



DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

AT ITS SEVENTY-EIGHTH SESSION

Quito, Ecuador, 27-28 June 2006

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3. DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL

CE/DEC/1(LXXVIII)

Adoption of the agenda

Agenda item 1
(documents CE/78/1 prov. and CE/78/1 prov. annot.)

The Executive Council,

Adopts the agenda of its seventy-eighth session as proposed.

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CE/DEC/2(LXXVIII)

Communication of the Chairman

Agenda item 2
(document CE/78/2)

The Executive Council,

Having heard the communication of its Chairman, H.E. Mr. Tijani Haddad, Minister of Tourism of Tunisia,

1. Thanks him for it;
2. Shares the views of its Chairman concerning the initiatives undertaken by the Secretariat in the areas of crisis management, travel advisories, poverty reduction through sustainable tourism, the role of communication in tourism and the Global Code of Ethics;
3. Takes note of the suggestions of its Chairman regarding the establishment of an information network among countries that would make it possible to systematically respond to crises affecting the tourism sector, as well as regarding the creation of a working group in charge of setting up a mechanism for bilateral or trilateral cooperation among countries;
4. Endorses his opinion regarding the values of understanding, tolerance and dialogue on which tourism should be based;

5. Warmly thanks Tunisia for the support this country provides to the Organization; and
 6. Also expresses its gratitude to the Vice-Chairmen (Ecuador and Portugal) for their valuable contribution to its work.
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CE/DEC/3(LXXVIII)

Report of the Secretary-General

Agenda item 3
(documents CE/78/3 and CE/78/3 Add.1)

The Executive Council,

Having heard the report presented by the Secretary-General and having discussed it,

1. Thanks the Secretary-General for his presentation structured around the three subjects of the situation of the tourism market, the evolution of the Organization, and the outlook for both of these for the next two years;
 2. Takes note with interest of the information contained in the report with regard to the analysis of the situation of tourism in the world, which is experiencing a positive trend and which is demonstrating its resilience in the face of new crises it has to deal with, in particular, the recent earthquake that affected the island of Java, for whose benefit a special effort will be carried out;
 3. Welcomes the success of the principal activities and major events that have marked the life of the UNWTO over the past several months;
 4. Notes with interest the significant advances made in the ST-EP initiative and the start of operations of the Foundation based in Seoul, as well as the reinforcement of the staff of certain services of the Secretariat;
 5. Encourages the Secretary-General to pursue his efforts with a view to expanding the composition of the Organization and in particular vis-à-vis the United States of America, in light of the new developments that have occurred with regard to this country; and
 6. Takes favourable note of the Secretary-General's intentions regarding the restructuring of the Secretariat and especially the creation shortly of two high-level posts in its management team, and notes that the forthcoming changes should enable the promotion of young officials and the admittance of new collaborators to the Secretariat with a view to the diversification of its composition.
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CE/DEC/4(LXXVIII)

Administrative, financial and statutory matters**(a) Report of the Committee on Budget and Finance**

Agenda item 4(a)
(documents CE/78/4(a))

The Executive Council,

Having examined the report of the Committee on Budget and Finance,

Recalling the recommendation made by the General Assembly at its sixteenth session, [A/RES/496(XVI)] that, depending on the evolution of the economic situation in Spain the Committee on Budget and Finance should study the possibility of reducing the budget for 2007 to bring it closer to zero growth in real terms,

Noting that the general consumer price index in Spain rose by 3.7 per cent in 2005, which is one percentage point above the annual inflation rate estimate (2.7 per cent) used in the preparation of the 2006-2007 budget,

Aware likewise that the forecasts for 2006 of the International Monetary Fund and the European Commission, in their April 2006 reports, estimate inflation at around 3.5% during the current year,

1. Recalls the principle of “zero growth” of the Organization’s budget in real terms;
 2. Considers realistic, in the present circumstances, the Secretary-General’s proposal not to modify the approved budget and to maintain the 2007 level at 12,517,000 euros;
 3. Adopts the above-mentioned amount; and
 4. Thanks the Chairman of the Committee on Budget and Finance (Argentina) and the Auditors (India and Spain) for their report and for the important work carried out.
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CE/DEC/5(LXXVIII)

Administrative, financial and statutory matters

**(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation
and plan of expenditure for 2006**

Agenda item 4(b)
(documents CE/78/4(b), CE/78/4(b) Add. 1 and CE/78/4(a))

The Executive Council,

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

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

1. Takes note of the report on the plan of expenditure for execution of the programme of work in 2006, in accordance with the expected level of income, and the measures taken by the Secretary-General in financial and personnel matters to maintain prudent management and make expenditures proportional to the income actually received during the year in progress;
2. Approves the preparation of an expenditure forecast for the current financial year up to a limit of 85 per cent of approved credits, so as to maintain the necessary budgetary equilibrium, in accordance with the recommendation made by the General Assembly in resolution 496(XVI);
3. Urges Members that have not yet complied with their financial obligations to take the necessary steps to pay their contributions for 2006, thereby averting delays that could hamper programme execution; and
4. Thanks the Chairman of the Committee on Budget and Finance (Argentina) and the Auditors (India and Spain) for the important work carried out.

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CE/DEC/6(LXXVIII)

Administrative, financial and statutory matters**(c) Auditors' report and administrative accounts of the Organization
for the financial year 2005**

Agenda item 4(c)
(documents CE/78/4(c) and CE/78/4(a))

The Executive Council,

Having before it the Auditors' report and administrative accounts of the Organization for the financial year 2005,

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

1. Notes that in the financial year 2005 the level of budgetary expenditure, namely 11,274,701.40 euros, was maintained within the limit of approved appropriations;
 2. Notes that a budget surplus in 2005 (523,429.86 euros) was recorded after constituting, in accordance with resolution 498(XVI) of the General Assembly, a series of provisions totalling 600,000 euros;
 3. Observes that the record level of budgetary income received in 2005 made it possible to execute 98.57 per cent of the revised budget;
 4. Approves the transfers of appropriations made with the prior authorization of the Chairman of the Committee on Budget and Finance (Argentina) and the Chairman of the Executive Council (Tunisia), in accordance with Financial Regulation 5(3)(a) and Detailed Financial Provision 3.07;
 5. Recommends the Secretary-General to pursue in 2006 his approaches to Members that owe contributions to the Organization in order to secure their payment; and
 6. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the General Assembly, with the favourable opinion of the Council, the administrative accounts for the financial year 2005.
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CE/DEC/7(LXXVIII)

Administrative, financial and statutory matters

**(d) Application of the provisions of Article 34 of the Statutes
and of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes**

Agenda item 4(d)
(documents CE/78/4(d), CE/78/4(d) Add. 1 and CE/78/4(a))

The Executive Council,

Observing that the provisions of Article 34 of the Statutes and/or paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes are applied to twenty-eight Full Members, one Associate Member and forty-seven Affiliate Members,

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

1. Applauds the Members that have made the necessary efforts in order to fulfil their financial obligations despite their internal constraints;
2. Notes that the Full Member Central African Republic has settled its contribution arrears, as well as the Full Members Armenia, Lebanon, and Pakistan who have paid part of their contribution arrears and therefore are no longer liable to the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules, and welcomes the meritorious efforts thus undertaken by these countries;
3. Also notes that the Full Member Burkina Faso is no longer liable to the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules since it has submitted a plan for the payment of its arrears;
4. Notes with satisfaction that the Full Members Costa Rica, El Salvador, and Mongolia have respected their agreed payment plans up to 2006;
5. Notes that the Full Members Georgia and Yemen have partially respected their agreed payment plans up to 2006;
6. Notes that according to Resolution A/RES/483(XVI) the Full Members Bolivia, Democratic Republic of the Congo and Sudan are again under the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules since they were not up to date in their payment plans by 1st April 2006;
7. Requests the Secretary-General to remind Members that have not yet fulfilled their agreed plans or have done so only partially that temporary exemption from the aforementioned provisions is subject to their full observance of those plans;

Having regard to Resolution 483(XVI) adopted by the General Assembly,

Having taken note of the communication presented by the Iraqi Delegation,

8. Expresses its solidarity with the people of Iraq and its understanding of the special circumstances that are at the origin of the non-payment of Iraq's accumulated arrears during the last period, attributed by the Head of the Iraqi Delegation to continuous and ongoing terrorism against the people of Iraq;
9. Agrees that Iraq and the Secretariat shall establish a Working Group to undertake, in conjunction with the United Nations, an examination of Iraq's assessed contributions for the period 1985 to 2006 in order to detect eventual miscalculation of Iraq's notified contributions and reach a mutual agreement on this matter;
10. Notes that Iraq will pay its contribution to UNWTO for 2006;
11. Authorizes Iraq and the Secretariat to start negotiations on payment arrangements for Iraq's arrears which will include a grace period to be agreed upon between Iraq and the Secretariat and submitted to the Council for approval;

Having considered the request dated 29 May 2006 submitted by the Minister of Tourism, Hotels and Handicrafts of the Republic of Guinea concerning that country's arrears,

12. Agrees to grant Guinea until 1 December 2006 to fulfil its payment plan while benefiting from exemption from the provisions of paragraph 13,

Recalling the willingness expressed by Cambodia, Mauritania and Sierra Leone to settle their contribution arrears,

13. Urges these countries to submit payment plans for consideration of its seventy-ninth session
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CE/DEC/8(LXXVIII)

New membership

Agenda item 5
(documents CE/78/5, CE/78/5 Add.1 and CE/78/5 Add.2)

The Executive Council,

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

1. Notes that the Republic of Serbia (short name, **Serbia**) is the continuator State of the former State Union of Serbia and Montenegro within the United Nations system and thus remains a Member of the UNWTO, and under this name effective 9 June 2006;
 2. Welcomes with satisfaction the candidature of **Montenegro** and warmly recommends the General Assembly to approve it at its next session scheduled for November 2007;
 3. Decides that, pending Montenegro's admission by the Assembly, this State should be invited to participate in the Organization's activities and entrusts the Secretary-General with defining the modalities of this participation with the authorities of Montenegro;
 4. Notes the interest expressed by **Brunei Darussalam, Tajikistan, Trinidad and Tobago**, the **Union of the Comoros**, and **Vanuatu** in joining the Organization and entrusts the Secretary-General with taking the necessary steps with a view to their membership;
 5. Takes note with satisfaction that **Burundi** has ruled out withdrawing from the Organization and has decided to submit a payment plan for the settlement of its arrears; and
 6. Requests the Secretary-General to report on the actions of Burundi on this matter, so that it may be able to approve the aforementioned payment plan, in accordance with the mandate it received from the Assembly.
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CE/DEC/9(LXXVIII)

Cooperation with the United Nations system**(a) Participation in the system's coordination and mechanisms**

Agenda item 6(a)
(document CE/78/6(a))

The Executive Council,

Having taken cognizance of document CE/78/6(a),

1. Notes with satisfaction the regular participation of the UNWTO in the different coordination mechanisms of the United Nations system, particularly in the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB), the High Level Committee on Programmes (HLCP), the High Level Committee on Management (HLCM), the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC), the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) and the meeting of the Legal Advisers of the United Nations system;
 2. Congratulates the Secretary-General on the success of the meeting of the United Nations Chief Executives Board, which was held in April in Madrid, and pays special tribute to the Spanish Government for the generous hospitality and notable support it provided to this event, which made it possible to increase the visibility of the Institution;
 3. Expresses its appreciation, in particular, at the adoption by the CEB of the UNTEN network, aimed at improving coordination between United Nations agencies and programmes involved in the field of tourism and increasing the coherence of their efforts; and
 4. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to report to it, at its forthcoming sessions, on the participation of the Organization in the system's coordination mechanisms.
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CE/DEC/10(LXXVIII)

Cooperation with the United Nations system

(b) Acceptance of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies

Agenda item 6(b)
(document CE/78/6(b))

The Executive Council,

Having before it the document prepared on this subject, which contains that note of the United Nations Secretary-General to the Economic and Social Council with view to the acceptance of the draft annex to the Convention relative to the World Tourism Organization,

1. Takes note that the Economic and Social Council will not consider the draft annex until its substantive session scheduled for July 2006;
 2. Recalls that this acceptance does not undermine the regime of privileges and immunities provided for in the agreements already concluded between the Organization and Spain; and
 3. Requests the Secretary-General to report to it regarding the completion of these formalities at its next session.
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CE/DEC/11(LXXVIII)

Cooperation with the United Nations system

(c) Joint Headquarters Committee

Agenda item 6(c)
(document CE/78/6(c)) Rev.

The Executive Council,

Having been informed of the developments that have occurred regarding this matter since the last session of the Assembly,

Having likewise heard the Spanish delegation regarding this subject,

1. Welcomes the effective setting up of the Headquarters Committee, which has approved its Rules of Procedure and established its composition;

2. Takes note of the different subjects discussed at the meetings that were held between the representatives of the Spanish Government and those of the Secretariat, in particular regarding the management and security of the headquarters building and the status of UNWTO officials in Spain; and
 3. Requests the Secretary-General to keep it informed of the outcomes of the forthcoming meetings of the Headquarters Committee.
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CE/DEC/12(LXXVIII)

General programme of work

(a) Report on the implementation of the general programme of work for the period 2006-2007 and on its evaluation

Agenda item 7(a)
(document CE/78/7(a))

The Executive Council,

Having considered the report on the implementation and evaluation of the Organization's general programme of work for the period 2006-2007, as submitted to the Programme Committee at its thirtieth meeting on 15 and 16 May 2006,

1. Notes with satisfaction the considerable number of activities under way in the various programme sections;
 2. Recalls that all the activities included in the 2006-2007 general programme of work will be evaluated on the basis of the requisite performance indicators already approved by the General Assembly, within the framework of Agenda 2010; and
 3. Agrees that, so far as practicable, the Secretary-General should emphasize in implementing the programme of work those activities prioritized by the Members in their responses to the questionnaire-survey on the programme of work circulated by the Secretariat in March 2006.
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CE/DEC/13(LXXVIII)

General programme of work

(b) Preparation of the general programme of work for the period 2008-2009

Agenda item 7(b)
(document CE/78/7(b))

The Executive Council,

Having considered the information on the procedure for the preparation of the general programme of work for 2008-2009, submitted by the Secretary-General, as well as the preliminary recommendations formulated by the Programme Committee, at its thirtieth meeting (Madrid, 15-16 May 2006), regarding programming principles and strategic priorities,

1. Notes that the Programme Committee will further consider this subject at its thirty-first meeting, scheduled for the end of October 2006, in the light of the response received to the questionnaire-survey on the programme of work and inputs to be provided by the Regional Commissions, the Strategic Group and the Business, Education and Destination Councils of the Affiliate Members;
 2. Recalls that the Programme Committee will also bear in mind the key strategic issues highlighted in the Secretary-General's "White Paper" and "Agenda 2010" submitted to the General Assembly at its sixteenth session; and
 3. Entrusts the Secretary-General with taking all these inputs into account in preparing guidelines for the general programme of work of the Organization for the period 2008-2009, for submission to the Executive Council's seventy-ninth session.
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CE/DEC/14(LXXVIII)

Working group on risk assessment and crisis preparation and management**Proposed UNWTO risk assessment and management
action plan and budget**Agenda item 8
(document CE/78/8)

The Executive Council,

Basing itself on resolution 498(XVI) of the General Assembly whereby it decided to give priority to the issue of risk assessment and crisis preparation and management, and to create a Working Group on this subject,

Recalling the authorization given by the Assembly to allocate, as an exceptional measure, a provision of 250,000 euros for this purpose, which is to be utilized only with the prior authorization of the Council and after the definition of the modalities of its use,

Having taken cognizance of the report prepared by the Secretary-General on the implementation of this resolution,

1. Thanks France, Chairman of the Working Group, for the logistical support provided to the work of this Group;
2. Approves the proposed action plan on risk assessment and management for the period 2006-2007, as adopted by the Working Group, at the proposal of the Secretary-General;
3. Authorizes the Secretary-General to utilize for the implementation of the action plan the provisional allocation constituted by the General Assembly and considers that the continuation of this action, as of the 2008-2009 budgetary period, should be reflected in the normal expenditure authorizations, without resulting in an increase in the overall level of the budget;
4. Encourages the Secretary-General to seek external private partnerships to complement the resources allocated by the Organization for risk prevention and crisis management;
5. Welcomes the actions undertaken under the aegis of the Working Group, in order to prepare the tourism industry for the eventuality of a flu pandemic, notably, the joining of the UNWTO to the UN System Influenza Coordination (UNSIC), the establishment of a regular liaison with the WHO and the strengthening of links with ICAO as well as with the other principal organizations of the air transport sub-sector, the launch of the Tourism Emergency Response Network (TERN) and the creation of a website and portal on avian flu;

6. Requests the Secretary-General and the Working Group to submit to it a background study on this subject, explicitly specifying the reasons that would justify the creation of a permanent Committee on this subject, in view of the role that the UNWTO could assume in the area of risk assessment and management, and of the competences belonging to other international institutions concerned;
 7. Decides to postpone the decision on the proposal to convert the Working Group into a subsidiary organ of the Council, in order to allow an in-depth consideration of this subject; and
 8. Decides further to include the matter in the agenda of its next session.
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CE/DEC/15(LXXVIII)

World Committee on Tourism Ethics

Agenda item 9
(document CE/78/9)

The Executive Council,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the fourth meeting of the World Committee on Tourism Ethics,

1. Notes with satisfaction the positive nature of the latest developments in the implementation of the Global Code of Ethics, as indicated in the report submitted to the United Nations General Assembly in November 2005;
 2. Receives favourably the appointment of the Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Diego Cordovez, to sit on the Board of Directors of the ST-EP Foundation; and
 3. Takes note that the next meeting of the Committee will be held in Funchal, at the formal invitation of the Regional Secretary for Tourism and Culture of Madeira (Portugal).
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CE/DEC/16(LXXVIII)

ST-EP Initiative**The work of UNWTO in connection with the Sustainable Tourism - Eliminating Poverty initiative**

Agenda item 10

(document CE/78/10)

The Executive Council,

Having taken cognizance of the report of the Secretary-General concerning the activities carried out within the framework of the poverty reduction programme,

Recalling resolution 471(XV) of the General Assembly whereby it gave its approval to the principle of the establishment of the ST-EP Foundation, as well as resolution 503(XVI) whereby it approved its Constitution and its establishment in Seoul, Republic of Korea,

1. Observes with satisfaction the advances already made in this area and takes note that the Constitution of the Foundation provides for the designation of a President and a Director-General, as well as the creation of a Council of Governors and a Board of Directors to take charge of its operations;
2. Approves the composition of the Board of Directors and takes note of the appointment of Mr. Jun Young Jae as Director-General of the Foundation, upon a proposal by the Government of the Republic of Korea and in accordance with the Foundation's Constitution;
3. Welcomes the decision of the Directors to select Ambassador Dho Young-shim as the Chairperson of the Board of Directors;
4. Entrusts the Secretary-General and the Board of Directors with continuing their contacts with the Members for the designation of the Council of Governors and the President of the Foundation;
5. Welcomes with satisfaction the adoption by the Board of Directors of guidelines for the evaluation, approval and implementation of projects with a view to ensuring the transparency and objectivity of these operations;
6. Welcomes the selection by the Board of Directors of five projects to be implemented in 2006;
7. Welcomes the activities carried out by the Secretariat in support of the ST-EP Foundation and the results obtained in the area of poverty reduction through sustainable development, in particular, through:

- (a) missions for the identification of ST-EP projects;
 - (b) research activities, technical publications and seminars, and capacity-building seminars;
 - (c) the dissemination of information and the search for additional funding sources for the ST-EP initiative;
8. Appreciates the activities carried out by the Secretariat for the implementation of ST-EP projects; and
 9. Encourages the consolidation of all UNWTO and other related activities in the field of sustainable development of tourism into the ST-EP initiative, so as to improve efficiency and coordination with respect to human resources, finances and promotion.

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CE/DEC/17(LXXVIII)

Affiliate Members

(a) Report of the Chairman

Agenda item 11(a)
(document CE/78/11(a))

The Executive Council,

Having taken cognizance of the Report of the Chairman of the UNWTO Affiliate Members,

1. Thanks the Chairman for his presentation;
2. Expresses its satisfaction over the implementation of a new structure of the Secretariat of the Affiliate Members, which will strengthen the role of this category of Members in the Organization and will consolidate the cooperation and support received internally by the units of the Organization directly related with its mission;
3. Welcomes the establishment of the Destination Council, which along with the two Councils that already exist, the Education and the Business Councils, makes it possible to accommodate all the Affiliate Members of the Organization;
4. Applauds the commitment on the part of these three Councils to work in a coordinated manner and in collaboration with the other departments of the Organization, with a view to offering better quality of service and making a greater impact;

5. Notes that the General Meeting of the Affiliate Members, which will gather together all three Councils, will be held on 30 November and 1 December in Porto Alegre, Brazil, in the context of the World Tourism Forum organized by this country;
 6. Takes note of the decision of the Affiliate Members to hold, in this same spirit, in 2007 in Italy, a major event common to all Affiliate Members on a subject of general interest;
 7. Observes with satisfaction the activities already implemented and those scheduled for 2006 and 2007;
 8. Agrees with the fact that there is a need to continue studying the possibility of providing access for Affiliate Members to the WTOelibrary under the most favourable conditions possible, in light of the added value this would represent for affiliate membership; and
 9. Congratulates and encourages the Secretariat in its efforts aimed at attracting new members, as well as in the design and implementation of a strategy that will make it possible to increase the quality of the Affiliate Members and contribute to enriching their role in the activities and projects of the Organization.
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CE/DEC/18(LXXVIII)

Affiliate Members

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

Agenda item 11 b)
(document CE/78/11 (b))

The Executive Council,

Having taken cognizance of the report of its Sub-Committee for the review of applications for affiliate membership, which met on 13 June 2005, under the chairmanship of Spain,

1. Endorses the recommendations of the Sub-Committee; and
2. Decides to submit to the sixteenth session of the General Assembly the following candidates for affiliate membership:

1. ARAB TOURISM ORGANIZATION (Saudi Arabia)
2. BUSINESS ARCHITECTS CONSULTANCY, S.A. (Greece)
3. CALIFORNIA UNIVERISTY OF PENNSYLVANIA (United States of America)
4. CHARISMA PUBLIC RELATIONS (United Kingdom)
5. CONFEDERACION NACIONAL TURÍSTICA, A.C. (Mexico)
6. ENCIRCA, INC. (United States of America)
7. EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF THE ASSOCIATIONS OF PROFESSIONAL CONGRESS ORGANISERS (EFAPCO) (Spain)
8. FUNDACIÓN TURISMO VALENCIA (Spain)
9. HOHOE DISTRICT ASSEMBLY (HDA) (Ghana)
10. SEBRAE BRASIL (Brazil)

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CE/DEC/19(LXXVIII)

Place and dates of the seventy-ninth session of the Council

Agenda item 12

(documents CE/78/12, CE/78/12 Add.1, CE/78/12 Add.2, CE/78/12 Add.3 and CE/78/12 Add. 4)

The Executive Council,

Having been informed of the note verbale of Spain on the procedure relative to the holding of the sessions of the Executive Council,

Having taken note of the offers by Tunisia, which holds its chairmanship, and by Algeria to host its next session,

1. Expresses its gratitude to Tunisia for the generosity and spirit of solidarity it showed in agreeing to defer its candidature;
2. Decides to accept the generous offer of Algeria and to hold its seventy-ninth session in that country accompanied by a seminar on a subject to be determined;
3. Takes note of the position of Spain and of the candidatures of Croatia, Ethiopia, Iran, Nigeria and of Tunisia for future sessions;
4. Decides to include at its next session an agenda item on the conditions for invitations to host and for the holding of Council sessions;

5. Further decides that in future, all candidatures must be accompanied by an official invitation from the highest national authority in charge of tourism;
 6. Requests the candidate States to attach to the letter of invitation the list of requirements sent by the Secretariat, duly signed and accepted; and
 7. Entrusts the Secretary-General with setting the dates of its next session in consultation with the Algerian Government.
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CE/DEC/20(LXXVIII)

Vote of thanks to the host country

The Executive Council,

Having successfully carried out the proceedings of its seventy-eighth session in the favourable conditions placed at its disposal by the host country of the session,

1. Expresses its most sincere gratitude to the Government of Ecuador for this new manifestation of support to the UNWTO and to its Members;
 2. Feels honoured by the presence of H.E. Mr. Alejandro Serrano Aguilar, Constitutional Vice President of the Republic of Ecuador and of General Paco Moncayo, Mayor of the city of Quito, at the opening of the session; and
 3. Warmly thanks H.E. Mrs. María Isabel Salvador Crespo, Minister of Tourism, H. E. Mr. Iván López Villalba, Undersecretary of Tourism, and all of their colleagues, and conveys the gratitude of the Members who were able to enjoy the hospitality of the Ecuadorian people who welcomed them in the historic city of Quito.
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4. LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

The seventy-eighth session of the Executive Council was attended by:

- (1) delegates of the following Members of the Council: Algeria, Argentina, Botswana, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Germany, Guinea, Hungary, Indonesia, Iran, Italy, Kenya, Lebanon, Mali, Nigeria, Peru, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, San Marino, Senegal, Spain, Tunisia, and Turkey;
- (2) the Chairman of the Regional Commission for Africa (Nigeria);
- (3) the Chairman of the Regional Commission for the Americas (Brazil);
- (4) the Chairman of the Regional Commission for East Asia and the Pacific (China);
- (5) the Permanent Observer to UNWTO (Holy See);
- (6) the representative of the Affiliate Members (Cendant Vacation Network Group (CVNG));
- (7) the representatives of the following WTO Member States: Colombia, France, Dominican Republic, Honduras, Iraq, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Paraguay and Serbia, as observers, and
- (8) the Chairman of the Committee on Budget and Finance (Argentina).

