



Sixteenth session  
Dakar, Senegal, 28 November-2 December 2005  
Provisional agenda item 1

### **ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

#### **Item 1**

##### **Adoption of the agenda** (document A/16/1 prov.)

The provisional agenda of the sixteenth session of the General Assembly was drawn up by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 5(1) of the Assembly's Rules of Procedure.

#### **Item 2**

##### **Election of the President and Vice-Presidents of the Assembly**

For the opening of the General Assembly, the office of President will be performed by the head of delegations of China, the President of the fifteenth session of the General Assembly, held at Beijing, China, in October 2003. Under his presidency, the General Assembly will be required to elect its new President, in accordance with rule 16(2) of its Rules of Procedure.

Rule 43 of the General Assembly's Rules of Procedure provides for all elections to be carried out by secret ballot. It is nevertheless recalled that the Presidents of the previous fifteen sessions of the Assembly were all elected by acclamation after consultations between the delegations, the head of delegation of the host country being traditionally chosen for this office.

Immediately after his or her election, the President of the sixteenth session of the General Assembly is required to assume office and take his or her place at the rostrum.

In accordance with rule 16(3) of its Rules of Procedure, the General Assembly shall elect its eight Vice-Presidents who, together with the President, will be the Assembly's Officers. These nine Officers will be elected on the basis of equitable geographical representation, following the practice adopted at previous sessions, viz.: two for Africa (one being the President, presumably), two for the Americas, two for Europe, one for East Asia and the Pacific, one for South Asia and one for the Middle East.

**Item 3****Appointment of the Credentials Committee**

According to rule 13(1) of the Assembly's Rules of Procedure, the President proposes to the Assembly the nine delegates of Full Members who will compose the Credentials Committee, having regard to equitable geographical representation as above. The Committee is required to meet immediately after the first meeting so that it may submit its initial report to the Assembly at the end of the third meeting.

**Item 4****Appointment of the Chairman of the Assembly's Committee of the Whole**

The President of the Assembly appoints the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole entrusted with statutory and administrative as well as financial and technical matters, in accordance with decision 16(XL) taken by the Council at its fortieth session (Madrid, 16-17 May 1991). The meetings of the Committee of the Whole will take place at the same time as the technical round tables.

**Item 5****Membership of the Organization****(a) New membership** (documents A/16/5(a) (I) and A/16/5(a)(II))

In his report on this subject, the Secretary-General informs the General Assembly of changes that have occurred since its fifteenth session in the membership of the Organization. Particular reference is made to admissions to full and affiliate membership, which the Assembly will be required to consider in accordance with Articles 5, and 7 of the Statutes and rules 49 and 50 of its Rules of Procedure.

**(b) Suspension of membership in accordance with Article 34 of the Statutes** (document A/16/5(b)(c))

Under this item the Secretary-General transmits to the Assembly, in accordance with resolution 217(VII), a list of the Members subject to the provisions of Article 34 of the Statutes, informing it of any developments in this regard since its previous session. The Assembly will also receive a list of the Members that have accumulated arrears equal to or exceeding four years' contributions and that could be liable to the provisions of Article 34.



**(c) Requests for temporary exemption from the application of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules** (document A/16/5(b)(c))

Under this item the Secretary-General transmits any requests for suspending the application of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules that may have been submitted in accordance with General Assembly resolution 162(VI), provided the Council has established that the delay in paying contributions is due to circumstances beyond the control of the Members concerned and these Members have agreed with the Council on measures to settle their arrears.

**Item 6**

**Report of the Secretary-General** (document A/16/6)

Under this item and in accordance with rule 5(1) of the General Assembly's Rules of Procedure, the Secretary-General submits his report on the situation of international tourism and on the lessons that can be drawn for the Organization. The ensuing general debate will take place at the end of the first plenary meeting (morning of Monday, 28 November), continue during the second plenary meeting (afternoon of Monday, 28 November), and conclude at the third plenary meeting (morning of Tuesday, 29 November). Heads of delegation that so desire may make statements on the policy of the Organization and on the state of tourism in the world. In view of the time allotted to the general debate and of the number of delegations that will undoubtedly wish to participate, **it is essential to limit the speaking time of heads of delegation to five minutes at most.**

**Item 7**

**Report of the Executive Council to the General Assembly** (document A/16/7)

In accordance with Articles 19(a) and 20 of the Statutes, the Executive Council reports to the Assembly, for approval, on "all necessary measures" taken "for the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the Assembly" and on the "administrative and technical decisions" considered necessary and consequently taken by it between sessions of the Assembly.

**Item 8**

**Report of the Chairman of the Affiliate Members** (document A/16/8)

In this document the Chairman of the Affiliate Members reports to the General Assembly, in accordance with rule III(11) of the Rules of Procedure of the Affiliate Members, on their activities and on those of their various Councils since the fifteenth session of the General Assembly and on prospects for future action.

**Item 9****Report of the Credentials Committee** (document A/16/9)

In accordance with rule 13(4) of the Assembly's Rules of Procedure, the Credentials Committee, after examining the credentials of the delegates of Full and Associate Members and the identification papers of the Affiliate Members and observers of organizations invited to the session, will report its findings under this agenda item.

**Item 10****Cooperation with the United Nations system****(a) Participation in the system's coordination mechanisms** (document A/16/10 (a))

In this document, the Secretary-General reports on the participation of WTO in the different coordination meetings of the United Nations system.

**(b) Acceptance of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies** (document A/16/10 (b))

In this document, the Secretary-General reports on the steps taken with the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs for the application of this Convention to our Institution.

**(c) Acronym of the World Tourism Organization** (document A/16/10 (c))

In accordance with decision 12(LXXV), the Secretary-General transmits the Council's recommendation to use a reference to the United Nations in the Organization's acronym, to the extent it may be deemed necessary.

**(d) Joint Headquarters Committee** (document A/16/10 (d))

Under this item of the provisional agenda, the Secretary-General reports to the Assembly on the developments regarding this matter.

**Item 11****Report on implementation of the Organization's general programme of work for the period 2004-2005** (document A/16/11)

In this document the Secretary-General reports on the activities carried out by the Secretariat in implementation of the programme of work for 2004-2005, focusing on the following seven main areas:



### **(a) Cooperation for development**

This section describes and analyses the regional activities carried out by the Regional Representatives and the action taken by the Organization in recent months under its development assistance policy and assistance projects within the framework of ST-EP. The special programme for sub-Saharan Africa is also mentioned.

### **(b) Education, Training and Knowledge Management**

The Secretary-General reports on the implementation of the programme in this area, the aim of which is to increase quality and efficiency in tourism education and training. The activities are carried out by several means, ranging from the development of programmes for WTO Members to direct support to Members through the *practicum* programme at the Secretariat, and to the management of information on and to promote human resource development activities. He also reports to the Council on the operation of the WTO Themis Foundation in the Principality of Andorra.

### **(c) Sustainable development of tourism**

This part of the document describes the activities under way or scheduled in this area. It takes stock of the seminars, workshops and meetings organized by WTO. It also informs Members of the actions undertaken to strengthen the Member States' capacities to achieve a higher level of sustainability in the development and management of tourism and to contribute to poverty alleviation within the framework of the guidelines established by the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg.

It also reports on the activities carried out by the World Committee on Tourism Ethics and the action taken by the to prevent organized sex tourism and the exploitation of children.

### **(d) Quality and trade in tourism**

Under this heading the Secretary-General informs the Council of the implementation of the activities included in the work plan for 2004-2005, covering in particular the liberalization of trade in services, promotion of ethical values in tourism development, tourist safety and quality standards.

### **(e) Statistics and economic measurement of tourism**

In this section the Council Members will find a description of the work carried out to develop general guidelines for the implementation of the second international standard on tourism statistics, to promote international comparability of statistical data and the interagency cooperation. A report is also given on the elaboration of a tourism satellite account and the results of the Conference on the Tourism Satellite Account: "Understanding tourism and designing strategies" (Iguazu, 3-6 October 2005).

**(f) Market intelligence and promotion**

This part of the document describes the Organization's work in market research and promotion. It focuses in particular on the following four fields: monitoring tourism market trends, preparing reports on generating markets and certain tourism products, defining ways of and strategies for maximizing the effectiveness of promotional activities, as well as the work of the Tourism Recovery Committee.

**(g) Communications and Documentation Resources**

This part of the document takes stock of the work carried out or planned, the main purpose of which is to enhance the Organization's image, in particular by the dissemination of and electronic access to information, the improvement of publications, participation in international tourism fairs and the preparation of the various Tourcom Regional Conferences. The twofold function of the Documentation Centre as an internal resource and as a referral service and clearinghouse for outside users is also described.

**Item 12**

**Draft programme of work and budget of the Organization for the period 2006-2007** (document A/16/12)

Pursuant to paragraphs (h) and (i) of Article 12 of the Statutes, the Organization's draft general programme of work and budget for the period 2006-2007 is submitted to the General Assembly for approval. This draft programme budget was prepared by the Secretary-General in the light of the findings of a survey of Members and in accordance with the guidelines established by the Council at its seventy-fourth session (Salvador de Bahia, Brazil, December 2004 - decision 12(LXXIV). It was considered successively by the Programme Committee and by the Committee on Budget and Finance in April 2005 and recommended by the Executive Council at its seventy-fifth session (Nessebar, Bulgaria, 13-14 June 2005) for adoption by the Assembly.

**Item 13**

**White Paper and Agenda 2010** (document A/16/13)

In accordance with Executive Council decision 3(LXXIII), the Secretary-General submits to the Assembly his report on this subject, in which he gives an overview of the long-term evolution of world tourism in the form of a new "White Paper" and proposes the programming of activities over a period of four years covering two budgetary periods.



**Item 14****Administrative and financial matters****(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation of the Organization** (document A/16/14(a))

The Secretary-General reports to the General Assembly on the state of the Organization's finances at 31 August 2005.

**(b) Election of the Members of the WTO Staff Pension Committee** (document A/16/14(b))

The candidatures of Full Members to serve as members or alternates on the WTO Staff Pension Committee for the biennium 2006-2007 will be referred to the General Assembly in document A/16/14(b)).

**(c) Implementation of linguistic diversity** (document A/16/14 (c))

In application of resolution 466(XIV), the Secretary-General reports to the Assembly on the implementation of linguistic diversity in the WTO's activities and functioning.

**Item 15****Assessment of Members' contributions for the period 2006-2007** (document A/16/15)

The Secretary-General informs the General Assembly under this item of the provisional agenda of the amounts of the contributions of the Associate and Affiliate Members to the Organization's budget for the period 2006-2007. An addendum concerning the assessment of the Full Members' contributions will be prepared on conclusion of the seventy-sixth session of the Council, which will be required to propose to the Assembly the scale of assessments.

**Item 16****Actions in favour of the tsunami-affected countries** (document A/16/16)

In this document, the Secretary-General reports on the two meetings of the Emergency Task Force on the consequences of the tsunami for the tourism sector, which were held respectively in Phuket on 31 January in the context of the emergency session of the Council, and in Berlin on 10 March. He gives an account of the activities already undertaken, in accordance with the Phuket Action Plan, to provide WTO assistance to the countries and destinations affected by the tsunami.

**Item 17****WTO's initiatives in the field of sustainable tourism and poverty alleviation, including ST-EP** (document A/16/17)

In this document, the Secretary-General presents the procedure followed to take the ST-EP (Sustainable Tourism – Eliminating Poverty) project through to finalization, with a view to the General Assembly's confirmation of this strategy and the establishment of the instruments for its implementation.

**Item 18****Appointment of the Secretary-General for the period 2006-2009 on the recommendation of the Executive Council** (document A/16/18)

The recommendation of the Executive Council of a nominee for appointment as Secretary-General of the Organization for the period 2006-2009 is submitted to the Assembly in accordance with Articles 12(c) and 22 of the Organization's Statutes and Rule 38(e) of the Assembly's Rules of Procedure.

**Item 19****Consideration and approval of agreements concluded by the Organization** (document A/16/19)

Under Article 12 of the Organization's Statutes, the General Assembly is required to approve the agreements concluded with governments, international organizations and private organizations or institutions.

**Item 20****Activities of the World Committee on Tourism Ethics** (document A/16/20)

Under this item of the provisional agenda, the Secretary-General informs the Assembly on the procedures for consultation and conciliation for the settlement of disputes concerning the application of the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism approved by the Council at its seventy-fourth session, as well as the Committee's adoption of the final version of its Rules of Procedure.

**Item 21****World Tourism Day: information on the activities of 2004 and 2005, adoption of themes and designation of the host countries for 2006 and 2007** (document A/16/121)

The report submitted under this item informs the Assembly of the various activities marking World Tourism Day in 2004 and 2005 and proposes the themes selected for World Tourism Day 2006 and 2007, as well as the host countries designated by the Regional Commissions for Europe in 2006 (Portugal) and for South Asia in 2007.



**Item 22****Recommendations on travel advisories** (document A/16/22)

In accordance with the decisions taken by the Council at its seventy-fourth and seventy-fifth sessions, the Secretary-General informs the Assembly of the results of the Working Group established to deal in greater depth with the recommendations concerning travel advisories.

**Item 23****Election of Council Members** (document A/16/23)

In document A/16/23 the Secretary-General informs the General Assembly of the present membership of the Executive Council, the geographical distribution of its seats among the six regions of the Organization, the number of seats to be allotted to each region for the election of half the Members of the Executive Council and of the candidatures received by the Secretariat.

Pursuant to rules 54 and 55 of its Rules of Procedure, the Assembly is required to elect, by secret ballot, half the Members of the Executive Council, bearing in mind, the recommendation of the Executive Council in its decision 26(XXXV) not to elect as Members of the Executive Council States subject to the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules and Article 34 of the Statutes.

**Item 24****Election of the Auditors for the period 2006-2007** (document A/16/24)

The Executive Council's recommendation of two nominees from among the Full Members for the two posts of Auditor of the Organization for the financial period 2006-2007 will be conveyed to the Assembly in document A/16/24.

**Item 25****Amendments to the Statutes**

**(a) Amendments to Articles 6 and 7 of the Statutes** (document A/16/25(a))

This document transmits the recommendation of the Executive Council concerning the amendments to Articles 6 and 7 of the Statutes (decision 23(LXXV)).

**(a) Amendments to Article 22 of the Statutes** (document A/16/25(b))

This proposed amendment to Article 22, presented by Spain, was circulated to all Members on 16 May 2005, in accordance with Article 33 of the Statutes.

Also circulated was the opinion of the Legal Adviser regarding this matter, which was presented at the seventy-fifth session of the Executive Council.

**Item 26**

**Place and dates of the seventeenth session of the General Assembly** (document A/16/26)

The place and dates of the seventeenth session of the General Assembly must be decided by the General Assembly at its fifteenth session in accordance with rule 1 of its Rules of Procedure.

This rule provides that the Assembly shall meet at Headquarters every two years. It may meet elsewhere if the Assembly so decides, provided the host country defrays the expenses involved in holding the session away from Headquarters.

This document also reports on the candidatures received for hosting that session.