



RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

AT ITS EIGHTEENTH SESSION

Astana, Kazakhstan, 5 - 8 October 2009

CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
1. Participation in the eighteenth session	2
2. Agenda of the Assembly session	5
3. List of resolutions	7
4. Resolutions adopted by the General Assembly	10

1. Participation in the eighteenth session

I. Full Members¹

Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lithuania, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

II. Permanent Observer

Holy See

III. Special Observer

Palestine

IV. Associate Members

Flemish Community of Belgium and Hong Kong, China.

V. Special Guest

Mr. Francesco Frangialli, Honorary Secretary-general, UNWTO

¹ Including the States admitted as Members during this session.

VI. Affiliate Members²

Amadeus IT Group (Spain), Arab Tourism Organization, Asociación Mundial para la Formación Profesional Turística (AMFORT), Association of Greek Tourist Enterprises (Greece), Association of Tour Operators of Russia (ATOR) (Russian Federation), Bogazici University (Turkey), Brazilian Federation of Convention and Visitors Bureaux (Brazil), Busan Convention and Visitors Bureau (Republic of Korea), Cámara Argentina de Turismo (Argentina), Concorde de Luxe Resort (Turkey), Consejo Federal de Turismo de la República Argentina (Argentina), Discoverymice SDN BHD (Malaysia), Egyptian Tourism Federation (Egypt), Federação Nacional de Hotéis, Restaurantes, Bares e Similares (Brazil), Fédération internationale des journalistes et écrivains du tourisme (FIJET), FITUR – Feria Internacional de Turismo (Spain), George Washington University (United States of America), Global Tourism Interface (France), Instituto Municipal de Turismo (IMTUR) del Ayuntamiento de Palma de Mallorca (Spain), Instituto Nacional de Aprendizaje (Costa Rica), Instituto para la Calidad Turística Española (Spain), International Centre for Tourism & Hospitality Research – Bournemouth University, International Hotel & Restaurant Association (IH&RA) (Switzerland), Istituto Cooperazione Economica Internazionale (ICEI) (Italy), Istria Tourist Board (Croatia), Jibek Joly Holding Company (Kazakhstan), Jordan Tourism Board (Jordan), Katowice School of Economics (Poland), Kenya Utalii College (Kenya), Kiev City State Administration – Central Administrative Board (Ukraine), Korea Tourism Organization (Republic of Korea), Kyung Hee University (Republic of Korea), Patronato de Turismo de Madrid (Spain), Roteiros de Charme Hotel Association (Brazil), Russian International Academy for Tourism (RIAT), Skol International, the Hong Kong Polytechnic University – School of Hotel and Tourism Management (HTM) (Hong Kong, China), THR – Asesores en Turismo, Hotelería y Recreación, S.A. (Spain), Tourism Kwazulu Natal (South Africa), Tourism Marketing & Intelligence LTD. (TMI) (Russian Federation), Turkish Tourism Investors Association (TYD) (Turkey), United Federation of Travel Agents' Association (UFTAA), Universidad Ricardo Palma (Peru), Universidade de Brasilia – Centro de Excelencia Em Turismo (Brazil), Universitat de Les Illes Balears (Spain), Université du Québec à Montréal (Canada), University of Surrey – School of Management Studies for the Service Sector (United Kingdom), World Youth Student & Educational (WYSE) Travel Confederation.

VII. Organizations

1. United Nations

United Nations – Joint Inspection Unit

(a) Programmes and Funds

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

² Including bodies admitted as Affiliate Members during the session.

(b) Regional Commission

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

(c) Specialized Agency

International Labour Organization (ILO)

2. Intergovernmental Organizations

League of Arab States

Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development

3. International Organization

World Travel and Tourism Council

VIII. Entities associated with UNWTO

Consulting Unit on Biodiversity and Tourism for Tsunami Affected Countries (Germany), UNWTO Office in Samarkand (Uzbekistan), UNWTO Regional Support Office for Asia and the Pacific (Japan), UNWTO ST-EP Foundation (Republic of Korea), World Centre of Excellence for Destination (CED) (Canada).

IX. Other entities

Africa Travel Association (Cameroon), Études et marketing touristiques (France), International Association of Space Activities Participants (Russian Federation), Kazakh Academy of Sport and Tourism (Kazakhstan), Mountain Societies Development Support Programme (Tajikistan), Safari India (India), Seinäjoki University of Applied Sciences (Finland), Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) (United Republic of Tanzania).

2. Agenda of the session

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Election of the President and Vice-Presidents of the Assembly
3. Appointment of the Credentials Committee
4. Membership of the Organization
 - (a) New membership
 - (b) Suspension of membership in accordance with Article 34 of the Statutes
 - (c) Requests for temporary exemption from the application of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules
5. Report of the Secretary-General
6. Appointment of the Secretary-General for the period 2010-2013 on the recommendation of the Executive Council
7. Report of the Executive Council to the General Assembly
8. Report of the Chairman of the Affiliate Members
9. Roadmap for recovery – Sustainable Tourism in Challenging Times: Report of the Secretary-General
10. Report of the Credentials Committee
11. Participation in the United Nations system's coordination mechanisms
12. Report on implementation of the Organization's general programme of work for the period 2008-2009
13. Administrative and financial matters
 - (a) Report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation of the Organization
 - (b) Election of the Members of the UNWTO Staff Pension Committee for the period 2010-2011
 - (c) Election of the Auditors for the period 2010-2011
 - (d) Use of the UNWTO logo
14. Management strategy and designation of the Management Team of the Organization
15. Draft programme and budget of the Organization for the period 2010-2011
 - (a) Programme
 - (b) Budget

16. Assessment of Members' contributions to the Organization's budget for the period 2010-2011
17. Report on the entities associated with UNWTO
- 17.bis Silk Road Initiative
18. Agreements concluded by the Organization
19. Activities of the World Committee on Tourism Ethics
20. Declaration on the facilitation of tourist travel
21. World Tourism Day: information on the activities of 2008 and 2009, adoption of themes and designation of the host countries for 2010 and 2011
22. Election of Council Members
23. Place and dates of the nineteenth session of the General Assembly
24. Tribute to Mr. Francesco Frangialli
25. Review and adoption of the draft resolutions of the eighteenth session of the General Assembly

3. List of resolutions³

<u>Resolution</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Page</u>
551(XVIII)	Adoption of the agenda (agenda item 1)	10
552(XVIII)	Election of the President and Vice-Presidents of the Assembly (agenda item 2)	10
553(XVIII)	Appointment of the Credentials Committee (agenda item 3) ...	11
554(XVIII)	Membership of the Organization: (a) New membership – Full Members (agenda item 4 (a)(I))	11
555(XVIII)	Membership of the Organization: (a) New membership – Affiliate Members (agenda item 4(a)(I))	12
556 (XVIII)	Membership of the Organization: (b) Suspension of membership in accordance with Article 34 of the Statutes (agenda item 4 (b))	16
557(XVIII)	Membership of the Organization: (c) Requests for temporary exemption from the application of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules (agenda item 4 (c))	18
558(XVIII)	Report of the Secretary-General (agenda item 5)	21
559(XVIII)	Appointment of the Secretary-General for the period 2010-2013 on the recommendation of the Executive Council (agenda item 6)	22
560(XVIII)	Report of the Executive Council to the General Assembly (agenda item 7)	22

³ The General Assembly adopted 550 resolutions at its previous seventeen sessions; the first resolution adopted at the eighteenth session is accordingly numbered 551(XVIII).

<u>Resolution</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Page</u>
561(XVIII)	Report of the Chairman of the Affiliate Members (agenda item 8)	23
562(XVIII)	Roadmap for recovery – Sustainable Tourism in Challenging Times: Report of the Secretary-General (agenda item 9)	25
563(XVIII)	Report of the Credentials Committee (agenda item 10)	27
564(XVIII)	Participation in the United Nations system's coordination mechanisms (agenda item 11)	27
565(XVIII)	Report on implementation of the Organization's general programme of work for the period 2008-2009 (agenda item 12)	30
566(XVIII)	Report on implementation of the Organization's general programme of work for the period 2008-2009: <i>Sustainable Tourism Development in a Network of Cross-Border Parks and Protected Areas in West Africa</i> (agenda item 12)	30
567(XVIII)	Administrative and financial matters: (a) Report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation of the Organization (agenda item 13 (a))	32
568(XVIII)	Administrative and financial matters: (b) Election of the Members of the UNWTO Staff Pension Committee for the period 2010-2011 (agenda item 13 (b))	33
569(XVIII)	Administrative and financial matters: (c) Election of the Auditors for the period 2010-2011 (agenda item 13 (c))	34
570(XVIII)	Administrative and financial matters: (d) Use of the UNWTO logo (agenda item 13 (d))	34
571(XVIII)	Management strategy and designation of the Management Team of the Organization (agenda item 14)	36

<u>Resolution</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Page</u>
572(XVIII)	Draft programme and budget of the Organization for the period 2010-2011: (a) Programme; (b) Budget (agenda item 15)	37
573(XVIII)	Assessment of Members' contributions to the Organization's budget for the period 2010-2011 (agenda item 16)	39
574(XVIII)	Report on the entities associated with UNWTO (agenda item 17)	40
575(XVIII)	Silk Road Initiative (agenda item 17 bis)	41
576(XVIII)	Approval of agreements concluded by the Organization (agenda item 18)	44
577(XVIII)	Activities of the World Committee on Tourism Ethics (agenda item 19)	45
578(XVIII)	Declaration on the facilitation of tourist travel (agenda item 20)	47
579(XVIII)	World Tourism Day: information on the activities of 2008 and 2009, adoption of themes and designation of the host countries for 2010 and 2011 (agenda item 21)	53
580(XVIII)	Election of Council Members (agenda item 22)	54
581(XVIII)	Place and dates of the nineteenth session of the General Assembly (agenda item 23)	54
582(XVIII)	Tribute to Mr. Francesco Frangialli	55
583(XVIII)	Vote of thanks to the host country	56

4. Resolutions adopted by the General Assembly

A/RES/551(XVIII)

Adoption of the agenda

Agenda item 1
(documents A/18/1 prov., A/18/1 prov.annot., A/18/1 prov Add.1,
A/18/1 prov.compl., and A/18/1)

The General Assembly,

Having considered the provisional agenda prepared by the Secretariat as well as the complementary agenda including the request from Kazakhstan to add an item on the Silk Road (agenda item 17 bis),

Having also heard the proposal from Kazakhstan to move forward the review of item 13 after that of the current item 5,

Decides to adopt the agenda of its eighteenth session thus modified.

.....

A/RES/552(XVIII)

Election of the President and Vice-Presidents of the Assembly

Agenda item 2

The General Assembly

1. Declares elected Kazakhstan as President of its eighteenth session, represented by H.E. Mr. Termirkhan Dosmukhambetov, Minister of Tourism and Sports; and
 2. Declares elected as Vice-Presidents of its eighteenth session Benin (Ms. Mamata Bako Djaouga), Iran (Mr. Hamid Baghaee), Iraq (Mr. Kahtan Al-Jobury), Jamaica (Mr. Edmund Bartlett), Lesotho (Ms. Lebohang Nstiny), Spain (Ms. Beatriz Marco), Timor-Leste (Mr. Gil da Costa Alves) and Venezuela (Ms. Zaida Carrillo).
-

A/RES/553(XVIII)

Appointment of the Credentials Committee

Agenda item 3

The General Assembly,

Having taken note of the proposals of its President made in accordance with rule 13(1) of its Rules of Procedure,

1. Appoints the following Full Members to the Credentials Committee:

Angola	Cyprus	Qatar
Brazil	Ethiopia	Sri Lanka
Croatia	Indonesia	Venezuela

and

2. Notes that the Credentials Committee appointed as its Chairperson Ms. Blanka Belosevic (Croatia) and as its Vice-Chairman Mr. Tesfaye Desalegne (Ethiopia).

.....

A/RES/554(XVIII)

Membership of the Organization

(a) New membership

Agenda item 4(a)(I)
(document A/18/4(a)(I))

Full Members

The General Assembly,

Having taken cognizance of the changes in membership of the Organization since its seventeenth session, as well as of the application for full membership received by the Secretary-General, listed in document A/18/4(a)(I),

1. Welcomes **Norway**, a former Member IUOTO, as a Full Member of the Organization from September 2008, in application of Article 5(2) of the Statutes and invites this country to actively participate in all UNWTO activities;

2. Approves with great satisfaction the admission of **Vanuatu** in application of Article 5(2) of the Statutes;

Having taken cognizance with regret of United Kingdom's withdrawal on 20 August 2009 in accordance with Article 35(1) of the Statutes,

3. Unanimously urges the United Kingdom to reconsider its decision and to once again take its place in the Organization; especially in view of the contribution that this country has already made and could undoubtedly make in future to the programme of work of the Organization, and
 4. Also calls upon the member countries of the United Nations that do not yet belong to the UNWTO to do the same and encourages the Secretary-General to continue his efforts in this regard.
-

A/RES/555(XVIII)

Membership of the Organization

(a) New membership

Agenda item 4(a)(II)
(document A/18/4(a)(II))

Affiliate Members

The General Assembly,

Having taken cognizance of the applications for affiliate membership received by the Secretary-General,

1. Approves, on the recommendation of the Executive Council and in accordance with resolution 279(IX), the applications for affiliate membership of the following bodies, in accordance with Articles 7(3) and 7(4) of the Statutes:

1. ABRAHAM PATH INITIATIVE (United States of America)
2. AGENZIA TURISMO FVG (Italy)
3. ANATO, ASOCIACION COLOMBIANA DE AGENCIAS DE VIAJES Y TURISMO (Colombia)
4. ARMSTRONG GROUP (Canada)
5. ASOCIACIÓN CENTRO DE INVESTIGACIÓN COOPERATIVA EN TURISMO – CICTOURGUNE (Spain)
6. ASOCIACION NACIONAL DE HOTELES Y RESTAURANTES, INC (ASONAHORES) (Dominican Republic)
7. ASSOCIATION OF TOUR OPERATORS OF RUSSIA (ATOR) (Russian Federation)
8. ASSOCIAZIONE CENTRO STUDIO AURORA ONLUS (Italy)
9. ATHENS TOURISM & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMPANY (Greece)
10. BALKAN ALLIANCE OF HOTEL ASSOCIATIONS – BAHA (The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia)
11. BERJAYA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF HOSPITALITY (Malaysia)
12. BUSAN CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU (Republic of Korea)
13. CAPE TOWN TOURISM (South Africa)
14. CENGIZ (Nigeria)
15. CENTRO DE INVESTIGACIÓN Y FORMACION DE EMPRESAS, SAL (CIFESAL) (Spain)
16. CENTRO SUPERIOR DE HOSTELERÍA DE GALICIA - SOCIEDADE DE IMAXE E PROMOCION TURÍSTICA DE GALICIA, S.A. (Spain)
17. CENTRO TURISTICO STUDENTESCO E GIOVANILE (CTS) (Italy)
18. CHAMALEON STRATEGIES, INC (Canada)
19. CONCORDE DE LUXE RESORT (Turkey)
20. CONFEDERAÇÃO NACIONAL DO COMERCIO DE BENS, SERVIÇOS E TURISMO (Brazil)
21. CONFEDERACIÓN DE CÁMARAS NACIONALES DE COMERCIO, SERVICIOS Y TURISMO (Mexico)
22. CONSEJO FEDERAL DE TURISMO DE LA REPÚBLICA ARGENTINA (Argentina)
23. CONSORCI TURISME DE CATALUÑA (Spain)
24. CROATIAN NATIONAL TOURIST BOARD (Croatia)
25. DESTINO PUNTA DEL ESTE (Uruguay)
26. DISCOVERYMICE (Malaysia)
27. ECOLE D'HOTELLERIE ET DE TOURISME DE LA CEMAC (EHT-CEMAC) (Cameroon)
28. ECOTOURISM KENYA (Kenya)
29. ELAGRO – GREEK SUSTAINABLE TOURISM ORGANIZATION (Greece)
30. EMPRESA METROPOLITANA QUITO TURISMO (Ecuador)
31. ESCUELA SUPERIOR DE HOTELERARIA E TURISMO DO ESTORIL (Portugal)

A/RES/555(XVIII)

32. EXPOMEDIA GROUP PLC (United Kingdom)
33. FEDERACIÓN EMPRESARIA HOTELERA GASTRONÓMICA DE LA REPÚBLICA ARGENTINA (FEHGRA) (Argentina)
34. FÉDÉRATION TUNISIENNE DE L'HÔTELLERIE (Tunisia)
35. FEDERATION TUNISIENNE DES AGENCES DE VOYAGES ET DE TOURISME (FTAV) (Tunisia)
36. GIPET, GROUPEMENT INTERPROFESSIONNEL DES PROFESSIONNELS DES ENTREPRISES TOURISTIQUES (Cameroon)
37. GLOBAL TOURISM INTERFACE (France)
38. GREEN GLOBE INTERNATIONAL, INC. (United States of America)
39. IE BUSINESS SCHOOL (Spain)
40. INHOLLAND UNIVERSITY (Netherlands)
41. INSTITUTO DE CIENCIAS DE LA EDUCACIÓN (I.C.E) - UNIVERSIDAD POLITÉCNICA DE MADRID (Spain)
42. INSTITUTO DE PLANEAMENTO E DESENVOLVIMENTO DO TURISMO (IPDT) (Portugal)
43. INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE APRENDIZAJE (Costa Rica)
44. INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION FOR IT AND TRAVEL AND TOURISM (IFITT)
45. INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES BAD HONNEF-BONN (Germany)
46. IRAN CULTURE HERITAGE AND TOURISM INVESTMENT COMPANY (Iran)
47. ISRAEL SCHOOL OF TOURISM (Israel)
48. ISTRIA TOURIST BOARD (Croatia)
49. IXEO INTERACTIVE TRAVEL S.A. (Switzerland)
50. JEJU TOURISM ORGANIZATION (JTO) (Republic of Korea)
51. KUWAIT INTERNATIONAL DRIVING PERMIT & CARNET CLUB (Kuwait)
52. KYUNG HEE UNIVERSITY (Republic of Korea)
53. LUCERNE UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES AND ARTS - INSTITUTE OF TOURISM (Switzerland)
54. MACAO UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (Macao, China)
55. MALI LOSINJ TOURIST BOARD (Croatia)
56. MALTA HOTELS & RESTAURANTS ASSOCIATION (MHRA) (Malta)
57. MENARATOURS COMPANY (Egypt)
58. MODUL UNIVERSITY VIENNA (Austria)
59. MOONSHINE MARKETING S.L. (Spain)
60. NOSKI CONSULTING TOUR, S.L. (Spain)
61. OAG –UBM AVIATION (United Kingdom)
62. OPINION LEADER RESEARCH LTD (United Kingdom)
63. PALACIO DE CONGRESOS DE LA COSTA DEL SOL (Spain)
64. PHILIPS LIGHTING, GBU (Netherlands)
65. QUIMBAYA-TOURS (Peru)
66. RELAIS ET CHÂTEAUX (France)
67. RESERVA DE LA BIOSFERA DE FUERTEVENTURA (Spain)
68. SENECA S.P.A (Italy)

69. SOCIEDAD ESTATAL PARA LA GESTIÓN DE LA INNOVACIÓN Y LAS TECNOLOGÍAS TURÍSTICAS, S.A. (SEGITTUR) (Spain)
70. SOCIÉTÉ INTERNATIONALE DE TÉLÉCOMMUNICATIONS AÉRONAUTIQUES (SITA)
71. SOL MELIÁ HOTELS & RESORTS (Spain)
72. SOUV CLUB CAMEROON (Cameroon)
73. THE KENYATTA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTRE (Kenya)
74. TOURISM RESOURCE LIMITED (Nigeria)
75. TSI, TURISMO SANT IGNASI (FUNDACION ESADE-UNIVERSIDAD RAMON LLUL) (Spain)
76. UNION OF CHAMBERS AND COMMODITY EXCHANGES OF TURKEY – TOBB (Turkey)
77. UNITED NATIONS FOUNDATION / SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
78. UNIVERSIDAD DE HUELVA (Spain)
79. UNIVERSIDAD RICARDO PALMA, ESCUELA ACADÉMICO PROFESIONAL DE TURISMO HOTELERÍA Y GASTRONOMÍA (Peru)
80. UNIVERSIDADE DE BRASILIA - CENTRO DE EXCELENCIA EM TURISMO (Brazil)
81. UNIVERSIDADE DO ALGARVE (Portugal)
82. UNIVERSITAT DE VALENCIA, ESTUDI GENERAL (Spain)
83. UNIVERSITY OF CALABRIA - DEGREE COURSE IN TOURISM SCIENCES (Italy)
84. UNIVERSITY OF LJUBLJANA - FACULTY OF ECONOMICS (Slovenia)
85. VICTORIA UNIVERSITY - CENTRE FOR TOURISM AND SERVICES RESEARCH (Australia)
86. VISA INTERNATIONAL (United States of America)
87. WORLD ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF TANGIBLE AND INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE IN TIMES OF ARMED CONFLICTS (WATCH)
88. ZAGREB FAIR (Croatia)
89. ZARAGOZA TURISMO (Spain)

2. Takes note of the withdrawal of the bodies from affiliate membership mentioned in document A/18/4(a)(II).
-

A/RES/556(XVIII)

Membership of the Organization**(b) Suspension of membership in accordance with Article 34 of the Statutes**

Agenda item 4(b)
(documents A/18/4(b)(c) and A/18/4(b)(c) Add.1)

The General Assembly,

Considering resolution 217(VII) adopted at its seventh session, whereby it recognized that Article 34 of the Statutes, providing for suspension of Members that persist in a policy contrary to the fundamental aim of the Organization as established in Article 3 of the Statutes, is applicable in the case of prolonged non-payment of obligatory contributions to the budget of the Organization,

Also considering the report submitted to it by the Secretary-General in pursuance of the aforementioned resolution,

Having heard the report of the Executive Council,

Having been informed by the Secretariat that Gabon has made a payment so that provisions of paragraph 13 of the financing rules are no longer applicable to it,

1. Notes that the following Members are subject to Article 34 of the Statutes and that consequently all their rights and privileges of membership are suspended:

FULL MEMBERS

AFGHANISTAN
BAHRAIN
BURUNDI
CAPE VERDE
CÔTE D'IVOIRE
DJIBOUTI
GUINEA
GUINEA BISSAU
KYRGYZSTAN
LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA
MALAWI
SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE
SIERRA LEONE
SUDAN
TURKMENISTAN
UGANDA

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

NETHERLANDS ANTILLES

2. Notes with satisfaction that Gabon, Lebanon, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zimbabwe are no longer subject to the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules, since they have reduced their contribution arrears partially or in full;
3. Further notes that Article 34 of the Statutes will be applicable to the following Members if, within a period of one year, they have not reached an agreement with the Secretary-General on a plan for the payment of their arrears:

FULL MEMBER

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

AFFILIATE MEMBERS

ACCENTURE

ADM & TEC – INSTITUTO DE ADMINISTRAÇÃO E TECNOLOGIA
 AGENCE DE TOURISME GIC MIEUX-VIVRE: POUR LA PROMOTION,
 L'ACCUEIL ET LE TRANSFERT
 AL RAWDA TRAVEL & TOURISM AGENCY
 ARAB TOURISM ORGANIZATION
 CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR TOURISM AND EXCURSIONS .S.A (CCTE)
 CHARISMA PUBLIC RELATIONS
 DELOITTE & TOUCHE
 EDICIONES CABRER S.A.
 FÉDÉRATION NATIONALE DES AGENCES DE VOYAGES DU MAROC
 GRUPO CUBANACAN S.A.
 HOTEL SUPPORT SERVICES LTD
 INDIAN AIRLINES
 NATIONAL TOURISM BOARD OF SIERRA LEONE
 PAPUA NEW GUINEA NATIONAL CULTURAL CENTRES TRUST
 ROJENNY TOURIST / GAMES VILLAGE, OBA
 STRATEGIC BUSINESS MEETING S.A. – TOURISMAFRICA
 THE UNIVERSITY OF ECONOMICS IN WARSAW
 TURYAT A.S. – TURISTIK YATIRIM VE HIZMETLER A.S.
 UNIVERSITY OF TOURISM, ECONOMICS & LAW "KUTEL"

4. Decides to continue applying the measure of suspension of rights and privileges provided for in Article 34 of the Statutes under the following conditions:
 - (a) when a Member of the Organization is in arrears in the payment of contributions for four financial years, whether consecutive or not, it being understood that part payment of contributions does not preclude application of the measure of suspension; and

A/RES/556(XVIII)

- (b) when that Member has not agreed with the Secretary-General on a plan for the payment of its arrear contributions within a period of one year from the date of the General Assembly resolution stating that suspension is applicable to that Member in accordance with Article 34 of the Statutes; and
5. Requests the Secretary-General to apply this resolution and to report on its application at each session of the Executive Council.
-

A/RES/557(XVIII)

Membership of the Organization

(c) Requests for temporary exemption from the application of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules

Agenda item 4(c)
(documents A/18/4(b)(c) and A/18/5(b)(c) Add.1)

The General Assembly,

Having taken note of the recommendations made by the Executive Council at its 83rd, 84th and 85th sessions with respect to requests made by various Full Members for temporary exception from the application of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules,

Considering the documents submitted by the Secretary-General regarding this matter,

1. Decides, in view of their compliance with the agreed payment plans, to renew the temporary exemption from the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules of Full Members Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, El Salvador, Lao People's Democratic Republic, and Togo;
2. Also decides to maintain the temporary exemption of Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gambia, Mali, Mauritania, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Niger, Peru, Uruguay and Yemen, from the provisions of paragraph 13, albeit making it clear that these provisions will be reapplied to these Members if they are not up to date with their payment plans by 1 April 2010;
3. Requests the Secretary-General to inform Yemen that it must submit a new payment plan for its debt corresponding the years 1979 to 1989, given that the regulations in force do not contain any provisions for exemption from the payment of contributions;

A/RES/557(XVIII)

Recalling decisions 7(LXXVIII), 5(LXXIX) and 8(LXXX) adopted by the Executive Council concerning Iraq and pursuant to resolution A/RES/523(XVII),

4. Notes that this Full Member has paid the full amount of its contribution for 2008 and 2009 to the Organization;
5. Further notes that according to General Assembly resolution [A/RES/523(XVII)] Iraq has submitted a payment plan to the 86th session of the Executive Council and decides to extend the grace period accorded until the 88th Executive Council session. Failure to reach an agreement on the settlement of arrears with Iraq before the 88th Council session would result in Iraq being subject to suspension of its membership;
6. Adopts the recommendation of the Executive Council establishing the following conditions for the Members requesting temporary exemption from the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules and which propose payment plans to settle their arrears in instalments:
 - (a) to discharge the contribution corresponding to the present year before the General Assembly session at which their case is reviewed;
 - (b) strict observance of the plan agreed for the settlement of arrears;
7. Requests the Secretary-General to inform the Full Members concerned, that the decision just taken in their regard remains subject to strict compliance with the aforementioned conditions; and
8. Notes that the following Members continue to be subject to the provisions of paragraph 13:

FULL MEMBERS

AFGHANISTAN
 BAHRAIN
 BURUNDI
 CAPE VERDE
 CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
 CHAD
 CÔTE D'IVOIRE
 DJIBOUTI
 GUINEA
 GUINEA BISSAU
 KYRGYZSTAN
 LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA
 MALAWI
 SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE
 SIERRA LEONE
 SUDAN
 TURKMENISTAN
 UGANDA

A/RES/557(XVIII)

ASSOCIATE MEMBER

NETHERLANDS ANTILLES

AFFILIATE MEMBERS

ACCENTURE (Spain)
ADM & TEC (Brazil)
AGENCE DE TOURISME GIC MIEUX-VIVRE (Cameroon)
ALRAWDA TRAVEL AND TOURISM AGENCY (Sudan)
ARAB TOURISM ORGANIZATION
CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR TOURISM & EXCURSIONS S.A. (CCTE) (Russian Federation)
CHARISMA PUBLIC RELATIONS (United Kingdom)
DELOITTE & TOUCHE S.A. (Spain)
DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM MANAGEMENT – UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA (South Africa)
EDICIONES CABRER S.A. (Dominican Republic)
EMPRESA DE TURISMO DE BAHIA – BAHIAATURSA (Brazil)
FÉDÉRATION NATIONALE DES AGENCES DE VOYAGES DU MAROC (Morocco)
GRUPO CUBANACAN S.A. (Cuba)
HOHOE DISTRICT ASSEMBLY (Ghana)
HOTEL SUPPORT SERVICES LTD. (Nigeria)
INDIAN AIRLINES (India)
INTELLIGENT LEISURE SOLUTIONS & THE DISCOVER GROUP (Brazil)
INTERNATIONAL HOTEL AND RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION (IH&RA)
INTERNATNAL HOTEL AND TOURISM INDUSTRY MANAGEMENT SCHOOL (I-TIM) (Thailand)
MIDDLE EAST AIRLINES AIRLIBAN (Lebanon)
NATIONAL TOURISM BOARD OF SIERRA LEONE (Sierra Leone)
NIGERIAN TOURISM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (Nigeria)
PAKISTAN INTERNATIONAL AIRLINES CORP. (PIA) (Pakistan)
PALESTINIAN NATIONAL TOURISM AUTHORITY (Palestinian National Authority)
PAPUA NEW GUINEA NATIONAL CULTURAL TRUST (Papua New Guinea)
PKF (UK)
ROJENNY TOURIST/GAMES VILLAGE OBA (Nigeria)
STRATEGIC BUSINESS MEETING S.A. – TOURISMAFRICA (Switzerland)
TABASHEER TRAVEL & TOURISM AGENCY (Sudan)
TARSUS TRAVEL EXHIBITIONS LTD (United Kingdom)
THE UNIVERSITY OF ECONOMICS IN WARSAW (Poland)
TURYAT A.S. (Turkey)
UNIVERSITY OF TOURISM, ECONOMICS AND LAW “KUTEL” (Ukraine)
VOKRUG SVETA LTD. (Belarus)

A/RES/558(XVIII)

Report of the Secretary-General

Agenda item 5
(document A/18/5)

The General Assembly,

Having heard the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Organization, presented in accordance with Rule 5(1) of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly, and the debate which has followed,

1. Thanks the Secretary-General for his report structured around the themes of security, crisis management, sustainable development and poverty reduction;
2. Takes note with interest of the information contained in his report regarding the analysis of the situation of tourism in the world and the efforts undertaken by the Secretariat to strengthen the sector's resilience to the crises it has had to face;
3. Views with satisfaction the Secretary-General's efforts carried out to promote the sustainable growth of tourism in developing countries and to contribute to the inclusion of tourism within the framework of the Millennium Development Goals of the United Nations;
4. Encourages him to continue his efforts in favour of countries affected by crises, conflicts, natural disasters or suffering from extreme poverty in a spirit of international solidarity and cooperation;
5. Takes note with satisfaction of the growing influence of the Organization, in particular as a result of its active presence and participation in various key international fora on global issues within and outside the United Nations system; and
6. Welcomes the progress made in improving the Secretariat's internal coordination and management systems and the sound financial situation it enjoys.

.....

A/RES/559(XVIII)

Appointment of the Secretary-General for the period 2010-2013 on the recommendation of the Executive Council

Agenda item 6
(documents A/18/13)

The General Assembly,

Having before it Articles 12(c) and 22 of the Statutes and Rules 38(e), 43 and 53 of its Rules of Procedure,

Having noted the recommendation put forward by the Executive Council in its decision 12(LXXXV),

Appoints by acclamation Mr. Taleb Rifai (Jordan) to the post of Secretary-General of the Organization for the period 2010-2013.

.....
A/RES/560(XVIII)

Report of the Executive Council to the General Assembly

Agenda item 7
(document A/18/6)

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Executive Council, submitted by its current Chairman pursuant to Articles 19(a) and 20 of the Statutes,

1. Takes note with interest of the information presented concerning the Council's activities, and in particular the results of its eighty-second, eighty-third, eighty-fourth and eighty-fifth ordinary sessions;
2. Takes cognizance of the major matters considered by the Council, such as the procedure for the use of the UNWTO logo and the report on the entities associated with the UNWTO and welcomes the decisions adopted by the Council during this period concerning the acceptance of the Annex relating to the UNWTO to the Convention of the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies, the approval of the Declaration on the facilitation of tourist travel, and the recommendation to the Assembly of Mr. Taleb Rifai for the post of Secretary-General of the Organization for the coming period;

A/RES/560(XVIII)

Having taken cognizance in particular of the first audit of UNWTO as a specialized agency of the United Nations, prepared by the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU),

3. Welcomes the constructive approach of the Secretariat towards this report and takes note with satisfaction of the creation of a Working Group by the Council to examine the JIU recommendations and advise the Secretary-General accordingly;
4. Takes note that the Secretary-General will prepare, based on the work of the Working Group, an implementation plan of the JIU recommendations considering all implications, including those of a financial nature;
5. Requests the Secretary-General to keep the Council informed about the various stages of implementation of the said plan and to submit an exhaustive report on this matter at its next session;
6. Thanks the Council for the work it has diligently carried out since the last Assembly session;
7. Approves the report of the Council; and
8. Pays tribute to the dedication and competence displayed by its successive Chairmen, H.E. Mrs. Ambika Soni, the then Minister of Tourism and Culture of India, in 2008, and her successor H.E. Mr. Carlos Benavides, Minister of Tourism of Costa Rica, in 2009.

.....

A/RES/561(XVIII)

Report of the Chairman of the Affiliate Members

Agenda item 8
(document A/18/7)

The General Assembly,

Having before it the report of the Chairman of the UNWTO Affiliate Members on the projects and activities carried out in the context of the programme of work during the biennium 2008-2009,

1. Takes note with satisfaction of the impetus in the work carried out during this term of office in favour of the Affiliate Members, and the commitment to a realistic and change-oriented programme of work that is aligned with the major objectives of the Organization;

2. Notes the favourable development in the number of Affiliate Members, as well as the sustained level of satisfaction of the current Members, factors that constitute a solid basis for the promotion of public-private cooperation within the Organization;
3. Agrees with the mission and objectives stated by the Affiliate Members in the report, which are geared towards reconciling the needs and expectations of the Affiliate Members with the mission, objectives and programmes of work of the Organization;
4. Congratulates the Secretariat of the Affiliate Members and the Board of Directors of the Committee of the Affiliate Members on the programmes of work set out, which include projects and measures to strengthen the role of the non-governmental sector and its contribution to the Organization as a whole;
5. Underlines the interest in the efforts currently underway to compile information on the Affiliate Members and to improve organizational models and processes in order to enhance the exchange of information and experiences among them and with the Secretariat, with the aim of offering new, more effective tools and platforms for the benefit of the Affiliate Members in the immediate future;
6. Encourages Affiliate Members to coordinate with the Secretary-General in the search for new and more effective ways of cooperation between Member States and UNWTO for the creation and communication of knowledge in tourism; and
7. Takes note of the composition of the Board of Directors of the Affiliate Members as decided at its 31st General Meeting:

Chairman:

THR – Asesores en Turismo, Hotelería y Recreación, S.A.

Vice Chairmen:

- Amadeus IT Group, S.A.
- Asociación Mundial para la Formación Profesional Turística (AMFORT)
- Araldi, S.L.
- Asociación Hotelera de Colombia (COTELCO)
- Association of Greek Tourist Enterprises (SETE)
- Brazilian Confederation of Convention and Visitors Bureaux
- Cámara Argentina de Turismo (CAT)
- Centro Español de Nuevas Profesiones
- Egyptian Tourism Federation (ETF)
- Federação Nacional de Hoteis, Restaurantes, Bares e Similares (FNHRBS)
- FITUR – Feria Internacional de Turismo
- Instituto Municipal de Turismo (IMTUR) del Ayuntamiento de Palma de Mallorca

A/RES/561(XVIII)

- Instituto para la calidad turística española (ICTE)
- International Federation of Tour Operators (IFTO)
- National Geographic Society
- Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA)
- Patronato de Turismo de Madrid
- Relais et Châteaux
- Roteiros de Charme Hotel Association
- Skai International
- Turkish Tourism Investors Association (TYD)
- United Nations Foundation
- University of Surrey
- World Youth Student and Educational (WYSE) Travel Confederation

.....

A/RES/562(XVIII)

Roadmap for recovery - Sustainable Tourism in Challenging Times:
Report of the Secretary-General

Agenda item 9
(document A/18/8)

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary General on the *Roadmap for Recovery – Tourism & Travel as a Primary Vehicle for Job Creation and Economic Recovery: Sustainable Tourism in Challenging Times*,

1. Commends the Secretary-General for the information provided on the impact of the global economic crisis on world tourism, on the stimulus measures developed by national governments to support tourism in these challenging times and for the presentation of the *Roadmap for Recovery*;
2. Expresses its appreciation to the Tourism Resilience Committee, chaired by the Minister of Tourism of Egypt, H.E. Mr. Zoheir Garranah, and the Core Group of the Committee, chaired by H.E. the Australian Ambassador to Spain, Mr. Noel Campbell, for the work developed since the creation of the Committee by the Executive Council at its 84th Session (October 2008), particularly in regards to the work on the *Roadmap for Recovery*;

3. Appreciates with satisfaction the timely and accurate response of the Organization to the current global crisis and the activities developed in this framework by the Tourism Resilience Committee, particularly the *Roadmap for Recovery*;

Recalling that, though resisting better than many other economic sectors, tourism has not been immune to the global recession that has affected the economies worldwide, and that in 2009 international tourism is forecast to decrease by between 6 per cent and 4 per cent,

4. Endorses the *Roadmap for Recovery (A/18/8)*, and its recommendations, as the Organization's position paper on tourism in face of the short and long term challenges, including resilience, stimulus programmes and the transformation to a Green Economy;
 5. Underlines that stimulus actions taken to boost promotion, simplify regulations, build infrastructure, rationalise taxes and facilitate travel, which in turn encourage companies to invest, innovate and stimulate demand, will help build resilience and promote recovery, not only in the tourism sector but across economies, and therefore appeals all members to consider the recommendations of the *Roadmap for Recovery* for adoption and implementation;
 6. Stresses the role and potential that tourism can have, together with other sectors, in the transformation to a new development model in the framework of the Green Economy and the response to Climate Change, as well as towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), in particular regarding poverty alleviation;
 7. Encourages the Secretary-General to work closely with Member States and to seek collaborative multi-stakeholder engagement for the promotion and implementation of the *Roadmap* and its message – Tourism & Travel: a primary vehicle for job creation and economic recovery – in order to consolidate the role of tourism as a key player in the global agenda; and
 8. Prompts Members to promote the *Roadmap* to key decision makers at national, regional and global levels and provide feedback to the Secretariat on measures to implement the Roadmap.
-

A/RES/563(XVIII)

Report of the Credentials Committee

Agenda item 10
(documents A/18/9 Doc.Trav., and A/18/9)

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report submitted by the Credentials Committee, chaired by Ms. Blanka Belosevic (Croatia),

Approves the said report.

.....

A/RES/564(XVIII)

Participation in the United Nations system's coordination mechanisms

Agenda item 11
(documents A/18/10 and A/18/10 Add.1)

The General Assembly,

Having taken cognizance of document A/18/10,

Recalling that coordination mechanisms serve, in particular, the important functions of avoiding duplication and promoting complementarities between the UNWTO's programmes and activities, and those of other UN agencies and coordination mechanisms,

Considering that, given the small size of its Secretariat and budget, UNWTO is likely to benefit from its partnership with other UN institutions, and from the access to resources of the UN system at no cost for the Organization,

1. Takes note with interest of the participation of UNWTO on a regular basis in the three most senior coordination mechanisms of the United Nations System, namely, the Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB), the High Level Committee on Programmes and the High Level Committee on Management, as well as in those dealing with UN Administrative Issues and in others that are of specific interest to the Organization;

2. Appreciates with satisfaction the successful coordination achieved with the UN related bodies, especially the UN Statistical Commission and the International Labour Organization, for the holding of the 5th International Conference on Tourism Statistics, in Bali on April 2009, which this year focused on employment issues;
 3. Notes that the following meetings have been hosted at the UNWTO Headquarters, thus strengthening its insertion within the UN system: the United Nations International Task Team on HIV-related Travel Restrictions in June 2008; the 5th UN Inter-Agency Travel Network (IATN) in October 2008; and the 17th session of the UN Human Resources Network (HR Network) in March 2009;
 4. Welcomes the active role played by UNWTO in introducing the issues relating to Climate Change and Tourism within the broader UN agenda on Climate Change, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to convey the concerns and the initiatives of the tourism sector on this issue, for them to be taken into account within the UN framework, especially the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC);
 5. Congratulates the UNWTO Secretariat for the inclusion of the tourism perspective in other substantive issues dealt with by the United Nations, and in particular: poverty alleviation, crisis management, H1N1 influenza preparedness, contribution of tourism to sustainable development and employment, inter-cultural dialogue and gender issues;
 6. Welcomes the approval, on 29 April 2008, by the United Nations Economic and Social Council of the draft annex relative to the Organization concerning the privileges and immunities of the specialized agencies and takes note that the Executive Council approved the text of the annex at its eighty-third session pursuant to the mandate it received from the General Assembly through resolution 545(XVII);
 7. Joins the United Nations in the action it has undertaken with a view to encouraging the States that have not yet done so to ratify the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies, and in particular, to accede to the new annexes – including that relating to the UNWTO; and
 8. Welcomes the initiatives and projects developed by the International Task Force on Sustainable Tourism Development, which was established within the framework of the Marrakech process and its forthcoming transformation into a broad UN partnership.
-

A/RES/565(XVIII)

**Report on implementation of the Organization's general programme of work
for the period 2008-2009**

Agenda item 12
(documents A/18/11 (I), A/18/11 (II) and A/18/11 Add.1)

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation and evaluation of the Organization's general programme of work for the period 2008-2009,

1. Notes with satisfaction the continuous efforts of the Secretariat in order to deliver a wider and better range of services to its Members in all areas of activity included in the programme of work as well as the formulation and implementation of MDG Achievement Fund projects in collaboration with several other UN agencies, and, ST-EP projects;
2. Approves the timely reaction of the Secretariat to unexpected events affecting tourism and the subsequent modifications of the Programme introduced by the Secretary-General to respond to them, as well as the necessary budget adjustments operated in order:
 - (a) to respond actively to the economic crisis through the Tourism Resilience Committee's activities;
 - (b) to reinforce the activities regarding employment in tourism; and
 - (c) to respond to the threats posed to tourist movements by the H1N1 pandemic currently affecting many countries;
3. Encourages the Secretary-General to pursue his efforts to ensure the coordinated implementation of the Organization's Programme of Work and invites him to strengthen the results-based management and budgeting approaches;
4. Views positively the quantitative and qualitative results of the evaluation of UNWTO activities conducted and requests the Secretary-General to take into account all comments and recommendations made by Members through this evaluation process with a view to further improve the effectiveness of such activities;

5. Urges all Members to actively participate in the evaluation process and consultations made by the Secretariat in this respect; and
 6. Takes note of the important Declarations adopted by two major events organized by UNWTO during this period, namely the Cebu Resolution 2008 and the Bali Statement on Tourism Statistics and Employment.
-

A/RES/566(XVIII)

**Report on implementation of the Organization's general programme of work
for the period 2008-2009**

***Sustainable Tourism Development in a Network of Cross-Border Parks and
Protected Areas in West Africa***

The General Assembly,

Having taken cognizance of the Report of the Secretary-General on the activities carried out during the period 2008-2009, within the framework of the follow-up to this Project,

Recalling resolution A/RES/525 (XVII) whereby it approved:

- The proposals aimed at strengthening the coordination and follow-up activities of the project with the establishment of a subregional technical office and of national task forces in the Member States;
- The programme of activities 2008-2009, that was submitted to it by the Steering Committee of the Project,

Appreciating the quality of the partnership between the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), the ST-EP Foundation and the Member States, as well as the numerous shows of support for this exemplary initiative of international cooperation, forming part of the commitment of the United Nations system in favour of poverty reduction,

1. Welcomes the activities conducted by the UNWTO and OIC Secretariats, the Regional Coordination of the project and the Member States, as part of the follow-up of the project and the ongoing execution of the feasibility study;

A/RES/566(XVIII)

2. Notes with satisfaction that the programme of activities 2008-2009, approved by the General Assembly at its seventeenth session has been carried out in accordance with the established timetable;
 3. Thanks the Governments of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, the Republic of Guinea and the Republic of Niger for hosting in March 2009, the subregional technical meetings on the strategies of the feasibility study of the project (PHASE II), in Keur-Macene, Conakry, and La Tapoa, respectively;
 4. Also thanks the UNWTO Secretariat for having generously provided the national focal points and the Regional Coordination Office with supplementary office equipment to facilitate the coordination and follow-up of the activities of the project;
 5. Approves the programme of activities 2009-2010 attached herewith;
 6. Requests the Governments of the Member States of the project, the Secretary-General of the UNWTO and the Secretary-General of the OIC, to take the necessary measures to provide the Regional Coordination Office of the project with the institutional and administrative support that would allow it to fully and successfully carry out its mission;
 7. Urges funding institutions, bilateral and multilateral development assistance bodies, enterprises and institutions of the private sector, as well as the Governments to contribute support in different forms to this initiative and invites them to participate in the briefing meeting on the feasibility study and the awareness-raising seminar for funding agencies regarding the financing of the project scheduled on 10 to 14 March 2010 in Dakar, Senegal, and asks the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to encourage them to do so, and
 8. Expresses its profound thanks to the Secretary-General of the UNWTO and to the Secretary-General of the OIC for their support and their active contribution in favour of the sustainable growth of tourism in Africa and the achievement of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), in the developing countries.
-

A/RES/567(XVIII)

Administrative and financial matters

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation of the Organization

Agenda item 13(a)
(documents A/18/12(a) and A/18/12(a) Add.1)

The General Assembly,

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

Having heard the report of the Executive Council,

1. Notes with satisfaction that, in accordance with the financial information contained in documents A/18/12(a) and A/18/12(a) Add.1, around 81 per cent of the total contributions from Members for the current year have been received, so that annual income targets are expected to be met;
2. Takes cognizance that, in fulfilment of the recommendation of its seventeenth session, a balance between expenditure and income has been maintained;
3. Observes that income from the payment of arrear contributions to end of August amounts to 1,221,828 euros, representing 153 per cent of the amount initially estimated for 2009;
4. Expresses its satisfaction at the current excellent budgetary and financial situation of the Organization and with the criteria followed by the Secretariat in its financial management, and encourages the Secretary-General to fully execute the programme and budget, including the transfers corresponding to the financial provisions as already notified to the Committee on Budget and Finance;

Observing nevertheless that persistent delays in paying contributions hamper the smooth operation of the Organization,

5. Urges the Members of the Organization to observe with the utmost rigour the statutory and regulatory provisions governing the Organization's financial affairs, with particular regard to the due date of contributions specified in paragraph 12 of the Financing Rules, so as to ensure, in the interest of all Members, that the execution of the programme and other activities of the Secretariat is in no way hampered by shortage of funds;

A/RES/567(XVIII)

6. Encourages the Secretariat to supplement the financial resources of the Organization through other sources including from governments, development assistance bodies and the private sector;
7. Urges Member States, Associate Members and Affiliate Members with contribution arrears to work out the most appropriate formulas for discharging their financial commitments and to reach the necessary agreements with the Secretary-General to ensure that they can readily meet their arrears obligations; and
8. Recommends the Secretary-General to establish guidelines to deal with payment plans of arrears, and to discuss them with the Committee on Budget and Finance before a final recommendation is made to the Executive Council.

.....

A/RES/568(XVIII)

Administrative and financial matters

(b) Election of the Members of the UNWTO Staff Pension Committee for the period 2010-2011

Agenda item 13(b)
(document A/18/12(b))

The General Assembly,

Having taken cognizance of the report of the Secretary-General on this subject,

Having taken note that Argentina and Spain are willing to continue serving as full members in this Committee,

1. Thanks Argentina and Spain for their contribution to date; and
 2. Decides to re-elect Argentina and Spain as Full members of the UNWTO Staff Pension Committee for the biennium 2010-2011.
-

A/RES/569(XVIII)

Administrative and financial matters**(c) Election of the Auditors for the period 2010-2011**

Agenda item 13(c)
(document A/18/12 (c))

The General Assembly,

1. Expresses its appreciation to the competent work of the Auditors elected for the current biennium, Spain (Mrs. Mercedes Lebrancón Cortés), India (Mr. Deepak Anurag) and France (Mr. Jacques Sallois),
2. Thanks them for their contribution; and

Having regard to Articles 12(g) and 26 of the Statutes of the Organization stipulating that the General Assembly shall elect two Auditors on the recommendation of the Executive Council,

3. Decides to designate Spain and India as the Auditors for the period 2010-2011, and to entrust to India the function of special Auditor in charge of inspecting the accounts relating to the activities carried out by the UNWTO in its capacity as an executing agency of the UNDP, with the funds coming from from this programme.

A/RES/570(XVIII)

Administrative and financial matters**(c) Use of the UNWTO logo**

Agenda item 13(d)
(document A/18/12(d))

The General Assembly,

Having taken note of document A/18/12(d),

1. Shares the opinion of the Secretary-General regarding the importance of the matter of the use of the logo, name, acronym, emblem, as well as the domain name of the Organization, common to all the institutions of the United Nations system, and the urgency of adopting appropriate arrangements;

A/RES/570(XVIII)

2. Takes note of the creation by the Executive Council of a Working Group to study this matter in all its aspects, composed of Brazil, France, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Spain, and a representative of the Affiliate Members, which has made it possible for the Secretariat to prepare an initial document on the subject, and of the decision of the Council whereby, pending a revised version, the orientations set forth in the aforementioned document shall constitute general guidelines to be taken into account by the Secretary-General when problems arise relative to the use of the Organization's name, logo, emblems, and its domain name;
 3. Endorses the decision of the Executive Council to maintain the existence of its Working Group, instructing the UNWTO's Legal Adviser to consult with the Legal Advisers of the United Nations system regarding matters related to the use and protection of the name, logo, and emblems of the Organization and of its domain name, and to adopt general rules on this subject at its 88th session;
 4. Entrusts the Secretary-General with taking the necessary steps with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) to protect the image of the UNWTO logo as modified since 1998, with the current acronyms of the Organization approved in 2005 (resolution 490(XVI)) appearing below it: UNWTO, OMT and IOHBTO; and
 5. Requests the Secretary-General to report to it on the measures taken regarding this matter during its next session.
-

A/RES/571(XVIII)

Management strategy and designation of the Management Team of the Organization

Agenda item 14
(documents A/18/14)

The General Assembly,

Having before it the Management Strategy proposed by the newly elected Secretary General,

1. Welcomes his proposals to revise the top level management of the Secretariat, allowing for a clearer distribution of responsibilities and for more decentralised decision-making, and to strive to promote gender and regional balance in the Management Team;
2. Supports, in the context of the restructuring of the Secretariat, the appointment of Mr. Márcio Favilla Lucca de Paula (Brazil), Mr. Frédéric Pierret (France) and Mr. Zoltan Somogyi (Hungary) as Executive Directors, in lieu of the Deputy Secretary-General, the Assistant Secretary-General and the Director of Programme and Coordination, and wishes them a successful four-year tenure in the Secretary-General's cabinet;
3. Also welcomes the proposal to establish a programme-based and regionally balanced allocation of human and financial resources in order to enhance efficiency and quality of services to Members;
4. Encourages the Secretary General to maintain throughout his mandate the seven fundamental principles stated in the Management Strategy proposed;
5. Supports the modernisation process of the Secretariat which the Secretary-General intends to embark upon in the near future; and
6. Requests the Secretary General to present to the eighty-eighth session of the Executive Council a white paper on the reform process he has proposed to undertake in the Secretariat, and to report on the progress achieved at its nineteenth session.

.....

A/RES/572(XVIII)

**Draft programme and budget of the Organization
for the period 2010-2011**

**(a) Programme
(b) Budget**

Agenda item 15
(document A/18/15)

The General Assembly,

Having considered the draft general programme of work and budget of the Organization for the period 2010-2011, prepared by the Secretary-General in accordance with Article 23(2) of the Statutes, and previously examined by the Executive Council and its subsidiary bodies, the Programme Committee and the Committee on Budget and Finance,

1. Notes with satisfaction that the programme proposed is built upon strategic and specific objectives that respond to the Members' priority needs and also to wider commitments with the UN System;
2. Recognises that the draft programme presents more focussed objectives, activities and actions in order to reach better results and impacts;
3. Advocates, in the light of the still difficult global economic situation, for clear leadership by UNWTO in providing information, analyses and policy direction for Member States to help them manage their tourism industry through the crisis;
4. Supports, therefore, the Programme Committee's recommendation that the Secretary-General establishes a contingency mechanism for special activities or unexpected events that may arise after the approval of the draft programme by the General Assembly and that may require UNWTO intervention;
5. Expresses its satisfaction with the way in which the Secretariat has prepared the draft programme, including a detailed and clear consultation process with all Members and a constant and fruitful collaboration with the Programme Committee and the Committee on Budget and Finance, reinforcing the Member States' ownership regarding the work of the Organization;

6. Requests the Executive Council to review the role of its technical committees with a view to better define their functions as subsidiary bodies, especially in relation with the preparation, implementation and evaluation of the programme of work of the Organization;
7. Thanks the Secretary-General for having proceeded, following the Executive Council decision 13 (LXXXV), to a notable reduction of the draft budget presented to its eighty-fifth session;
8. Approves the draft programme of work, as recommended by the Council at its eighty-sixth session;
9. Adopts a draft programme and budget for 2010-2011 amounting to a total of 25,200,000 euros, resulting from the application of Zero Nominal Growth to individual country contributions for 2009, and adjusted by any modification in membership that may occur;
10. Authorizes the Secretary-General to execute the programme of work and budget for 2010-2011 in accordance with the amounts collected, in line with the satisfactory budgetary practice established in previous biennia and the proposals contained in document A/18/15;
11. Supports the proposal of the Secretary-General to reinforce extra-budgetary funded activities, and in particular, the African initiative of a public-private partnership to mobilize resources for tourism-related projects linked to the Millennium Development Goals and poverty reduction through sustainable tourism in Africa;

Taking into account the recommendation formulated by the Executive Council in its decision 8(LXXXV) on the use of the surplus resulting from the financial period 2006-2007, which amounts to 830,993.50 euros,

12. Authorizes the Secretary-General to use this surplus to establish a special contingency account, to cover extraordinary and unavoidable expenses, such as post-separation liabilities of the Organization, subject to the terms stipulated in the annex 4 of document A/18/15; and
 13. Commends the Committee on Budget and Finance, the Programme Committee and their Chairpersons for their valuable contributions to the preparation of the Organization's draft programme of work for 2010-2011.
-

A/RES/573(XVIII)

**Assessment of Members' contributions to the Organization's budget
for the period 2010-2011**

Agenda item 16
(document A/18/16)

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the assessment of Members' contributions for the period 2010-2011,

Having before it the recommendations of the Executive Council in this regard,

1. Decides to accept the Executive Council's recommendations;
2. Approves the proposed scale of contributions for 2010-2011 as modified to reflect the increase in the number of Member States and that in the budget, as foreseen in resolution 404(XIII) and which represents zero nominal growth in individual country contributions with respect to 2009, except when required by technical changes in the class situation of individual country cases;
3. Takes note that this policy will also be applied in the formulation of the 2012-2013 budget proposal to be made after a mid-term review;
4. Observes that, in accordance with the formula used for calculating the contributions of Member States [resolution 404(XIII)], UNWTO has used the same economic and population statistical averages adopted by the United Nations to determine the contributions of its own Members;
5. Requests the Secretariat to elaborate proposals for a possible revision of the formula for determining country contributions, i.e. the "Lusaka formula", in order to better reflect the financial possibilities of less developed countries and achieve greater fairness in contributions, and to have this proposal discussed by the Committee on Budget and Finance before a final recommendation is made to the Executive Council and the General Assembly;

Considering that the approved budget for the next financial period amounts to 25,200,000 euros,

6. Decides that the budgetary income approved for the next period should be provided by the contributions of the Full and Associate Members in the amounts of 11,212,999 euros for 2010, and 11,212,999 euros for 2011, and that the balance to be financed should be covered by the contributions of the Affiliate Members and the other sources of funding referred to in document A/18/15;

7. 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; and
 8. Also decides to accept the Secretariat proposal as recommended by the Executive Council to maintain the contribution of the Affiliate Members at 2,400 euros per year for the period 2010-2011.
-

A/RES/574(XVIII)

Report on the entities associated with UNWTO

Agenda item 17
(document A/18/17)

The General Assembly,

Having taken note of the current status and activities of the various external entities associated with UNWTO, including: the Regional Support Office for Pacific (Japan), the Themis Foundation (Andorra), the Silk Road Secretariat (Uzbekistan), the ST-EP Foundation (Republic of Korea), the Consulting Unit on Tourism and Biodiversity (Germany), the Centre of Excellence of Destinations (Canada), and, the Permanent Secretariat of the World Committee on Tourism Ethics (Italy),

1. Welcomes the initiative of the Secretary-General to review the existing association agreements with these external bodies and their relationship with the UNWTO Secretariat and its programme of work;
 2. Agrees that an appropriate policy framework should be adopted regarding all these bodies;
 3. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare, within the above policy framework, a proposal including the governance relationship with UNWTO, as well as the management and financial aspects applicable to all non-Headquarters based entities associated with the Organization using, among others, the examples and experiences of other UN agencies and international organizations which have similar entities; and
 4. Entrusts the Secretary-General to present this proposal at the eighty-eighth session of the Executive Council to be held in 2010, after having consulted the above-mentioned entities.
-

A/RES/575(XVIII)

Silk Road Initiative

Agenda item 17 bis
(documents A/18/17 bis)

The General Assembly,

Having before it the draft Astana Declaration presented by the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan prepared in consultation with the Secretariat,

Aware of the exceptional value and diversity of the tourism potential, both cultural and natural, of the countries that in the past were traversed by the ancient Silk Roads,

Making reference to the Statutes of the World Tourism Organization and to the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism, which underline the role of this activity as a factor of economic and social development, but also as a vehicle for peace, understanding, cultural enrichment, environmental preservation and dialogue among peoples,

Underlining the importance of the initiative of the World Tourism Organization, of the its Secretariat in Uzbekistan and of the United Nations system, which for fifteen years now has aimed to revive the ancient Silk Road as a supporting element of the tourism development of the immense region of Eurasia and the Middle East,

Aware of the importance of the Silk Road Initiative for Kazakhstan and other countries concerned,

1. Welcomes the initiative of the UNWTO Secretary-General to name one of the Executive Directors for guiding the development of the Silk Road programme as a truly regional undertaking;
2. Encourages the Secretariat, based on the conclusions of the Silk Road meeting celebrated in the framework of this session of the Assembly, to set up two working groups in order to deal with barriers removal, visa facilitation, infrastructure development, marketing and promotional activities;
3. Invites the Secretary-General to report on progress made on the development and implementation of the aforementioned recommendations to its nineteenth session in 2011; and
4. Adopts the attached Astana Declaration;

.....

ANNEX**ASTANA DECLARATION**

Gathered in Astana (Kazakhstan), in a country that in past times was traversed by the ancient and legendary Silk Routes, the representatives of the countries participating in the eighteenth session of the General Assembly of the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO),

Making reference to the Statutes of the World Tourism Organization and to the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism, which underline the role of this activity as a factor of economic and social development, but also as a vehicle for peace, understanding, cultural enrichment, environmental preservation and dialogue among peoples,

Aware of the exceptional value and diversity of the tourism potential, both cultural and natural, of the countries that in the past were traversed by the ancient Silk Routes,

Underlining the importance of the initiative of the World Tourism Organization and of the United Nations system, which for fifteen years now has aimed to revive the ancient Silk Road as a supporting element of the tourism development of the immense region of Eurasia and the Middle East,

Recalling the commitment of 24 countries in favour of this initiative and calling upon the other members of the UNWTO that are interested to join it or to provide their support to it,

Recalling the declarations of Samarkand (1994), Khiva (1999) and Bukhara (2002), as well as the conclusions of the meetings organized by the UNWTO on the subject of the Silk Road in Xian (China) in 1996, Nara (Japan), Tehran (Iran) and Istanbul (Turkey) in 1997, Kyoto (Japan) and Almaty (Kazakhstan) in 1998, Beijing (China) in 2003, and once again in Almaty in 2008,

Underlining the growing interest of local authorities, and, in particular, of the representatives of the cultural and touristic cities situated along the Silk Road, as manifested by the Mayors' Forum held in Almaty in September 2008,

1. Welcome the success that the raising of the subject of the Silk Road has already met among operators of the tourism sector as well as among the media and the general public;
2. Underline the remarkable capacity for growth and for the sustainable development of products based on the cultural and ecological riches of the sites and attractions that lie all along the 12,000 kilometres of the ancient Routes;

A/RES/575(XVIII)

3. Draw the attention of governments to the obstacle posed to visitors who wish to discover these riches by the multiplicity of visas and administrative procedures that make it difficult to cross borders, and request the UNWTO Secretary-General to take all necessary initiatives in consultation with the pertinent administrations of countries concerned on this issue;
 4. Express their wish for the UNWTO to continue to support the promotional efforts aimed at enhancing the visibility and market access of the Silk Road destinations among the professionals of the countries that generate tourists who travel to these destinations;
 5. Lend their support to the initiatives of the municipal and local authorities, based on public-private partnership, aimed at building new tourism attractions themed on the Silk Road;
 6. Request the UNWTO Secretary-General a) to further increase the effectiveness of the means the Secretariat of the Organization applies in favour of the initiative, b) to strengthen the coordination among Member States and c) to revisit the cooperation agreement with the Support Office opened in Samarkand in 2004, with the assistance of Uzbekistan, in line with the current review process concerning all UNWTO external entities, and with a view to further supporting the Silk Road Initiative;
 7. Appeal to the United Nations agencies and programmes, in particular the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and UNESCO, which have shown interest in the initiative on various occasions, to lend it stronger support in conjunction with the UNWTO; and
 8. Decide to once again discuss this subject and to take stock of the progress made, on the occasion of the nineteenth session of the General Assembly of the World Tourism Organization in 2011.
-

A/RES/576(XVIII)

Approval of agreements concluded by the Organization

Agenda item 18
(documents A/18/18 and A/18/18 Add.1)

The General Assembly,

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary-General on the agreements and working arrangements concluded, in accordance with Article 12 of the Statutes, with governments and intergovernmental organizations, as well as with non-governmental organizations,

Decides to approve the following agreements:

- a) Administrative Agreement between the UNWTO and Spain
 - b) Administrative Agreement between the UNWTO and the Principality of Andorra
 - c) Memorandum of Understanding between the League of Arab States and the UNWTO
 - d) Memorandum of Understanding between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the UNWTO
 - e) Agreement between the UNWTO and the International Labour Organization
 - f) Memorandum of Understanding between the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and the UNWTO
 - g) Memorandum of Cooperation between the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the UNWTO
 - h) Memorandum of Understanding between the UNWTO and the Municipality of Madrid, Spain
 - i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Silesian Region (Poland) and the UNWTO
 - j) Specific Agreement between the UNWTO and the Madrid Tourism Board (City Council of Madrid, Spain)
 - k) Memorandum of Understanding between the State Company for Tourism Technology and Innovation Management (SEGITTUR) and the UNWTO
 - l) Memorandum of Understanding between the UNWTO and the World Centre of Excellence for Destinations (CED)
 - m) Memorandum of Understanding between the European Travel Commission and the UNWTO
 - n) Agreement between the Arab Tourism Organization and the UNWTO
 - o) Framework Collaboration Agreement between the UNWTO and Amadeus IT Group
 - p) Memorandum of Understanding between the UNWTO and the company Sol Meliá
 - q) Framework Agreement between the public universities of Madrid and the UNWTO
 - r) Framework Collaboration Agreement between the UNWTO and the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya
 - s) Framework Agreement between the UNWTO and the Universidad Argentina de la Empresa
-

A/RES/577(XVIII)

Activities of the World Committee on Tourism Ethics

Agenda item 19
(documents A/18/19 and A/18/19 Add.1)

The General Assembly,

Having taken cognizance of the report of the Secretary-General on this matter,

Having before it the preliminary outcome of the second survey on the implementation of the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism, carried out among UNWTO Members between September 2008 and May 2009,

Having been informed of the inauguration on 14 November 2008 in Rome, Italy, of the Permanent Secretariat of the World Committee on Tourism Ethics,

Pursuant to its resolution A/RES/532(XVII) through which it entrusted the Committee “with the formulation of an appropriate procedure for the two-phased renewal of its seats and the recommendation on the members to be replaced in 2011, for approval at the eighteenth session of the Assembly”,

Having before it the amended text of the Rules of Procedures approved by the World Committee on Tourism Ethics in June 2009,

1. Welcomes the election of Mr. Dawid de Villiers as Chairman of the World Committee on Tourism Ethics for a four-year term ending with the General Assembly of 2011;
2. Notes with appreciation the initiatives taken by the Committee to promote the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism and to advance its implementation by governments, the tourism industry and other stakeholders;
3. Thanks the Italian Government for the establishment of the Permanent Secretariat of the Committee and for the support provided for its operations, and recommends that the central task of the Permanent Secretariat should be to strengthen the promotion and dissemination of the Code of Ethics through the design and launch of an effective global awareness-raising campaign;

4. Notes with satisfaction the adoption of a new logo for the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism, which should facilitate the global strategic positioning of the Code of Ethics and enhance its visibility worldwide;
5. Expresses its disappointment with the low response to the recent Implementation Survey on the Code of Ethics and calls upon Member States, Affiliate Members and other stakeholders from the private sector and educational institutions to pursue and consolidate the implementation of the Code and to report back thereon to the World Committee on Tourism Ethics, so as to enable the latter to provide the General Assembly of the United Nations (at its 65th session of 2010) with a complete and up-to-date information on the specific actions and measures taken by governments and the tourism industry with a view to incorporating ethical and responsible policy and business practices into overall tourism activities;
6. Takes note of the amendments to the Rules of Procedure approved by the Committee at its eighth meeting in Costa Rica;
7. Requests the Committee to amend its Rules of Procedures at its next session, so that the Permanent Secretariat of the Committee attends *ex-officio* the meetings of the Committee and is associated in the preparation of the provisional agenda of its meetings,
8. Further welcomes the election by the members of the Committee of Ms Christel DeHaan as Vice-Chairperson of the Committee following the adoption of the revised Rules of Procedure;
9. Adopts the following amendment to resolution A/RES/438(XIV) -as amended by resolution A/RES/469 (XV)- which should enable the staggering of the renewal of the Committee to begin with an election process scheduled to take place throughout spring 2011:

“The members of the Committee and their alternates are re-elected by half every two years. During the session of the General Assembly in 2011, a total of eleven of the current members of the Committee will have their mandate extended for two more years; while the other eleven members or alternates will be elected for a full mandate of four years”.
10. Expresses its gratitude to the Governments of Italy and Costa Rica for having hosted the seventh and eighth meetings of the Committee, in Rome (November 2008) and San José (June 2009), respectively;

A/RES/577(XVIII)

11. Accepts with appreciation, on behalf of the Committee, the invitation of the Egyptian Government to host the ninth meeting of the World Committee on Tourism Ethics in Luxor in April 2010, and also thanks the Indonesian Government for its invitation to hold the tenth meeting of the Committee in Bali at the end of 2010 or the beginning of 2011; and

Aware of the fundamental importance of respecting and conforming to ethical principles in all human activities - including the tourism industry,

12. Thanks the Committee for its valuable contribution to this objective and encourages its members to continue their mission with determination and dedication.

.....

A/RES/578(XVIII)

Declaration on the facilitation of tourist travel

Agenda item 20
(document A/18/20)

The General Assembly,

Having taken cognizance of the report of the Secretary-General on this matter,

Having before it the Declaration on the facilitation of tourist travel approved by the Executive Council at its eighty-fifth session,

1. Approves the attached text of the Declaration;
2. Recognizes that the Declaration is of a purely recommendatory nature and has no binding force and is conscious that the facilitation of tourist travel is a continuous process, which should be under periodic review;
3. Requests the Secretary-General to disseminate the Declaration to countries, the media and other interested parties;

4. Entrusts the Secretary-General of UNWTO to:
 - (a) seek advice from the World Committee on Tourism Ethics to further examine ways to facilitate tourist travel;
 - (b) promote the principles set in the Declaration, including the use of modern information and communication technologies, in relation with travel advisories and visa facilitation;
 - (c) encourage all possibilities of organizing information exchanges, training sessions and other activities beneficial to all Member States and to provide them with technical assistance if they so require;
 - (d) advise UNWTO Member States to encourage all stakeholders in tourism to observe and follow the recommendations contained in this Declaration;
and
 - (e) report to its the next session on the follow up of the present Declaration.
5. Warmly thanks the members of the Working Group for the work they have accomplished and pays tribute to Ms. Blanka Belosevic for her performance as Chair of the Group on behalf of Croatia.

A/RES/578(XVIII)

ANNEX

DECLARATION ON THE FACILITATION OF TOURIST TRAVEL

The General Assembly of the World Tourism Organization,

Convinced that the facilitation of tourist travel contributes to the development of the tourism sector and, beyond that, to international understanding, peace, prosperity, and universal respect for and observance of human liberties, without distinction as to race, gender, language or religion, in accordance with the mission of the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO),

Considering that, despite the great strides made in recent decades in facilitating tourist travel, there is still room for considerable progress in this area in the interests of all stakeholders in tourism development,

Bearing in mind its earlier resolutions on the facilitation of tourism development, and in particular resolutions 139 (V), 180 (VI) and 243 (VIII), as well as the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism,

Concerned about the need to further facilitate tourist movements throughout the world,

DECLARES THE FOLLOWING:

1.1. Member States of UNWTO and all tourism stakeholders should take all possible measures to facilitate tourist travel.

1.2. To that end, they commit to consider all possible means to eliminate or reduce barriers to tourist travel of a legal, financial, or technical nature that are not strictly indispensable to maintain security, safety, health and public order.

1.3. Member States of UNWTO, undertake to give priority consideration to measures to facilitate tourist travel and to encourage all tourism stakeholders to do so, especially in the following areas:

- Travel advisories;
- Visa issuance modalities (with the exception of basic conditions for such issuance, which do not fall within the mandate of UNWTO);
- Tourist travel by persons with disabilities;
- Tourist travel by persons affected by the HIV virus.

2. Travel Advisories

2.1. *Aware* that travel advisories have an undeniable role to play in providing useful information to protect citizens when travelling abroad, the General Assembly also acknowledges that they can have serious consequences for tourism activity and the economies of countries and destinations.

2.2. The General Assembly therefore reaffirms the provisions of paragraph 5 of Article 6 of the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism:

“Governments have the right – and the duty - especially in a crisis, to inform their nationals of the difficult circumstances, or even the dangers they may encounter during their travels abroad; it is their responsibility however to issue such information without prejudicing in an unjustified or exaggerated manner the tourism industry of the host countries and the interests of their own operators; the contents of travel advisories should therefore be discussed beforehand with the authorities of the host countries and the professionals concerned; recommendations formulated should be strictly proportionate to the gravity of the situations encountered and confined to the geographical areas where the insecurity has arisen; such advisories should be qualified or cancelled as soon as a return to normality permits”.

2.3. UNWTO Member States issuing travel advisories in respect of third countries, are called upon to commit to consult as widely as possible with the governments of these countries and destinations, especially on the safety and security aspects of each tourist region in the country, and to update the relevant information at regular intervals, at least every six month.

2.4. The General Assembly also reaffirms the full validity of the guiding principles for official travel advisories attached to its resolution 508 (XVI), adopted during its session in Dakar, Senegal, (2005) and, in addition, calls upon Member States to consider other relevant recommendations issued by other competent organizations.

3. Visa issuance

3.1. The General Assembly reaffirms the sovereign right of States to control the access of foreign nationals to their territories—notably by means of visa policies, which they have the authority to determine freely, unilaterally, or in cooperation with other States. The General Assembly recognizes the discretionary authority of States in this regard, yet it considers that improving visa issuance modalities could help facilitate tourist travel significantly.

3.2. *Convinced* that tourist travel could be greatly facilitated by measures that can be implemented easily and without detriment to this discretionary authority, the General Assembly calls upon Member States, whenever possible and taking consideration of the respective legislation, to adopt measures to simplify visa application and processing formalities and to improve the timeliness of visa issuance,

A/RES/578(XVIII)

4. Persons with disabilities

4.1. *Deeply convinced* that the facilitation of tourist travel by persons with disabilities is a major element of any responsible tourism development policy.

4.2. *Bearing in mind* the Preamble of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities of 30 March 2007, which recognizes "the importance of mainstreaming disability issues as an integral part of relevant strategies of sustainable development", the General Assembly recalls that responsible tourism is a necessary component of such strategies and that great efforts should be made to ensure that tourism policies and practices are inclusive of persons with disabilities, the majority of whom live in developing countries.

4.3. The General Assembly furthermore solemnly reaffirms the principles it enunciated at its session in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in 1991 (A/RES/284(IX), entitled "Creating Tourism Opportunities for Handicapped People in the Nineties."), and which were updated at its session in Dakar, Senegal, (in resolution A/RES/492(XVI), entitled "Accessible Tourism for All") and again calls upon all States:

- to make their tourism sites and establishments accessible to persons with disabilities and to offer them special facilities at no additional charge to them;
- to offer special training to the staff of tourism sites and establishments and tourism-related services, preparing them for work with persons with disabilities; and
- to publish clear and detailed information on existing receptive facilities for persons with disabilities as well as the problems they may encounter during their tourist travel.

4.4. It also endorses the general principles enshrined in Article 3 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and invites all States to implement them. It also draws attention to the work which is being done by the Inter-Agency Support Group for the Convention.

4.5. It requests the Secretary-General of UNWTO:

- to consult with representative non-governmental organizations active in the area of assistance for persons with disabilities in order to determine more precisely what role UNWTO could play in this field and to communicate the results of these consultations to the Executive Council; and
- to arrange for the UNWTO to be represented at meetings of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities when it examines the provisions of the *Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities* relevant to the UNWTO's mandate.

5. Persons affected by the HIV virus

5.1. *Concerned* by the restrictions on tourist travel by persons affected by the HIV virus, the General Assembly decides to remain seized of the matter, taking into account the recommendations of the World Committee on Tourism Ethics.

6. Finally

6.1. While the present Declaration is of a purely recommendatory nature and has no binding force, the General Assembly is conscious that the facilitation of tourist travel is a continuous process, which should be under periodic review.

6.2. To this end, the General Assembly entrusts the Secretary-General of UNWTO to:

- (b) seek advice from the World Committee on Tourism Ethics to further examine ways to facilitate tourist travel;
- (b) promote the principles above, including the use of modern information and communication technologies, in relation with travel advisories and visa facilitation;
- (c) encourage all possibilities of organizing information exchanges, training sessions and other activities beneficial to all Member States and to provide them with technical assistance if they so require;
- (e) advise UNWTO Member States to encourage all stakeholders in tourism to observe and follow the recommendations contained in this Declaration;
and
- (e) report to its the next session on the follow up of the present Declaration.

.....

A/RES/579(XVIII)

**World Tourism Day:
information on the activities of 2008 and 2009,
adoption of themes and designation of the host countries
for 2010 and 2011**

Agenda item 21
(documents A/18/21)

The General Assembly,

Having taken cognizance of the report submitted by the Secretary-General on the observance of World Tourism Day in 2008 and 2009 and on the candidatures submitted by various States to host World Tourism Day in 2010 and 2011,

Having considered the themes proposed by the Secretary-General and taking into account those adopted for the international years declared under the aegis of the United Nations,

1. Conveys its deep gratitude to the Governments of Peru and Ghana for having organized impressive programmes on the occasion of World Tourism Day in 2008 and 2009 respectively, in their capacity as the host country of these events;
2. Decides to select the following themes for the next two editions of World Tourism Day:

2010 Tourism and biodiversity

2011 Tourism - linking cultures

Recalling its resolution 470(XV), whereby it adopted the principle of geographic rotation for the celebration of World Tourism Day,

3. Designates China and Yemen to host World Tourism Day in 2010 and 2011 respectively.
-

A/RES/580(XVIII)

Election of Council Members

Agenda item 22
(documents A/18/22 and A/18/22 Add.1)

The General Assembly,

Having regard to Articles 14 and 15 of the Statutes, rules 54 and 55 of its Rules of Procedure and rule 1 of the Executive Council's Rules of Procedure,

Having received the proposals of its Regional Commissions,

1. Declares the following Full Members elected as Members of the Executive Council for the 15 seats to be filled:

Argentina (2009-2013)	India (2009-2013)
Bulgaria (2009-2013)	Iran (2009-2013)
Burkina Faso (2009-2013)	Kenya (2009-2013)
Colombia (2009-2013)	Romania (2009-2013)
Costa Rica (2009-2011)/Jamaica (2011-2013)	Serbia (2009-2013)
Egypt (2009-2013)	South Africa (2009-2013)
Germany (2009-2013)	Zimbabwe (2009-2013)
Hungary (2009-2013)	

2. Notes that the Affiliate Members will be represented on the Council by their Chairman (THR –Asesores en Turismo, Hotelería y Recreación, S.A.), in the person of Mr. Eulogio Bordas until 2011.

A/RES/581(XVIII)

Place and dates of the nineteenth session of the General Assembly

Agenda item 23
(document A/18/23)

The General Assembly,

Having regard to Article 20 of the Statutes and paragraphs 2 and 3 of Rule 1 of its Rules of Procedure,

Having taken cognizance of the offer submitted by the Government of the Republic of Korea,

A/RES/581(XVIII)

1. Thanks this Government warmly for its invitation, and
 2. Takes note that its nineteenth session will be held in the Republic of Korea in 2011 on the dates to be agreed upon with the Government of that country.
-

A/RES/582(XVIII)

Tribute to Mr. Francesco Frangialli

The General Assembly,

Recalling the announcement by the then Secretary-General Francesco Frangialli at the eighty-third session of the Executive Council to relinquish his post before the end of his term of office,

Recognizing the personal and professional qualities and the great contributions that Mr Francesco Frangialli has made to the Organization and to world tourism over a long period of his life,

1. Pays him special tribute and thanks him for all his contributions, especially in areas such as sustainable tourism and ethics, statistics, tourism's contribution in favour of sustainable development and poverty alleviation and for having succeeded in transforming the Organization into a Specialized Agency of the United Nations; and
2. Approves the proposal made by the Russian Federation to bestow on him the title of Honorary Secretary-General of the Organization, in accordance with the terms shared by the General Assembly. ¹.

¹ Honorary titles may be granted by the World Tourism Organization as recognition to personalities who have made outstanding contributions to it and to the tourism industry. These titles are purely symbolic and do not entail the granting of responsibilities to the recipients of the title, nor any remuneration or cost to the Organization, and may not be used for commercial or personal benefit.

.....

A/RES/583(XVIII)

Vote of thanks to the host country

The General Assembly,

Noting with particular satisfaction the successful conclusion of its proceedings, made possible by the outstanding working conditions provided to the Organization by the Kazakh side,

1. Conveys its profound gratitude to H.E. Mr. Nursultan Nazarbayev, President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, for his personal contribution to international tourism development and to the success of the eighteenth session, the opening ceremony of which he honoured with his presence, as well as to the people of Kazakhstan;
2. Expresses its keen appreciation to the Government for the warm welcome it extended to all participants at its eighteenth session;
3. Appreciates the opportunity given to the delegations to discover Astana's jewels of contemporary architecture and the host country's millenary traditions;
4. Conveys its sincerest congratulations to H.E. Mr. Termirkhan Dosmukhambetov, Minister of Tourism and Sports, for the remarkable efficiency with which he presided over the work of its eighteenth session, and contributed to its success, and
5. Welcomes the initiative of the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan to declare the day 29 August as the International Day of a world free of nuclear weapons and fully supports it.

.....