regulations and Rules and International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS);
2. *Thanks* the Secretary-General for correcting the deficit of previous years and ensuring the sound financial stability of the Organization within one year of his mandate;
3. *Approves and recommends* the General Assembly to approve the UNWTO Financial Statements for the year ended 2018;
4. *Takes note* of the Secretary-General's financial report for the year 2018 and approves, as presented in the document:
  - (a) the Secretary-General's proposal to utilize the 2018 remaining available Regular Budget budgetary cash surplus amounting to EUR 1,912,432 (Regular Budget budgetary cash balance less cash returned to the Working Capital Fund),
  - (b) the Regular Budget appropriation transfers recommended by the Programme and Budget Committee members through a written consultation in accordance with Financial Regulation 5.3(a) and 5.3(b), and
  - (c) the Secretary-General's proposed funding strategy for the UNWTO's after-service employee benefits liabilities;
5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to present the details of the required payroll charge percentage calculated by a professional firm of actuaries to a future session of the Executive Council for approval, prior to incorporating it in forthcoming budget proposals of the Regular Budget;
6. *Recommends* that the Secretary-General continue in 2019 his approaches to Members that owe contributions to the Organization in order to secure their payment; and
7. Expresses its gratitude to the Chair of the Programme and Budget Committee (India) and the External Auditor (Spain) for the work carried out.

CE/DEC/5(CX)

**UNWTO financial report for the period ended 31 March 2019**

Agenda item 4(e)  
(document CE/110/4(e))

*The Executive Council,*

*Having examined* the UNWTO Financial Report for the period ended 31 March 2019 (document CE/110/4(e)),

1. *Takes note*, as presented in this document, of the:
  - (a) Plan of income and expenditure of the Regular Budget for the financial year 2019 presented by the Secretary-General at 31 March 2019,
  - (b) Budgetary result of the Regular Budget 2019 at 31 March 2019 as well as the Regular Budget assessed and arrears contributions received (cash-in) from Members at 31 March 2019,
  - (c) Assessed contributions due to the General Fund amounts at 31 March 2019,
  - (d) Voluntary contributions received (cash-in) and in-kind contributions for the period ended 31 March 2019,
  - (e) Information on approved United Nations salary scales applicable by UNWTO Staff Rule 33(1), and
  - (f) Initiative projects (PRF) and PSC (project support costs) projects movements for the period ended 31 March 2019;
2. *Also takes note* of the submission of the interim provisional unaudited UNWTO Statement of Financial Position at 31 March 2019 and the UNWTO Statement Financial Performance for the period ended 31 March 2019;
3. *Urges* Members that have not yet complied with their financial obligations to take the necessary steps to pay their contributions for 2019 and reminds Members to pay their contributions within the time period stipulated by regulation 7(2) of the Financial Regulations;
4. *Thanks* the Members shown in the table of Annex III.1.B (Arrear contributions received from Members for the period ended 31 March 2019) that have made the necessary efforts in order to fulfil their financial obligations;
5. *Notes* that Kyrgyzstan and Nicaragua have respected their agreed payment plans up to 2019 either partially or in full within the reporting period of this document;
6. *Approves* the payment plans submitted by the Full Members Chad and Vanuatu as well as by the Affiliate Member Azerbaijan Tourism and Management University to the present session of the Executive Council;

7. *Supports* the Secretary-General's proactive approach for the settlement of arrear contributions in order to contribute towards the programme of work, especially in view of the rising demands on the Organization with its limited resources;
8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to inform the General Assembly at its next session, about the Members' compliance with the agreements made with a view, as the case may be, to maintaining the temporary exemption from the provisions of paragraph 13 that they were granted by the General Assembly or reapplying those provisions to them if they have not fulfilled their commitments; and
9. *Approves* the amendments to the Detailed Financial Rules Annex I - Travel guidelines, as proposed in Annex VI of document CE/110/4(e), which will come into force after the 110th session of the Executive Council.



CE/DEC/6(CX)

## Human resources report

Agenda item 4(f)  
(document CE/110/4(f))

*The Executive Council,*

*Having examined* the report of the Secretary-General on the human resources situation of the Organization,

1. *Takes note* of the information provided on the human resources of the Organization;
2. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the work currently being carried out by those persons in the service of the Organization and the contribution to the Programme of Work, especially in view of the rising demands on the Organization with its limited resources;
3. *Encourages* Member States to send concrete proposals to the Secretariat for the financing of Junior Professional Officers at UNWTO;
4. *Encourages* Member States to send to the Secretariat, Officials on Loan, especially in view of the rising demands of the Organization with its limited resources;
5. *Approves* the amendments to Staff Rules 15(1), 15(6)(c), 15(11), 17(1)(d), 24(11)(a) and 24(4);
6. *Thanks* the Ethics Officer for her report on the activities carried out from 1 May 2018 to 30 April 2019; and
7. *Requests* the Ethics Officer to report on the outcomes of the review of the policies on whistleblowing and protection against retaliation, which is currently underway.

CE/DEC/7(CX)

**Draft Programme of Work and Budget for 2020-2021**

Agenda item 5(a)  
(document CE/110/5(a))

*The Executive Council,*

*Having examined* the Draft Programme of Work and Budget for 2020-2021,

1. *Endorses* the draft general Programme of Work and Budget of the Organization for the period 2020-2021, for a total amount of EUR 30,096,000, prepared by the Secretary-General in accordance with Article 23(2) of the Statutes;
2. *Notes* that the Programme and Budget only includes Regular Budget projects within the General Funds;
3. *Further notes* that Other Projects within the General Fund or Other Funds (Voluntary Contributions Funds and Fund In Trust) will be added to the Organization's output and reinforce the resources and thus the activities of the Organization, especially in respect of technical cooperation;
4. *Endorses* that the budgetary income approved for the next biennium should be provided by the contributions of the Full and Associate Members in the rounded amounts of EUR 13,273,000 for 2020 and EUR 13,321,000 for 2021, and that the balance to be financed should be covered by the contributions of the Affiliate Members, with the necessary adjustments deriving from any changes in the number of Affiliate Members, and the other sources of funding referred to in document CE/110/5(a);
5. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to execute the Programme of Work and Budget for 2020-2021 in accordance with the amounts collected, establishing a plan of expenditure for that purpose and keeping with the satisfactory budgetary practice established in the previous financial years;
6. *Takes note with appreciation* of the Secretary-General's proposal to present a balanced budget for the biennium 2020-2021;
7. *Approves* the proposed scale of contributions for 2020-2021;
8. *Agrees* that, in accordance with resolution A/RES/526(XVII), the contributions of the Associate Members be divided into two separate categories, each being 10% lower than the contribution of the Full Members in groups 13 and 9 respectively;
9. *Also approves* the Secretary-General's proposal to (a) set the assessed contribution of the Affiliate Members at EUR 2,500 for 2020 and for 2021, in line with its recommendation in decision CE/DEC/8(CV) para. 6, and (b) to continue to apply deductions for specific members as outlined in document CE/95/6(c) and as approved in decision CE/DEC/20(XCV);
10. *Encourages* the Secretariat to further continue with its efforts in cost savings and control of expenditures; and
11. *Supports* the Secretary-General's initiative "UNWTO Agenda for Africa 2030 - Tourism for inclusive growth".

CE/DEC/8(CX)

**Election of the External Auditor for 2020-2021**

Agenda item 5(b)  
(document CE/110/5(b))

*The Executive Council,*

*Having examined the report,*

*Requests the General Assembly to consider designating an External Auditor to carry out the external auditing of the Organization for the period 2020-2021 for the external audit of the UNWTO Financial Statements for the years ended 31 December 2019 and 2020.*

**Report of the Committee for the Review of Applications for Affiliate Membership**  
Agenda item 6  
(document CE/110/6)

*The Executive Council,*

*Having examined* the report of its Committee for the Review of Applications for Affiliate Membership, which met in Baku, Azerbaijan, on 17 June 2019, under the chairmanship of Thailand,

1. *Endorses* the report of the Committee; and
2. *Decides* to admit provisionally to affiliate membership the following candidates, pending ratification by the General Assembly at its twenty-third session:
  1. Africa Tourism Partners – Africa MICE (Pty) Ltd (South Africa)
  2. Asociación Femenil de Ejecutivas de Empresas Turísticas de la República Mexicana, A.C – AFEET (Mexico)
  3. Association of Economic Interaction of Subordinate Entities of The Russian Federation «Tourism Development Union in Russian Federation» (Russian Federation)
  4. BigData Business Support Unit - KT - Korea Telecom Corporation (Republic of Korea)
  5. Catenon S. A. (Spain)
  6. CM Advisor SRL (Italy)
  7. Compagnie du Ponant (France)
  8. Covadonga, Guía de Asturias – Expendeduría de Covadonga (Spain)
  9. Croatian National Tourist Board (Croatia)
  10. Entidad de Gestión de Derechos de los Productores Audiovisuales - EGEDA (Spain)
  11. Etihad Aviation Group – Etihad Airways Ltd (United Arab Emirates)
  12. Federación de Empresas de Turismo de Chile – FEDETUR (Chile)
  13. Federation Internationale de Camping, Caravanning et Autocaravaning (F.I.C.C) AISBL (Belgium)
  14. Fondation pour la Culture et les Civilisations du Vin Country (France)
  15. Gino Holding, A.S (Slovakia)
  16. Higher Institute for Tourism & Hospitality (Saudi Arabia)
  17. JSC Balneoservice (Georgia)
  18. Kansai Tourism Bureau (Japan)
  19. Kyoto University of Foreign Studies (Japan)
  20. Metropolitan College S.A (Greece)
  21. Modul University Dubai – MODUL University DMCC (United Arab Emirates)
  22. NEOM Company (Saudi Arabia)
  23. North-Ossetian State University (Russian Federation)
  24. OÜ Positium (Estonia)
  25. Panoramic Business Services (PBS) SRL (Romania)
  26. Pas Grau International S.A. (Andorra)
  27. Rainmaker digital CC (Namibia)

28. Route Report / Doin'sane, INC. (United States of America)
29. Royal Comission for AlUla (Saudi Arabia)
30. Semitour Perigord (France)
31. The Red Sea Development Company (Saudi Arabia)
32. Thompson Okanagan Tourism Association (Canada)
33. Universidad de La Laguna (Spain)
34. Universidad Peruana de Ciencias Aplicadas (Peru)
35. University of Zadar (Croatia)
36. Vatel School in Bahrain - H.C.M.S. Co. (Bahrain)
37. Viajes de Gala S.A de C.V (Mexico)
38. White Sands Tours & Travel (United Arab Emirates)

CE/DEC/10(CX)

**Report on the UNWTO Framework Convention on Tourism Ethics**

Agenda item 8  
(document CE/110/8)

*The Executive Council,*

*Having examined* the report on the UNWTO Framework Convention on Tourism Ethics,

1. *Takes note* of the information provided by the Secretariat of the Organization;
2. *Endorses* the translations of the UNWTO Framework Convention on Tourism Ethics in the official languages of the Organization and their presentation to the upcoming General Assembly;
3. *Expresses its support* for the adoption of the Framework Convention on Tourism Ethics; and
4. *Encourages* Member States to actively engage in the achievement of this milestone for UNWTO during the 23rd General Assembly.

CE/DEC/11(CX)

**World Tourism Day: themes and host countries for 2020 and 2021  
to be proposed to the General Assembly**

Agenda item 9  
(document CE/110/9)

*The Executive Council*

1. *Proposes* to the 23rd session of the General Assembly Mercosur as the host of the official celebrations for the World Tourism Day in 2020, upon recommendation of the Regional Commission for the Americas; and
2. *Invites* the Regional Commission for Africa (Saint Petersburg, Russian Federation, 10 September 2019) to recommend to the 23rd session of the General Assembly a host for World Tourism Day 2021.

CE/DEC/12(CX)

**Report on the preparations for the twenty-third session of the General Assembly**

Agenda item 10  
(document CE/110/10)

*The Executive Council,*

*Having examined* the report of the Secretary-General on the preparations for the twenty-third session of the General Assembly,

1. *Takes note* of the information provided;
2. *Welcomes* the possibility of using an electronic system for voting during the General Assembly session; and
3. *Decides* to use the electronic system for voting at the 111th session of the Executive Council, with the understanding that manual voting using paper ballots will remain in place as a fall-back option.



CE/DEC/13(CX)

**Place and dates of the 111th session of the Executive Council**

Agenda item 11  
(document CE/110/11)

*The Executive Council,*

*Decides to hold its 111th session on 13 September 2019 in Saint Petersburg, Russian Federation, in the context of the twenty-third session of the General Assembly.*

CE/DEC/14(CX)

**Vote of thanks to the host country**

*The Executive Council,*

*Having carried out the work of its 110th session under the excellent conditions placed at its disposal by the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan,*

1. *Expresses its most sincere gratitude to the Government and people of Azerbaijan for the support extended to the UNWTO;*
2. *Expresses also its appreciation for the opportunity provided to the delegates to enjoy the attractions of the city of Baku and as well as to attend various social events and technical visits; and*
3. *Conveys its profound thanks to Mr. Fuad Nagiyev, Chairman of the State Tourism Agency of Azerbaijan and to all his staff, for their magnificent hospitality, as well as their personal involvement in and constant support to the organization of the meeting.*