DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

AT ITS SEVENTIETH SESSION

Madrid, Spain, 3-4 June 2003

CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Agenda</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>List of decisions</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Decisions taken by the Council</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>List of participants</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. **AGENDA**

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Report of the Secretary-General
2 bis. The SARS epidemic and its impact on the tourism industry in Asia and the world
3. Communication of the Chairman
4. Transformation of the Organization into a specialized agency of the United Nations
5. Implementation of the general programme of work of the Organization for the period 2002-2003
6. Administrative, financial and statutory matters
   (a) Report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation and plan of expenditure for 2003
   (b) Report of the Committee on Budget and Finance
   (c) Auditors’ report and administrative accounts of the Organization for the financial year 2002
   (d) Closing of the audited administrative accounts of the thirteenth financial period (2000-2001)
   (e) Application of Article 34 of the Statutes and paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes
   (f) Applications for membership
7. Draft programme of work and budget for the period 2004-2005
   (a) Draft programme budget prepared by the Secretary-General
   (b) Report of the Programme Committee
   (c) Report of the Committee on Budget and Finance
8. Appointment of the Members of the World Committee on Tourism Ethics
9. Introduction of the Arabic language and enhancement of linguistic diversity in the Organization’s activities
10. World Tourism Day: themes for 2004 and 2005 to be proposed to the General Assembly, and the host country selection procedure
11. Affiliate Members
   (a) Report of the Chairman
   (b) Report of the Sub-Committee for the Review of applications for affiliate membership

12. Report on the preparations for the fifteenth session of the General Assembly

13. Place and dates of the seventy-first session of the Executive Council

14. Review and adoption of the draft decisions of the seventieth session of the Executive Council
## 2. LIST OF DECISIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Decision No.</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1(LXX)</td>
<td>Adoption of the agenda (agenda item 1)</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2(LXX)</td>
<td>Report of the Secretary-General (agenda item 2)</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3(LXX)</td>
<td>Communication of the Chairman (agenda item 3)</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4(LXX)</td>
<td>Transformation of the Organization into a specialized agency of the United Nations (agenda item 4)</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5(LXX)</td>
<td>Implementation of the general programme of work of the Organization for the period 2002-2003 (agenda item 5)</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6(LXX)</td>
<td>Administrative, financial and statutory matters (a) Report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation and plan of expenditure for 2003 (agenda item 6(a))</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7(LXX)</td>
<td>Administrative, financial and statutory matters (c) Auditors’ report and administrative accounts of the Organization for the financial year 2002 (agenda item 6(c))</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8(LXX)</td>
<td>Administrative, financial and statutory matters (d) Closing of the audited administrative accounts of the thirteenth financial period (2000-2001) (agenda item 6(d))</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9(LXX)</td>
<td>Administrative, financial and statutory matters (e) Application of Article 34 of the Statutes and paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes (agenda item 6(e))</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10(LXX)</td>
<td>Administrative, financial and statutory matters (f) Applications for membership (agenda item 6(f))</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11(LXX)</td>
<td>Draft programme of work and budget for the period 2004-2005 (a) Draft programme budget prepared by the Secretary-General; (b) Report of the Programme Committee; (c) Report of the Committee on Budget and Finance (agenda items 7(a), (b) and (c))</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decision No.</td>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Page</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12(LXX)</td>
<td>Appointment of the members of the World Committee on Tourism Ethics (agenda item 8)</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13(LXX)</td>
<td>Introduction of the Arabic language and enhancement of linguistic diversity in the Organization’s activities (agenda item 9)</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14(LXX)</td>
<td>World Tourism Day: themes for 2004 and 205 to be proposed to the General Assembly, and the host country selection procedure (agenda item 10)</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15(LXX)</td>
<td>Affiliate Members (a) Report of the Chairman (agenda item 11(a))</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16(LXX)</td>
<td>Affiliate Members (b) Report of the Sub-Committee for the Review of applications for affiliate membership (agenda item 11(b))</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17(LXX)</td>
<td>Report on the preparations for the fifteenth session of the General Assembly (agenda item 12)</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18(LXX)</td>
<td>Place and date of the seventy-first session of the Executive Council (agenda item 13)</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19(LXX)</td>
<td>Vote of thanks to the host country</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL

CE/DEC/1(LXX)

Adoption of the agenda

Agenda item 1
(documents CE/70/1 prov. and CE/70/1 prov.annot.)

The Executive Council

Decides to adopt the agenda of its seventieth session as proposed.

CE/DEC/2(LXX)

Report of the Secretary-General

Agenda items 2 and 2 bis
(documents CE/70/2, CE/70/2 Doc. S., CE/70/2 bis, CE/70/2 bis Add.1,
CE/70/2 bis Add.2 and CE/70/2 bis Add.2 Corr.1)

The Executive Council,

Having heard the reports presented by the Secretary-General and of the Chairman of the National Tourism Administration of China, and having discussed them,

1. Thanks the Secretary-General for his presentation;

2. Notes with interest the information provided regarding the developments in world tourism following the conflict in Iraq, with the continuation of terrorists acts and with the emergence of the SARS epidemic, and the lessons learned regarding the situation of the world tourism market;

3. Notes with satisfaction the main activities in progress and the efforts undertaken for the sector’s recovery;

4. Thanks the Chairman of the National Tourism Administration of China for the relevance and precision of the information provided regarding the evolution of the SARS epidemic in China; and

5. Requests the Secretary-General to follow attentively the evolution of the epidemic and to report on its consequences on the tourism sector at the next meeting of the WTO Commission for East Asia and the Pacific which will be held in Manila at the end of this month, in order to provide the necessary support to the countries concerned.
Communication of the Chairman

Agenda item 3
(document CE/70/3)

The Executive Council,

Having heard the communication of its Chairman, H.E. Mr. Vladimir Strzhalkovskiy, Deputy Minister of Economic Development and Trade of the Russian Federation,

1. Is grateful to the Chairman for his communication;

2. Shares the views of its Chairman concerning global challenges facing world tourism and the activities of the Organization and the need to overcome them by joint efforts of all Members;

3. Endorses his view that the Organization should encourage the financial discipline of its Members; and

4. Thanks the Russian Federation for the support provided by it to the WTO’s conversion into a specialized agency of the United Nations.

TRANSFORMATION OF THE ORGANIZATION INTO A SPECIALIZED AGENCY OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Agenda item 4
(documents CE/70/4 and CE/70/4 Add.1)

The Executive Council,

Having taken cognizance of the report presented by the Secretary-General on this agenda item,

Having examined the draft agreement meant to take the place of the one that has existed since 1977 between the United Nations and the WTO,

1. Commends the work accomplished in the process undertaken with the United Nations to convert the Organization into a specialized agency of the United Nations System, which should be completed by the end of 2003;

2. Thanks the Committees on Negotiations of ECOSOC and of the WTO, respectively chaired by Peru and Jordan, and the Legal Counsel of the United Nations, for the efforts undertaken in the preparation of this draft agreement;
3. Thanks the Chairman of the International Civil Service Commission, Mr. Mohsen Bel Hadj Amor, for his presence, his explanations, and his support for carrying out the conversion in a way that is favourable to the Organization’s staff, and the sound management of the Institution;

4. Notes that this transformation will increase the visibility and the recognition of the Organization and of the tourism sector in general, without entailing significant extra costs for the WTO or consequences for the contributions paid by its Members; and

5. Notes with satisfaction the text of the draft agreement as submitted to it by the negotiating groups of ECOSOC and the WTO, and decides to submit it without modifications to the next session of the General Assembly for its approval.

CE/DEC/5(LXX)

**Implementation of the general programme of work of the Organization for the period 2002-2003**

Agenda item 5

(document CE/70/5)

The Executive Council,

Having considered the report on the implementation of the Organization’s general programme of work for the period 2002-2003 submitted by the Secretary-General,

1. Takes cognizance of the results recorded so far and the prospects for the second half of 2003 concerning the execution of field missions and technical cooperation projects in the various regions;

2. Notes with satisfaction the significant number of short-term technical support missions carried out and programmed for 2003, as well as the technical cooperation projects currently being implemented and those to be launched in the course of this year;

3. Takes note of the good results achieved by the various Regional Commission meetings held successively at Kathmandu, Nepal (South Asia), Asunción, Paraguay (the Americas), Attard, Malta (Europe), Luanda, Angola (Africa), as well as by their associated seminars; and notes that the thirty-ninth meeting of WTO Commission for the East Asia and the Pacific will be held at Manila, Philippines from 16 to 20 June together with a seminar on the development of tourism satellite accounts and that the twenty-fourth meeting of WTO Commission for the Middle East has been rescheduled for 22 to 24 September 2003 at Manama, Bahrain, in conjunction with a seminar on partnerships in tourism development;
4. Expresses its satisfaction at the presence in the field assured by Regional Representatives and at the development of regional approaches to strategic issues of common interest or concern to the various regional groupings, through special research programmes and regional seminars and workshops;

5. Notes the generous offer of the Government of Uzbekistan to host a Silk Road Office in Samarkand and to take charge of its operation;

6. Welcomes the development of a broad range of new capacity building activities under the Human Resource Development programme, particularly as part of the S.Best initiative, the GTAT and SIS courses, the WTO and Tedqual Practicums and the WTO scholars programme;

7. Notes with satisfaction improvements in the WTO Education website and the development of a horizontal network of NTA officials, through the Practicum, to facilitate communications with Members on Human Resource Development issues and activities;

8. Expresses its appreciation to the Education Council for its strong commitment to the Organization’s Human Resource Development programme and the valuable support provided in its expansion and implementation;

9. Takes note with satisfaction of the outcome of the First International Conference on Climate Change and Tourism, held at Djerba, Tunisia, in April 2003, and entrusts the Secretary-General with taking the necessary measures with a view to promoting the implementation of the Djerba Declaration and to report thereon to the Programme Committee and the Council;

10. Applauds progress made in the development of the sustainable tourism – eliminating poverty (ST-EP) initiative, and approves proposed plans for the completion of the programme and its presentation to the next session of the General Assembly;

11. Notes with interest the new series of activities aimed at furthering the implementation of sustainable development principles contained in Agenda 21 at regional and local levels, the launching of an international network for the sustainable development of coastal tourism destinations, the preparation of a revised guide on the application of sustainable tourism development indicators as well as of recommendations for the establishment of national certification systems for sustainable tourism and the re-initiation of activities in the field of cultural tourism;

12. Notes with satisfaction the various activities carried out by the Secretariat to educate negotiators, tourism officials and professionals on the specificity of tourism services that are subject to trade liberalization and to support their initiatives aiming at introducing rules and disciplines that seek economic, social and environmental sustainability of tourism development in the open marketplace;
13. **Welcomes** the programme of regional consultations on the protection of children from sexual exploitation in tourism and **invites** the Secretary-General to report to the Regional Commissions and the Programme Committee on the outcome of these consultations;

14. **Notes with satisfaction** progress made in the development of a worldwide safety and security network and **commends** the Secretary-General for the participation of the Organization in international efforts to provide advice on health safety issues related to international travel and more particularly to SARS management;

15. **Notes with interest** progress made in the preparation of a comparative analysis between existing hotel classification systems, jointly with the International Hotel and Restaurant Association;

16. **Notes with satisfaction** the ambitious statistical capacity building programme currently being implemented to promote the development of the System Tourism Statistics and of the Tourism Satellite Account and **invites** the Secretary-General to report to the Programme Committee and the Council on the outcome of this programme;

17. **Expresses its appreciation** of the reports, analyses and guidance provided by the Recovery Committee following its meetings in November 2002 and March 2003 and **commends** the Secretary-General on the leadership provided by the Organization in managing the crisis worldwide;

18. **Notes with satisfaction** the broad variety of new publication titles on market trends, tourism products and marketing activities issued under this programme section;

19. **Expresses its appreciation** of the broad media coverage engendered by the Organization’s information output, and **notes with interest** preparations for the organization of a first world conference on tourism communications in January 2004;

20. **Notes with satisfaction** the significant number of publications issued since the last Council session, as well as progress made in the development of the infoshop-extranet and the network of depositary libraries for WTO publications;

21. **Welcomes** the further development of the Documentation Centre’s role as a referral service and clearing house of information for Members, particularly by the completion of the tourism legislation database and the strengthening of the Centre’s networking capabilities; and

22. **Notes with satisfaction** the progress made in implementing the priority projects selected under the special programme for destinations and approved by the Council at its sixty-eighth session, in respect of a working definition of a local destination, survey of management based priorities and concerns of tourism destinations, development of a destination network and measurement of the economic impact of tourism at destination level and **expresses its appreciation** to the destination task force for its valuable guidance and support in the implementation of this programme.
The Executive Council,

Having before it the report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation of the Organization,

Having heard the statements by the Secretariat and having before it the report of the Committee on Budget and Finance,

1. Takes note of the report on the plan of expenditure for execution of the programme of work in 2003, in accordance with the expected level of income, and the measures taken by the Secretary-General in financial and personnel matters to maintain prudent management and make expenditures proportional to the income actually received during the year in progress;

2. Observes that the expenditure forecast for the current financial year is limited to 84 per cent of approved credits, so as to maintain the necessary budgetary equilibrium, in accordance with the recommendation made by the General Assembly in resolution 433(XIV);

3. Urges Members that have not yet complied with their financial obligations to take the necessary steps to pay their contributions for 2003, thereby averting delays that could hamper programme execution;

4. Requests the Committee on Budget and Finance to examine the issue of the accumulation of contribution arrears and to present proposals to the Council in due time directed at increasing the collection rate of contributions and at providing a solution to this problem;

5. Approves, in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Staff Regulations and Rules and the recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission, the adoption effective 1 January 2003 of a new salary scale applicable to staff of the professional and higher categories; and

6. Thanks the Chairman of the Committee on Budget and Finance (Argentina) and the Auditors (India and Spain) for the important work carried out.
Administrative, financial and statutory matters

(c) Auditors’ report and administrative accounts of the Organization for the financial year 2002

Agenda item 6(c)
(documents CE/70/6(c) and CE/70/6(b))

The Executive Council,

Having before it the Auditors’ report and administrative accounts of the Organization for the financial year 2002 presented by Ms. Maria Jesús Piñón Gorricho, Auditor (Spain),

Having heard the explanations by the Secretariat and having considered the report of the Committee on Budget and Finance, presented by its Chairman (Argentina),

1. Notes that in the financial year 2002 the level of budgetary expenditure, namely euros 9,061,928.96, was maintained within the limit of approved appropriations;

2. Notes that the small budget surplus in 2002 (euros 28,336.44) was due, among other factors, to the low level of arrear contributions received and the unfavourable economic situation, particularly that of countries with outstanding debts;

3. Observes nevertheless that the level of budgetary income received in 2002 made it possible to execute 88.69 per cent of the approved budget;

4. Notes with satisfaction that the accounting procedure followed in order to replace the former US dollar-denominated system by the new euro-denominated one, had observed exactly the methodology it approved at its sixty-eighth session;

5. Approves the transfers of appropriations made with the prior authorization of the Chairman of the Committee on Budget and Finance and the Chairman of the Executive Council, in accordance with Financial Regulation 5(3)(a) and Detailed Financial Provision 3.07;

6. Recommends the Secretary-General to pursue in 2003 his approaches to Members that owe contributions to the Organization in order to secure their payment; and

7. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the General Assembly, with the favourable opinion of the Council, the administrative accounts for the financial year 2002.
Administrative, financial and statutory matters

(d) Closing of the audited administrative accounts of the thirteenth financial period (2000-2001)

Agenda item 6(d)
(documents CE/70/6(d) and CE/70/6(b))

The Executive Council,

Considering the report of the Secretary-General on the financial results of the audited accounts of the thirteenth financial period (2000-2001) and the report of the Committee on Budget and Finance referring thereto,

1. Notes that on closing the accounts for the period on 31 December 2002 there was a surplus balance of 865,892.07 dollars (equivalent to 972,396.79 euros);

2. Expresses its satisfaction at the amount of this surplus, being the result of effective collection of contribution arrears; and

Having noted the proposal of the Secretary-General concerning the use of the available surplus from the financial period 2000-2001,

3. Recommends the General Assembly to authorize the use of this surplus for strengthening the activities of the Organization's programme of work in the biennium 2004-2005.

Administrative, financial and statutory matters

(e) Application of Article 34 of the Statutes and paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes

Agenda item 6(e)
(documents CE/70/6(e), CE/70/6(e) Add.1 and CE/70/6(b))

The Executive Council,

Observing that the provisions of Article 34 of the Statutes and paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes are applied to twenty-seven Full Members and forty-three Affiliate Members,
1. Notes with satisfaction that the Full Members Rwanda and The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia have made an effort to reduce their arrears, although they are still subject to the provisions of paragraph 13 because their arrears equal or exceed the amount of the contributions due from them for the preceding two financial years;

Having been informed of the Members benefiting from temporary exemption from the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes, granted by the Fourteenth General Assembly,

2. Applauds the Members that have made the necessary efforts in order to fulfil their financial obligations despite their internal constraints;

3. Notes that the Full Member Bosnia and Herzegovina has paid its arrears and is therefore no longer liable to the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules, and welcomes the meritorious efforts thus undertaken by this country;

4. Notes with satisfaction that the Full Member Kazakhstan has respected its agreed payment plan up to 2003;

5. Notes that the Full Members Bolivia, Cambodia, Costa Rica, El Salvador and Yemen have partially respected their agreed payment plans up to 2003;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to remind Members that have not yet fulfilled their agreed plans or have done so only partially that temporary exemption from the aforementioned provisions is subject to their full observance of those plans; and

7. Also requests the Secretary-General to inform it at its next session of 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.

CE/DEC/10(LXX)

Administrative, financial and statutory matters

(f) Applications for membership

Agenda item 6(f)
(documents CE/70/6(f), CE/70/6(f) Add.1, CE/70/6(f) Add.2, CE/70/6(f) Add.3 and CE/70/6(f) Doc.Trav.)

The Executive Council,

Having examined the documents prepared on this agenda item,
1. Welcomes the return of Kuwait as a Full Member effective 3 March 2002, in accordance with Article 5(2) of the Statutes;

2. Receives with satisfaction the candidature of Bhutan for full membership, which must be ratified by the General Assembly, in accordance with Article 5(3) of the Statutes;

3. Notes with interest the declared intention of Oman to join the Organization as a Full Member;

4. Approves the Secretary-General's proposal, in view of the forthcoming conversion of the Organization into a specialized agency, to approach non-member states, in particular, the United States of America, which ranks as one of the top countries in terms of the size of its tourism economy, in order to encourage them to join the WTO;

Having taken cognizance of the Secretary-General's note on the candidatures for associate membership and of the recommendation of the Working Group of the Executive Council,

5. Requests the Secretary-General to ascertain with the British authorities that they approve of the application presented by Bermuda and that they officially declare in their own name and at the appropriate level that this territory adopts the Statutes of the Organization and accepts the obligations of associate membership, and to communicate this information to it as soon as it is received with a view to its examination at a forthcoming meeting; and

6. Decides to defer the consideration of the candidatures for associate membership until the completion of the process to transform the WTO into a specialized agency of the United Nations.

Draft programme of work and budget for the period 2004-2005

(a) Draft programme budget prepared by the Secretary-General
(b) Report of the Programme Committee
(c) Report of the Committee on Budget and Finance

Agenda items 7(a), (b) and (c)
(documents CE/70/7(a), CE/70/7(a) Add.1, CE/70/7(b) and CE/70/7(c))

The Executive Council,

Having before it the reports of the Programme Committee and the Committee on Budget and Finance,
1. Approves the Table I submitted to it by the Secretary-General, through the Committee on Budget and Finance, according to which the contributions due from Full and Associate Members will be apportioned progressively between the two years, i.e. 9,166,000 euros in 2004 and 9,450,000 euros in 2005;

Having considered the draft general programme of work and budget of the Organization for the period 2004-2005, prepared by the Secretary-General in accordance with Article 23(2) of the Statutes and on the basis of the policy guidelines and programming principles adopted by the Council at its sixty-ninth session,

Having taken cognizance of the observations made by the Chairman of the Affiliate Members in his report,

2. Notes with satisfaction that the draft programme builds upon the Organization’s achievements by developing major work streams, takes into account new priorities such as tourism’s contribution to sustainable development and to the fight against poverty and further develops activities in favour of destinations;

3. Shares the Programme Committee’s view that the draft programme is well designed, well structured and properly addresses the needs and concerns of the Organization’s Members;

4. Takes note with interest of the following proposals:

   (a) the proposal by the WTO Commission for Europe to hold an international conference on hotel classification and systems of mandatory or voluntary standards in St. Petersburg, Russian Federation, in May 2004;

   (b) the proposals by the WTO Commission for the Americas concerning:

      (i) the development in Colombia of a network of schools aimed at achieving the widest possible dissemination and awareness of tourism’s importance for countries;

      (ii) the development of an international legal instrument to protect tourists and tourist sites and facilities at time of armed conflicts;

   (c) the proposal of Jordan that activities in the field of standardization of tourism signs and symbols be resumed and completed, endorsing the recommendation of the Quality Support Committee;

5. Approves the draft programme of work, bearing in mind the amendments and additions made by the Programme Committee, as well as those suggested in paragraph 4 above;

6. Recommends the General Assembly to adopt the draft programme and budget for 2004-2005 in the amount of 22,144,000 euros;
7. Welcomes the Secretary-General’s proposals to carry out a revision of the Organization’s mission statement, in the light of the agreements to be concluded with the United Nations for the transformation of the Organization into a Specialized Agency and to develop a six-year rolling strategic plan in the light of an update of the Organization’s 2020 vision forecasts;

8. Approves the Programme Committee’s recommendations regarding the development of an impact evaluation system at programme level, together with the proposed actions to implement the said recommendations and to sustain the changes resulting over time;

9. Entrusts the Secretary-General with making provision for the necessary resources for the implementation of the above-mentioned recommendations, within the proposed draft programme-budget for 2004-2005;

10. Further entrusts the Secretary-General with carrying out a revision of current programme regulations so as to accommodate the said recommendations, where appropriate; and

11. Commends the Programme Committee and its Chairperson for their valuable contribution to the preparation of the Organization’s draft programme of work for 2004-2005.

CE/DEC/12(LXX)

Appointment of the Members of the World Committee on Tourism Ethics

Agenda item 8
(documents CE/70/8 and CE/70/8 Add.1)

The Executive Council,

Having taken cognizance of the report on the appointment of the Members of the World Committee on Tourism Ethics,

1. Declares elected the members of this Committee for the six Regional Commissions, as follows, recalling that the Committee members for the Commissions for Africa, for Europe, and for the Middle East were appointed at its last session:

- **Africa**
  - Mr. Mohamed Mounir Ben Miled (Tunisia) (member)
  - Mr. John Ngata Kariuki (Kenya) (alternate)

- **Americas**
  - Mr. Edmundo Pérez de Cobos (Mexico) (member)
  - Mr. Mario Carlos Beni (Brazil) (alternate)

- **East Asia and the Pacific**
  - Mr. Emil Salim (Indonesia) (member)
• Europe
  Mr. Erich Musyl (Austria) (member)
  Mr. Mauro di Pietro (Italy) (alternate)
  
• Middle East
  Ms. Laurice Hlass (Jordan) (member)
  Ms. Laila Bassiouni (Egypt) (alternate)
  
• South Asia
  Mr. Krishnan Nair (India) (member in 2004-2005 and alternate in 2006-2007)
  Mr. Iqbal Walji (Pakistan) (member in 2006-2007 and alternate in 2004-2005)

2. Mandates the Commission for East Asia and the Pacific to appoint, at its meeting in Manila in June, the alternate remaining to be designated;

3. Acknowledges the nomination by the Associate Members of the following candidates:
  
  • Mr. Carlos Alberto Silva (Madeira) (member)
  • Mr. Urbain Claeys (Flemish Community of Belgium) (alternate)
  
4. Decides the designation, on the part of the Affiliate Members, of the following candidates:
  
  • Employers:
    - Mr. Alain-Philippe Feutré (France) (International Hotel and Restaurant Association, IH & RA) (member)
    - Mr. Ahmed El Khadem (Egypt) (Egyptian Tourist Federation) (alternate)
  
  • Employees:
    - Mr. Patrick Dalban-Moreynas (Switzerland) (Union internationale des travailleurs de l’alimentation, de l’agriculture, de l’hôtellerie-restauration, du tabac et des branches connexes, IUF/UIITA) (member)
    - Mr. Nicos Epistithiou (Cyprus) (Cyprus Hotel Employees Federation, OEXEV-SEK) (alternate)
  
  • Educational institutions:
    - Ms. Perran Akan (Turkey), Bogaziçi University (member)
    - Mr. François Bédard (Canada), Université du Québec à Montréal (alternate)
  
  • Non-governmental organizations:
    - Mr. Norberto Tonini (Italy) (International Bureau of Social Tourism, BITS) (member)
    - Mr. Heiko Crost (Germany) (Destination 21/FEE) (alternate)

5. Welcomes the Secretary-General’s intention, of which it has been informed, to convey to the Members of the Committee the candidature of Mr. Diego Cordovez for the position of Chairman of the Committee; and

6. Decides to submit at the sixteenth session of the General Assembly a draft conciliation mechanism for the settlement of disputes, as set out in part II of the Protocol of Implementation.
CE/DEC/13(LXX)

Introduction of the Arabic language and enhancement of linguistic diversity in the Organization’s activities

Agenda item 9
(document CE/70/9)

The Executive Council,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General on this matter,

Having heard the statements of the Russian Federation and of Ukraine on behalf of the Russian-speaking Member States regarding the use of the Russian language,

1. Welcomes the measures taken by the Secretariat for the progressive introduction of the Arabic language, which should be fully implemented by the time of General Assembly session of 2005;

2. Issues a renewed call for Member States that have not yet done so, to ratify the amendment of Article 38 of the WTO Statutes adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 61(III); and

3. Welcomes also the Secretary-General’s proposal for promoting the use of the Russian language, an official language of the Organization, in its activities, and more generally, for enhancing linguistic diversity in the Organization’s activities, especially with regard to the translation of publications.

CE/DEC/14(LXX)

World Tourism Day: themes for 2004 and 2005 to be proposed to the General Assembly, and the host country selection procedure

Agenda item 10
(documents CE/70/10 and CE/70/10 Add.1)

The Executive Council,

Having taken cognizance of the Secretary-General’s report regarding the celebration of World Tourism Day 2002 and 2003, and the procedure for the selection of themes for World Tourism Day 2004 and 2005,

Having examined the themes related to current topics suggested by the Secretary-General for 2004 and 2005 and approved by numerous Members in the context of a general consultation,
Recalling that by resolution 439(XIV), the General Assembly decided:

- that the host country for Word Tourism Day be selected on a geographical rotation basis, beginning in 2004,

- that the corresponding Regional Commission designate the host country for that year, and

- that steps be taken to ensure that hereinafter the General Assembly does not coincide with the celebration of World Tourism Day,

Having noted that in application of the above-mentioned resolution, the host countries for World Tourism Day 2004 and 2005 should, under normal conditions, be designated from among candidatures by countries belonging to the Regional Commission for East Asia and the Pacific, and those belonging to the Regional Commission for the Middle East,

1. Decides to propose to the General Assembly the following two themes for the celebration of World Tourism Day 2004 and 2005:

   2004 Sport and tourism: two living forces for mutual understanding, culture, and the development of societies

   2005 From Jules Verne’s transport to tomorrow’s transport

2. Entrusts the Secretariat to consider the reformulation of the exact wording of the 2005 theme;

3. Further decides that the host countries of World Tourism Day 2004 and 2005 will be designated from among candidatures received respectively from Member States of the Commission for East Asia and the Pacific (2004), and of the Commission for the Middle East (2005); and

4. Requests the Secretary-General to:

   (a) inform the Member States of the names of the two regions respectively chosen to host World Tourism Day in 2004 and 2005, and consequently invite the Member States of the two regions concerned to present their possible candidatures to host World Tourism Day for the years allocated to their respective regions,

   (b) communicate the candidatures received to the corresponding Regional Commissions to enable them to select a country to host World Tourism Day during their respective meetings to be held prior to the forthcoming General Assembly,

   (c) further inform the General Assembly of the order of the geographical rotation decided upon by the Executive Council in terms of resolution 439(XIV) of the General Assembly: East Asia and the Pacific (2004); Middle East (2005); Europe (2006); South Asia (2007); Americas (2008) and Africa (2009). The cycle is to be repeated in the subsequent years, and
(d) submit to the fifteenth session of the General Assembly, for its information, the names of the countries selected by the mentioned Regional Commissions to be the host country of World Tourism Day in 2004 and 2005 respectively.

CE/DEC/15(LXX)

Affiliate Members

(a) Report of the Chairman

Agenda item 11(a)
(document CE/70/11(a))

The Executive Council,

Having heard the report of the Chairman of the WTO Business Council - Affiliate Members on the activities of the WTOBC since the last session of the Council,

1. Thanks the Chairman for his report;

2. Expresses its satisfaction with the dense programme of activities carried out since the last meeting of the Council;

3. Gives special mention to the holding of the Third Meeting of the Leadership Forum of Advisers for the particularly high scientific quality of the debate among the seventy experts and professionals who attended the event, and whose contributions have already enriched the WTO programme of work for 2004-2005, and for its timeliness during a period in which the development of world tourism faces an unprecedented number of problems and challenges;

4. Notes with satisfaction the Business Council's contribution to the design and dissemination of tourism recovery strategies, especially in the field of crisis management techniques;

5. Approves the central role that it gives to cooperation between the public and private sectors within the value chain of tourism, from destination management to financing, and including the public-private approach to health and security;

6. Highlights in this respect the importance of the agreement between the Business Council and the Canadian Tourism Commission to undertake a joint study, to be presented in September, on "Public-Private Sector Cooperation" and "Developing Business Opportunities through Partnering";

7. Approves the continuation of the extensive series of seminars on the dissemination of new technologies applied to the tourism sector;
8. **Congratulates** the Business Council on the inclusion of new topics in its seminars, such as business tourism, conventions and trade fairs with a large impact on urban tourism, and cultural tourism as an instrument that is especially resilient to the crisis; and

9. **Welcomes** the new study to be completed this year on “Managing Congestion at Natural and Cultural Sites”, with the aim of counteracting the impact of excessive tourism influx on the landscape and cultural heritage.

---

**CE/DEC/16(LXX)**

**Affiliate Members**

**(b) Report of the Sub-Committee for the Review of applications for affiliate membership**

Agenda item 11(b)  
(document CE/70/11(b))

The Executive Council,

**Having considered** the report of its Sub-Committee, which met on 4 June 2003 under the chairmanship of Brazil, for the review of applications for affiliate membership,

1. **Endorses** the Sub-Committee’s recommendations; and

2. **Decides** to submit to the fifteenth session of the General Assembly applications for Affiliate Membership:

2.a. **Complete applications**

1. ASOCIACIÓN HOTELERA DE COLOMBIA (COTELCO)
2. CENTRE FOR TOURISM POLICY STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF BRIGHTON (United Kingdom)
3. DESTINATION 21(Denmark)
4. IONIAN TOURISM CORPORATION (ITC) (Greece)
5. SCHOOLS OF TOURISM EDUCATION (Greece)
6. STARK COMMUNICATIONS PVT. LTD. (India)
7. TOURISM MARKETING & INTELLIGENCE LTD (TMI) (United Kingdom)
8. TURISMO DO ALGARVE (Portugal)
9. UNIVERSITY OF ZAGREB – GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS & BUSINESS (Croatia)

2.b. **Applications to be submitted to the Sub-Committee on receipt of the necessary documents**

REED TRAVEL EXHIBITIONS (United Kingdom)
INTERNATIONAL YOUTH HOSTEL FEDERATION
The Executive Council,

Having heard the Secretary-General's report on the preparations for the fifteenth session of the General Assembly,

Recalling that the General Assembly, by resolution 443(XIV), designated China as the host country of its fifteenth session, with a provision to hold it in Greece in case of difficulty,

Having also heard the statement of the Chairman of the National Tourism Administration of China, Mr. He Guangwei, regarding the preparations for this session of the General Assembly,

Having taken cognizance of information from the World Health Organization and of the results of the WTO Secretariat’s survey regarding the development of the SARS epidemic and the measures taken by the governments regarding travel restrictions,

1. Assures the Government of the People’s Republic of China of its full solidarity during this difficult time and decides that everything will be done to make it possible to hold the fifteenth session of the General Assembly in Beijing as planned;

2. Decides that a decision on this matter should be taken, at the latest, three months before the Assembly session;

3. Indicates that such decision should take into account all the information available regarding the health situation in China, evaluated in particular based on the travel recommendations provided by the World Health Organization and by the governments, but should also be based on the expected level of participation at the Assembly;

4. Mandates a group composed of the Chairman of the Executive Council (Russian Federation), the host country of the Organization’s Headquarters (Spain), and the Secretary-General, to take the necessary decision, in accordance with the considerations mentioned above and after consulting with the Government of China, to hold, if at all possible, the General Assembly in Beijing on the dates initially planned (from 17 to 24 October 2003), or to hold it at a later date in 2003 in the same city, or, if circumstances so dictate, to decide that China will host the sixteenth session of the Assembly, and consequently to establish, in consultation with Greece, the place and dates of the next session of the Assembly;
5. **Further mandates** the group thus composed to decide on the signing of the agreement with the host country, so that the Secretary-General can proceed to do so, and

6. **Decides** that, as necessary, remote consultation with the Members of the Executive Council may be carried out at the level of their permanent representative in order to clarify the decision to be taken; and

7. **Decides** in the case of the postponement of the General Assembly to a later date in 2003, to hold a meeting of the Committee on Budget and Finance under the chairmanship of Argentina, in order to establish in a provisional manner the amounts of the contributions of the countries for 2004 and 2005 so that they can be communicated in due time to the Members.

CE/DEC/18(LXX)

**Place and date of the seventy-first session of the Executive Council**

**Agenda item 13**

The Executive Council

1. **Decides** to hold its seventy-first session immediately prior to the General Assembly as established in accordance with the preceding decision; and

2. **Requests** the Secretary-General to specify its place and date at the appropriate time.

CE/DEC/19(LXX)

**Vote of thanks to the host country**

The Executive Council,

**Having completed** the proceedings of its seventieth session in the favourable conditions made available by the host country of the session,

1. **Expresses its most sincere gratitude** to the Government of Spain;

2. **Welcomes** the important contribution made by Spain, host country of the WTO Headquarters, to the Organization’s transformation into a specialized agency of the United Nations; and

3. **Thanks in particular** Mr. Germán Porras Olalla, Secretary-General of Tourism of Spain, and his collaborators, for the kind hospitality extended to the participants in this session of the Council.
4. LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

The seventieth session of the Executive Council was attended by:

(1) delegates of the following Members of the Council: Andorra, Cameroon, China, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, France, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Mexico, Morocco, Poland, Portugal, Russian Federation, Spain, Thailand and Ukraine;

(2) the Chairmen of the Regional Commissions for East Asia and the Pacific (Philippines), Middle East (Egypt) and South Asia (Bangladesh);

(3) the Permanent Observer to WTO (Holy See);

(4) the representative of the Associate Members (Macao, China);

(5) the representative of the Affiliate Members (International Federation of Tour Operators [IFTO]);

(6) the representatives of the following WTO Members: Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malta, Republic of Korea, Senegal and Tunisia, as observers;

(7) the Chairman of the Committee on Budget and Finance (Argentina);

(8) the Chairman of the Programme Committee (Austria);

(9) the Auditor (Spain), and

(10) the Chairman of the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC) of the United Nations.