



General Assembly

Twenty-second session

Chengdu, China, 11-16 September 2017

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS TWENTY-SECOND SESSION

Chengdu, China, 11-16 September 2017

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2017
INTERNATIONAL YEAR
OF SUSTAINABLE TOURISM
FOR DEVELOPMENT



General Assembly

Twenty-second session

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A/RES/674(XXII)

Adoption of the agenda

Agenda item 1
(documents A/22/1 prov. rev.1 and A/22/1 prov.annot.)

The General Assembly,

Having considered the provisional agenda prepared by the Secretariat,

Having heard the request by the President, Colombia, to change the order of the sub-items (a) and (b) under item 8,

Having also considered the request from Mauritius to modify the titles of items 5 and 16,

Decides to adopt the agenda of its twenty-second session, with the requested change of order under item 8 and with the title of item 16 as follows:

- Item 16: Consideration, approval or adoption of the UNWTO Framework Convention on Tourism Ethics.

* * *

General Assembly

Twenty-second session

Chengdu, China, 11-16 September 2017

A/RES/675(XXII)

Election of the President and Vice-Presidents of the Assembly

Agenda item 2

The General Assembly

1. *Declares elected* the People's Republic of China as President of its twenty-second session, represented by His Excellency, Mr. Li Jinzao, Chairman of the National Tourism Administration of China; and

2. *Declares elected as Vice-Presidents* of its twenty-second session:

Africa:

- (a) Cabo Verde
- (b) Nigeria

Americas:

- (c) Colombia
- (d) Mexico

Europe:

- (e) Romania
- (f) Switzerland

Middle East:

- (g) Iraq

South Asia:

- (h) Sri Lanka

* * *

General Assembly

Twenty-second session
Chengdu, China, 11-16 September 2017

A/RES/676(XXII)

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,

Noting that the members of the Credentials Committee were selected by the Regional Commissions, at the request of the Assembly,

1. *Takes note* that the following 9 countries have been appointed:

Africa

- (a) Cote d'Ivoire
- (b) Ghana

Americas

- (c) Chile
- (d) Panama

Asia and Pacific

- (e) Malaysia

Europe

- (f) Cyprus
- (g) Portugal

Middle East

- (h) Bahrain

South Asia

- (i) Iran

and;

2. *Notes* that the Credentials Committee appointed as its Chair, Ghana, and as its Vice-Chair, Cyprus.

* * *

General Assembly

Twenty-second session
Chengdu, China, 11-16 September 2017

A/RES/677(XXII)

Statement by the Secretary-General

Agenda item 4
(document A/22/4)

The General Assembly,

Having heard the statement by the Secretary-General,

1. *Thanks* the Secretary-General for his detailed report on the trends, challenges and opportunities facing the tourism sector;
2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his strong commitment to the UNWTO during his eight years of service in the post; and
3. *Endorses* the Chengdu Declaration on 'Tourism and the Sustainable Development Goals' committing to advance the contribution of tourism to all 17 SDGs.

* * *

General Assembly

Twenty-second session

Chengdu, China, 11-16 September 2017

A/RES/678(XXII)

Approval of the Guidelines for the adoption of the draft UNWTO Framework Convention on Tourism Ethics and appointment of an ad hoc committee for the preparation of the final draft

Agenda item 5
(document A/22/5 rev.1)

The General Assembly,

Having examined the Guidelines for the adoption of the draft UNWTO Framework Convention on Tourism Ethics,

1. *Approves* the Guidelines for the adoption of the Framework Convention on Tourism Ethics;
2. *Endorses* the proposal of the Regional Commissions for the composition of the ad hoc committee, noting that it ensures the necessary geographical balance;
3. *Establishes* an ad hoc committee to review and prepare the final text of the Convention composed of the following:

Africa

- (a) Congo
- (b) Mauritius

Americas

- (c) Argentina
- (d) Panama

Asia and Pacific

- (e) China
- (f) Indonesia
- (g) Philippines
- (h) Samoa
- (i) Macao, China

Europe

- (j) Armenia
- (k) Azerbaijan
- (l) Portugal

- (m) Russian Federation
- (n) Turkey

Middle East

- (o) Egypt
- (p) Saudi Arabia

South Asia

- (q) Bangladesh
- (r) Bhutan
- (s) Sri Lanka;

4. *Notes* that the following Members also joined the Ad Hoc Committee in its discussions: Cyprus, Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Japan; and

5. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Committee to present a final text for consideration by the General Assembly during its 4th plenary session.

* * *



General Assembly

Twenty-second session
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A/RES/679(XXII)

Report of the Executive Council to the General Assembly

Agenda item 6
(document A/22/6)

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Executive Council, submitted by its current Chair pursuant to Articles 19 and 20 of the Statutes,

1. *Takes note* of the information presented concerning the Council's activities, and in particular the results of its 102nd, 103rd, 104th and 105th ordinary sessions;
2. *Takes cognizance* of the major matters considered by the Council, such as the implementation of the programme of work for 2016-2017, the financial situation of the Organization, and the draft programme of work for 2018-2019;
3. *Notes* the Council's recommendation to the General Assembly of the nominee Mr. Zurab Pololikashvili to the post of Secretary-General for the period 2018-2021;
4. *Thanks* the Council for the work it has diligently carried out since the last session of the Assembly;
5. *Approves* the report of the Council;
6. *Pays tribute* to the dedication and competence demonstrated by its Chairs, Egypt in 2016, and Azerbaijan in 2017; and
7. *Also thanks* the Vice-Chairs, Croatia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo in 2016, and Zambia and Serbia in 2017, for the quality of the work they carried out in the exercise of their functions.

* * *



General Assembly

Twenty-second session

Chengdu, China, 11-16 September 2017

A/RES/680(XXII)

Report of the Credentials Committee

Agenda item 7
(document A/22/7)

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report submitted by the Credentials Committee, chaired by Ghana,

1. *Approves* the said report; and
2. *Instructs* the UNWTO Secretariat to follow up with those Full Members which have not yet submitted the originals of their credentials so that they duly forward them to the UNWTO Secretariat at their earliest convenience, in accordance with the applicable rules.

* * *



General Assembly

Twenty-second session

Chengdu, China, 11-16 September 2017

A/RES/681(XXII)

Membership of the Organization

(a) Membership status

Agenda item 8(a)

(documents A/22/8(a)(I) rev.1 and A/22/8(a)(II) rev.1)

The General Assembly,

Having taken cognizance of the applications for full membership received by the Secretary-General, listed in document A/22/8(a)(I) rev.1,

1. *Approves* the candidatures of the Union of the Comoros and the Federal Republic of Somalia and welcomes them as new Full Members of the Organization;
2. *Also approves* the suggestion of the Secretary-General to defer the application of the State of Palestine to the 23rd session of the General Assembly;
3. *Takes note with regret* of Australia's withdrawal;
4. *Calls upon* the member countries of the United Nations that do not yet belong to the UNWTO to join the Organization and encourages the Secretary-General to continue his efforts in this regard;

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

5. *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. ACEB CITIES HEIRS OF BYZANTIUM ASSOCIATION (ITALY)
2. AGENCY PAN-UKRAINE LTD (UKRAINE)
3. AIRBNB (UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
4. ALL NIPPON AIRWAYS CO., LTD (JAPAN)
5. ANVR (THE NETHERLANDS)
6. ASOCIACIÓN EMPRESARIAL HOTELERA DE MADRID (SPAIN)
7. ASOCIACIÓN ESPAÑOLA DE ENOTURISMO (AEE) (SPAIN)

8. ASOCIACIÓN EUROPEA PARA EL DESARROLLO DE LA CULTURA GASTRONÓMICA (SPAIN)
9. ASSOCIAÇÃO DOS HOTÉIS E RESORTS DE ANGOLA – AHRA (ANGOLA)
10. BETTERFLY TOURISM (FRANCE)
11. BILBAO EKINTZA (SPAIN)
12. CÁMARA DE COMERCIO DE BOGOTÁ (COLOMBIA)
13. CATALYST GROUP INTERNATIONAL (ISRAEL)
14. CCRA INTERNATIONAL, INC (UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
15. CHEMONICS INTERNATIONAL INC. (UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
16. CHINESE FRIENDLY INTERNATIONAL S.L (SPAIN)
17. CITY UNIVERSITY OF MACAU (CHINA)
18. CLUSTER MONTAGNE (FRANCE)
19. CNN INTERNATIONAL (UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
20. COHU EXPERIENCE (FINLAND)
21. COLLEGE OF TOURISM, RIKKYO UNIVERSITY (JAPAN)
22. COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY (UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
23. COMITE REGIONAL DU TOURISME DE NOUVELLE-AQUITAINE (FRANCE)
24. CONFEDERACION PANAMERICANA DE ESCUELAS DE HOTELERIA Y TURISMO AC (CONPEHT) (MEXICO)
25. CONSORCIO TURISMO DE SEVILLA (SPAIN)
26. CORK FOREST CONSERVATION ALLIANCE (CFCA) (UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
27. DESARROLLO E INVESTIGACIONES TURISTICA, S.L. – GLOBALDIT (SPAIN)
28. DIENER GUIRARD ARCHITECTURE (FRANCE)
29. EARTH TV NETWORK GMBH (GERMANY)
30. ÉCOLE SUPERIEURE D’HOTELLERIE D’ALGER (ALGERIA)
31. EMPRESA MUNICIPAL DE INICIATIVAS Y ACTIVIDADES DE MÁLAGA, S.A. – PROMÁLAGA (SPAIN)
32. ENTE DE TURISMO DE LA CIUDAD DE BUENOS AIRES (ARGENTINA)
33. ENTE PARCO NAZIONALE DELLA SILA (ITALY)
34. ERNST & YOUNG LLP (UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
35. ESTUDIS D’HOTELERIA I TURISME (CETT), S.A. (SPAIN)
36. EURHODIP (BELGIUM)
37. FACHHOCHSCHULE WESTKUSTE (FWW) - HOCHSCHULE FÜR WIRTSCHAFT UND TECHNIK (WEST COAST UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES) (GERMANY)
38. FACULTAD DE COMERCIO Y TURISMO - UNIVERSIDAD COMPLUTENSE DE MADRID (SPAIN)
39. FACULTAD DE TURISMO DE LA UNIVERSIDAD DE MÁLAGA (SPAIN)

40. FACULTAD DE TURISMO Y GASTRONOMIA DE LA UNIVERSIDAD AUTONOMA DEL ESTADO DE MEXICO
41. FUNDACION EOI (SPAIN)
42. FUNDACIÓN IMPULSA CASTILLA LA MANCHA (SPAIN)
43. FUNDACIÓN ONCE PARA LA COOPERACIÓN E INCLUSIÓN SOCIAL DE PERSONAS CON DISCAPACIDAD (SPAIN)
44. GOLDCAR (SPAIN)
45. GRUPO MENUS (WEB MENUS SL) (SPAIN)
46. GUANGDONG CHIMELONG GROUP CO., LTD (CHINA)
47. GURUNAVI, INC. (JAPAN)
48. HUTTOPIA (FRANCE)
49. IGDS - INTERCONTINENTAL GROUP OF DEPARTMENT STORES (SWITZERLAND)
50. INSTITUTO DE FOMENTO TURÍSTICO (INFOTUR) (ANGOLA)
51. INSTITUTO DE TURISMO DE LA REGION DE MURCIA
52. INSTITUTO MEDIO DE GESTAO, HOTELARIA E TURISMO - FRANCISCO DOS SANTOS (IMGHT-FS) (ANGOLA)
53. INTERNATIONAL SUSTAINABLE TOURISM INITIATIVE, CENTER FOR HEALTH AND THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT - HARVARD T.H. CHAN SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH (UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
54. ITTIC (IRAN TOURING & TOURISM INVESTMENT COMPANY) (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN)
55. JAPAN FEDERATION OF SERVICE & TOURISM INDUSTRIES WORKERS' UNIONS (SERVICE-RENGO) (JAPAN)
56. KYOTO UNIVERSITY, DEPARTMENT OF APPLIED MATHEMATICS AND PHYSICS, GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS (JAPAN)
57. LES ROCHES INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF HOTEL MANAGEMENT (SWITZERLAND)
58. LUXURIA TOURS (UNITED ARAB EMIRATES)
59. MACAO POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE (CHINA)
60. MANUFACTURE FRANCAISE DES PNEUMATIQUES MICHELIN (FRANCE)
61. MND (FRANCE)
62. MUNDO JOVEN TRAVEL SHOP (MEXICO)
63. MUSEU FUTEBOL CLUBE DO PORTO- FC PORTO MUSEUM (PORTUGAL)
64. NECSTOUR – THE NETWORK OF EUROPEAN REGIONS FOR A SUSTAINABLE AND COMPETITIVE TOURISM (BELGIUM)
65. NEOTURISMO (SPAIN)
66. NEXT INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS SCHOOL (SPAIN)
67. NON-COMMERCIAL ORGANIZATION TO DEFENCE RIGHTS OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY "INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY FOR ACCESSIBILITY AND UNIVERSAL

- DESIGN" (RUSSIAN FEDERATION)
68. NYÍREGYHÁZI TURISZTIKAI NONPROFIT KFT. (HUNGARY)
 69. OBSERVATOIRE DU TOURISME DU MAROC (MOROCCO)
 70. ONTARIO CULINARY TOURISM ALLIANCE (OCTA) (CANADA)
 71. ORGANISMO AUTONOMO DE TURISMO DE ARONA (SPAIN)
 72. PARIS INN GROUP (FRANCE)
 73. PONTIFICIA UNIVERSIDAD CATÓLICA DEL PERU – PUCP (PERU)
 74. PROMOCION DE LA CIUDAD DE LAS PALMAS DE GRAN CANARIA SA (SPAIN)
 75. PUNTA DEL ESTE CONVENTION BUREAU (URUGUAY)
 76. QUESTEX - DESTINATION DEVELOP (UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
 77. RAS AL KHAIMAH TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (UNITED ARAB EMIRATES)
 78. RED ESPAÑOLA DE TURISMO ACCESIBLE-RED ESTABLE (SPAIN)
 79. RISSHO UNIVERSITY – FACULTY OF ECONOMICS (JAPAN)
 80. SAS LES SOURCES DE CAUDALIE (FRANCE)
 81. SAXION HOSPITALITY BUSINESS SCHOOL (THE NETHERLANDS)
 82. SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND MANAGEMENT IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION IN BRATISLAVA (SLOVAKIA)
 83. SCIENTIFIC-CULTURAL CENTER OF ADMINISTRATION OF STATE HISTORICAL - ARCHITECTURAL RESERVE "ICHERISHEHER" (AZERBAIJAN)
 84. SEOUL TOURISM ORGANIZATION (REPUBLIC OF KOREA)
 85. SEYCHELLES SUSTAINABLE TOURISM FOUNDATION (SSTF) (SEYCHELLES)
 86. TAYLOR UNIVERSITY (MALAYSIA)
 87. THE FEDERAL STATE - FUNDED INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION "FINANCIAL UNIVERSITY UNDER THE GOVERNMENT OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION" (RUSSIAN FEDERATION)
 88. THE FEDERATION OF JTB GROUP WORKERS' UNIONS (JAPAN)
 89. THE MEDITERRANEAN TOURISM FOUNDATION (MALTA)
 90. THE STYLE OUTLETS-NEINVER S.A (SPAIN)
 91. THE TRAVEL CORPORATION (UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
 92. TISCH CENTER FOR HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM, NEW YORK UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES (UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
 93. TOURING & AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN)
 94. TOURIST ASSOCIATION FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FOR LOCAL AND REGIONAL INVESTMENT (MOROCCO)
 95. TOURIST BOARD LINZ (AUSTRIA)
 96. TOYO UNIVERSITY (JAPAN)
 97. TRAVELINDEX (SEYCHELLES)

98. TURA TURIZM (TURKEY)
99. ULSAN METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT (REPUBLIC OF KOREA)
100. UNITED SAEED ASSIRI CO.LTD/UNITED ALPHA TOURISM CO.LTD (SAUDI ARABIA)
101. UNIVERSIDAD DE GUADALAJARA - CENTRO UNIVERSITARIO DE CIENCIAS ECONÓMICO ADMINISTRATIVAS - CENTRO DE RECURSOS INFORMATIVOS (MEXICO)
102. UNIVERSIDAD REY JUAN CARLOS (SPAIN)
103. UNIVERSITARIA AGUSTINIANA - UNIAUGUSTINIANA (COLOMBIA)
104. UNIVERSITÉ DE PERPIGNAN VIA DOMITIA (FRANCE)
105. VIOLIN TRAVEL (HUNGARY)
106. WORLD CENTER OF EXCELLENCE FOR DESTINATIONS (CANADA)
107. WORLD TOURISM FORUM (TURKEY)
108. WORLD TOURISM FORUM LUCERNE (SWITZERLAND)

6. *Takes note* of the withdrawal from affiliate membership of the entities mentioned in document A/22/8(a)(II) rev.1; and

7. *Recognizes* the changes of the modified business names of companies mentioned in document A/22/8(a)(II) rev.1.



General Assembly

Twenty-second session
Chengdu, China, 11-16 September 2017

A/RES/682(XXII)

Membership of the Organization

(b) Suspension of membership in accordance with Article 34 of the Statutes and requests for temporary exemption from the application of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules

Agenda item 8(b)
(documents A/22/8(b), A/22/8(b) Add.1 and CE/106/2(a))

The General Assembly,

Considering resolution 217(VII) adopted at its seventh session, whereby it recognized that Article 34 of the Statutes, providing 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 decision of the Executive Council,

1. *Notes* that the following Members are subject to Article 34 of the Statutes and/or paragraph 13 of the financing rules:

FULL MEMBERS

AFGHANISTAN
BAHRAIN
BENIN
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
CHAD
DJIBOUTI
EQUATORIAL GUINEA
LIBERIA
LYBIA
MALAWI
NIGER
PAPUA NEW GUINEA

RWANDA
SIERRA LEONE
SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC
TURKMENISTAN
UGANDA
UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
VANUATU
YEMEN

2. *Thanks* the Secretary-General for his report on the situation of United Arab Emirates and decides that the country will continue to enjoy membership rights until a mutually agreeable solution is presented at the next General Assembly for approval;
3. *Expresses* its gratitude to the Members that have made the necessary efforts in order to fulfil their financial obligations despite their internal constraints;
4. *Notes with satisfaction* that Full Member Ghana is no longer subject to the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules and/or Article 34 of the Statutes, since it has reduced its contribution arrears partially;
5. *Also notes* that Article 34 of the Statutes will be applicable to the following Members in 2018 if they have not reached an agreement with the Secretary-General on a plan for the payment of their arrears:

FULL MEMBERS

1. RWANDA

AFFILIATE MEMBERS

1. AQABA SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE AUTHORITY
2. BALKAN ALLIANCE OF HOTEL ASSOCIATIONS - BAHA
3. CALIFORNIA UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
4. CARIBBEAN TOURISM ORGANIZATION - CTO
5. CONFEDERACION ESPAÑOLA DE AGENCIAS DE VIAJES - CEAV
6. CLUB MEDITERRANÉE
7. CONSEJO FEDERAL DE TURISMO DE LA REPUBLIC ARGENTINA
8. CONSEJO MEXICANO DE LA INDUSTRIA DEL TURISMO MEDICO
9. CONSEJO SUPERIOR DE TURISMO - CONSETURISMO
10. DELTA GROUP LTD
11. EGYPTIAN TRAVEL AGENTS ASSOCIATION
12. FEDERTURISMO - CONFINDUSTRIA
13. FÉDÉRATION TUNISIENNE DE L'HÔTELLÉRIE
14. INSTITUT SUPÉRIEUR INT. DE TANGER
15. ISCET
16. KHAZAR TRAVEL "XEZER TOURS AND TRAVEL"
17. LEADERS GROUP FOR CONSULTING AND DEVELOPMENT
18. NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM - NIHOTOUR
19. PACIFIC ASIA TRAVEL WRITERS ASSOCIATION - PATWA
20. PRODIGY CONSULTORES S.L.
21. RELAIS & CHÂTEAUX

22. SAVEUR TROPICALE SARL
23. SILK WAY AIRLINES-SW TRAVEL
24. TEZTOUR
25. TOURISM INTELLIGENCE INTERNATIONAL LTD
26. UBM ROUTES LTD
27. UNIVERSIDAD DE OCCIDENTE
28. UNIVERSIAD LA SALLE CANCÚN
29. UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY SYDNEY LEISURE SPORT
30. UNIVERSITY OF TOURISM, ECONOMICS & LAW "LUTEL"
31. ZAO CONDE NAST – CONDE NAST TRAVELLER LUXURY TRAVEL

6. *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 measure of suspension, and
- (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;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to apply this resolution and to report on its application at each session of the Executive Council;

Having taken note of the recommendations made by the Executive Council at its 103rd, 104th, 105th and 106th sessions with respect to requests made by various Full and Affiliate Members for temporary exemption from the application of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules,

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

8. *Decides* in view of their compliance with the agreed payment plans, to renew the temporary exemption from provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules of Full Members Bolivia, Cambodia, Gambia, Iraq, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Nicaragua and Sao Tome and Principe and to grant temporary exemption from the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules to Full Members Bahrain, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kyrgyzstan, Libya, Mauritania, Niger, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen as well as to ratify Uruguay's payment plan revision and likewise grants temporary exemption to the Affiliate Member Russian Travel Guide RTG in view of its two year-long payment plan for the settlement of its arrears;

9. *Also decides* to maintain the temporary exemption of Burkina Faso, Burundi, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Madagascar, Sudan and Uruguay, as well as that of Affiliate Members Camara de Turismo de Cabo Verde and Instituto de Turismo Responsable 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 2018;

10. *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;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to inform the Full Members concerned, that the decision just taken in their regards remains subject to strict compliance with the aforementioned conditions; and

12. *Notes* that the following Members continue to be subject to the provisions of Article 34 of the Statutes and/or paragraph 13 of the financing rules:

FULL MEMBERS

AFGHANISTAN
BENIN
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
CHAD
LIBERIA
MALAWI
RWANDA
SIERRA LEONE
TURKMENISTAN
UGANDA
UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
VANUATU

AFFILIATE MEMBERS

AQABA SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE AUTHORITY (Jordan)
ASOCIAÇÃO INTERPARLAMENTAR DE TURISMO (AIDT) – (Brazil)
ASSOCIATION OF TURKISH TRAVEL AGENCIES (TURSAB)
AZERBAIJAN TOURISM AND MANAGEMENT UNIVERSITY
CARIBBEAN TOURISM ORGANIZATION (CTO) (Barbados)
BALKAN ALLIANCE OF HOTEL ASSOCIATIONS – BAHA (FYROM)
BORSA INTERNAZIONALE DEL TURISMO (BIT) (Belgium)
CALIFORNIA UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA (USA)
CENTRE FOR THE PROMOTION OF NATIONAL TOURISM PRODUCT (Uzbekistan)
CLUB MEDITERRANEE (France)
CONDE NAST TRAVELLER LUXURY TRAVEL FAI/ZAO “CONDE NAST” (Russian Federation)
CONFEDERACION ESPAÑOLA DE AGENCIAS DE VIAJE – CEAV
CONSEJO FEDERAL DE TURISMO DE LA REPÚBLICA ARGENTINA
CONSEJO MEXICANO DE LA INDUSTRIA DEL TURISMO MEDICO A.C.
CONSEJO SUPERIOR DE TURISMO DE VENEZUELA
DELTA GROUP LTD (Azerbaijan)
DUSTY WORLD S.L. (Spain)
EGYPTIAN TRAVEL AGENTS ASSOCIATION
FEDERATION NATIONALE DE L’INDUSTRIE TOURISTIQUE CÔTE D’IVOIRE FENITOURCI
FEDERATION TUNISIENNE DE L’HÔTELLERIE
FEDERTURISMO/CONFINDUSTRIA (Italy)
FLOOFL CLC (UK)
FUNDACIÓN GENERAL DE LA UNIVERSIDAD DE ALCALA (Spain)

GREEN TOURISM ACTIVE (South Africa)
IDESTUR – INSTITUTO DE DESENVOLVIMENTO DO TURISMO RURAL (Brazil)
INSTITUTE OF TRAINING REASECHAR & OPERATIONAL CONSULTANCY (Islamic Republic of Iran)
INSTITUT SUPÉRIEUR INTERNATIONAL DE TOURISME DE TANGER (ISITT) (Morocco)
INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND EXHIBITIONS GROUP (ITE) (UK)
IRANIAN TOURISM SCIENTIFIC ASSOCIATION (ITSA)
ISCET – HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT AND TOURISM (Portugal)
KHAZAR TRAVEL “XEZER TOURS AND TRAVEL” (Azerbaijan)
LEADERS GROUP FOR CONSULTING AND DEVELOPMENT (Kuwait)
LIBERTAS REGIS D.O.O. BEST CROATIAN TRAVEL
LIVINGSTONE INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF TOURISM EXCELLENCE (Zambia)
MACAO UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
MISR TRAVEL (Egypt)
NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM (NIHOTOUR) (Nigeria)
PACIFIC ASIA TRAVEL WRITERS ASSOCIATION PAWTA (India)
PORTOENORTE (Portugal)
PRODIGY CONSULTORES S.L. (Spain)
RELAIS & CHÂTEAUX (France)
SABOREA ESPAÑA
SAVEUR TROPICAL SARL (Gabon)
“SLIK WAY” AIRLINES LLC. “SW TRAVEL BRANCH” (Azerbaijan)
TEZ TOUR (Turkey)
THE KENYATTA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTRE
TOURISM INTELLIGENCE INTERNATIONAL LTD (Germany)
TOURISM & RECREATIONAL CENTERS ORGANIZATION (TRCO) (Islamic Republic of Iran)
TRAVEL WEEKLY GROUP (UK)
TTF AUSTRALIA
TTG ITALIA
UBM ROUTES LTD (U.K.)
UNIVERSIDAD DE OCCIDENTE (Mexico)
UNIVERSIDAD LASALLE CANCUN (Mexico)
UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL MAYOR DE SAN MARCOS (Peru)
UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY (Canada)
UNIVERSITY OF NATIONAL AND WORLD ECONOMY (Bulgaria)
UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY IN SYDNEY LEISURE SPORT AND TOURISM (Australia)
UNIVERSITY OF TOURISM, ECONOMICS AND LAW KUTEL (Ukraine)
VIP TOURISM S.L. (Spain)

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General Assembly

Twenty-second session

Chengdu, China, 11-16 September 2017

A/RES/683(XXII)

Appointment of the Secretary-General for the period 2018-2021 on the recommendation of the Executive Council

Agenda item 9
(document A/22/9)

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 CE/DEC/19 (CV), and having had extensive discussions,

Appoints Mr. Zurab Pololikashvili (Georgia) to the post of Secretary-General of the Organization for the period 2018-2021.

* * *



General Assembly

Twenty-second session
Chengdu, China, 11-16 September 2017

A/RES/684(XXII)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part I: Programme of work for 2016-2017

(a) Implementation of the general programme of work for 2016-2017

Agenda item 10(I)(a)
(documents A/22/10(I)(a) and A/22/10(I)(a) Add.1)

The General Assembly,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the general programme of work for 2016-2017,

1. *Takes note* of all the activities summarized in the report and its annexes;
2. *Acknowledges* the efforts made by the Secretariat to extensively inform on its work in detailed reports to the Executive Council and to the Regional Commissions, as well as through the UNWTO Annual Reports, its website and its frequent communications;

Having taken good note of the statement by Jamaica regarding the catastrophic consequences of Hurricane Irma, in particular in the Caribbean region, and of the discussions held during the special meeting in the framework of the General Assembly,

3. *Expresses* its solidarity with the Member States of the region affected and calls for an action plan to support their fast recovery.

Having specific regard to the report of the Secretary-General on the UNWTO in the United Nations system,

4. *Acknowledges* the UNWTO's ongoing participation in various United Nations networks and mechanisms on substantive issues and supports the continuation of such, as well as in the Chief Executives Board (CEB) and its subsidiary bodies;
5. *Supports* the activities and efforts of the Organization in the area of advocacy of tourism as a driver of economic growth and development, particularly in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the 17 SDGs and the forthcoming preliminary set of SDG indicators;

6. *Acknowledges* the ongoing work of the UNWTO on the 10YFP STP and the active participation and support of Member States France, Morocco and the Republic of Korea;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to it, at its forthcoming sessions, on the participation of the Organization in the UN system's coordination mechanisms and relevant activities;

Having specific regard to the Consolidated Report of the Committee on Tourism and Competitiveness (CTC),

8. *Adopts* as recommendations the definitions endorsed by the Executive Council at its 103rd session (CE/DEC/7(CIII)) and its 106th session, respectively;

9. *Welcomes with appreciation* the active participation of the CTC members and reaffirms its support to the activities of the CTC;

10. *Encourages* the members of the Committee to contribute to its work plan and invites UNWTO Members to share their knowledge and expertise on the issues discussed by the Committee;

Having specific regard to the Measuring Sustainable Tourism (MST) project,

11. *Appreciates* the hard work and dedication of the members in the Committee on Statistics and Tourism Satellite Account and in the Working Group of Experts on Measuring Sustainable Tourism that resulted in the United Nations support to the development of the Statistical Framework for Measuring Sustainable Tourism;

12. *Endorses* the Manila Call for Action on Measuring Sustainable Tourism adopted at the International Conference on Tourism Statistics: Measuring Sustainable Tourism held in Manila, Philippines, on 21-24 June 2017, and calls upon all UNWTO Member States to unite behind this common cause;

13. *Profusely thanks* the Philippines for the superb hosting of this milestone Conference and the country's vision and pioneering leadership in the endeavour towards Measuring Sustainable Tourism;

14. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to address statistics, including the MST project, as a strategic priority for the Organization in order to be able to fulfil the Organization's UN mandate and worldwide expectations in the context of the SDGs indicators;

Having specific regard to the Resource Mobilization Strategy,

15. *Acknowledges* the need for more structured resource mobilization and welcomes the analyses on UNWTO's actual funding and potential voluntary contributions as outlined in the Resource Mobilization Strategy; and

16. *Endorses* the Resource Mobilization Strategy and commits to support the Secretariat's efforts to increase voluntary contributions to UNWTO's Programme of Work.

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General Assembly

Twenty-second session

Chengdu, China, 11-16 September 2017

A/RES/685(XXII)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part I: Programme of work for 2016-2017

(b) Report on the International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development 2017

Agenda item 10(I)(b)
(document A/22/10(I)(b))

The General Assembly,

Having examined the report on the International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development 2017 (IY2017),

1. *Acknowledges and expresses gratitude* to Samoa, as Chair of the IY2017 Steering Committee (SC2017), and all other members of the SC2017, for their continued support and commitment;
2. *Also acknowledges and expresses its gratitude* for the invaluable support of the current ten Special Ambassadors for the IY2017;
3. *Notes and applauds* the UNWTO Secretariat's efforts in coordinating and implementing all of the activities related to the IY2017 celebrations;
4. *Encourages* all Members and tourism stakeholders to continue exploring and making full use of the official IY2017 website, the official IY2017 logo, and to promote the consumer campaign "Travel.Enjoy.Respect.";
5. *Highly appreciates* the Secretariat's efforts in conducting a global consultation on the flagship report "Tourism for Development", and the ongoing work on the "Tourism and SDGs: Journey to 2030" project; and
6. *Acknowledges with appreciation* the support of more than 60 Official Sponsors, Partners and Friends of the IY2017 thus far, and encourages all Members to support the efforts of the Secretariat in mobilizing resources for the IY2017 and beyond, in order to strengthen the work on tourism for development.

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General Assembly

Twenty-second session
Chengdu, China, 11-16 September 2017

A/RES/686(XXII)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part I: Programme of work for 2016-2017

(c) UNWTO Convention on the Protection of Tourists and on the Rights and Obligations of Tourism Service Providers

Agenda item 10(I)(c)
(document A/22/10(I)(c))

The General Assembly,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General summarizing the recent activities carried out on the draft “UNWTO Convention on the Protection of Tourists and on the Rights and Obligations of Tourism Service Providers” together with the latest draft text of the said Convention,

1. *Takes note* of the significant progress made by the Working Group in the elaboration of the draft Convention and thanks all the members of the Working Group for their support to this initiative;
2. *Thanks* Member States that have participated in the Public Consultation, Regional Commissions and during the last Executive Council sessions providing comments to the Secretariat on the content of the draft Convention;
3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue with the drafting of the Convention and encourages the Working Group to finalize a draft text with the Secretariat that could be submitted to all Member States; and
4. *Grants* a mandate to the Secretary-General to convene an International Treaty Conference before the next General Assembly for the negotiation and adoption of the Convention.

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General Assembly

Twenty-second session
Chengdu, China, 11-16 September 2017

A/RES/687(XXII)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part I: Programme of work for 2016-2017

(d) The International ST-EP Organization

Agenda item 10(I)(d)
(document A/22/10(I)(d))

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the efforts made by the Government of the Republic of Korea, the UNWTO ST-EP Foundation and the UNWTO Secretariat to facilitate the transition process of the UNWTO ST-EP Foundation into the new International ST-EP Organization,

1. *Takes note* of the progress made in the transition process of the UNWTO ST-EP Foundation into the International ST-EP Organization;
2. *Thanks* the Member States which have expressed interest to join the International ST-EP Organization and encourages other Member States to do the same; and
3. *Thanks* the Government of the Republic of Korea for the support provided to the UNWTO ST-EP Foundation and supports the Government of the Republic of Korea in doing the necessary process.

* * *



General Assembly

Twenty-second session
Chengdu, China, 11-16 September 2017

A/RES/688(XXII)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part II: Draft Programme of work and budget of the Organization for 2018-2019

Agenda item 10(II)
(document A/22/10(II))

The General Assembly

1. *Adopts* the draft general Programme of Work and Budget of the Organization for the period 2018-2019, for a total amount of EUR 27,603,000, prepared by the Secretary-General in accordance with Article 23(2) of the Statutes, and authorizes the Secretary-General to execute the Programme of Work and Budget for 2018-2019 in accordance with the amounts collected, establishing a plan of expenditure for that purpose and keeping with the satisfactory budgetary practice established in the previous financial years;
2. *Takes note* of the changes made in the structure of the revised budget for 2016-2017 as presented in this document at 31 March 2017 and notes with appreciation the Secretary-General's proposal to present a balanced budget for the biennium 2018-2019;
3. *Approves* the proposed scale of contributions for 2018-2019;
4. *Takes into account* that the level of the budget for 2018 and 2019 will be of EUR 27,603,000, endorses that the budgetary income approved for the next biennia should be provided by the contributions of the Full and Associate Members in the rounded amounts of EUR 12,623,000 for 2018 and EUR 13,166,000 for 2019, 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 the corresponding document taking into account there might be adjustments necessary in case of new Affiliate Members' joining or withdrawing from the Organization, and 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;
5. *Adopts* the recommendation of the Executive Council (CE/DEC/8(CV) para. 6) to maintain the contribution of the Affiliate Members at EUR 2,400 for 2018 and to increase it to EUR 2,500 for 2019 and supports the decision CE/DEC/20(XCV) taken by the Executive Council on proposed deductions for specific members as outlined in document CE/95/6(c);
6. *Supports* the Secretariat to further continue with its efforts in cost savings and control of

expenditures, takes note that the Programme and Budget only includes Regular Budget programmes within the General Fund and notes that Other programmes within the General Fund or Other Funds (Voluntary Contributions Funds and Fund In Trust) will be added to the Organization's output and reinforce the resources and thus the activities of the Organization, especially in respect of technical cooperation; and

7. *Commends* the Members of the Programme and Budget Committee and its Chair for their valuable contributions to the preparation of the Organization's draft Programme of Work for 2018-2019.

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General Assembly

Twenty-second session

Chengdu, China, 11-16 September 2017

A/RES/689(XXII)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part III: Administrative and statutory matters

(a) Closing of the Audited Financial Statements of the twentieth financial period (2014-2015)

Agenda item 10(III)(a)
(document A/22/10(III)(a))

The General Assembly

Endorses the Executive Council decisions CE/DEC/11(C) supported by A/RES/648(XXI) and CE/DEC/9(CIII) on the Financial Statements for the years ended 31 December 2014 and 2015 approving their closing.

* * *



General Assembly

Twenty-second session

Chengdu, China, 11-16 September 2017

A/RES/690(XXII)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part III: Administrative and statutory matters

(b) Financial situation of the Organization and IPSAS post-implementation phase progress report

Agenda item 10(III)(b)
(document A/22/10(III)(b))

The General Assembly

1. *Takes note* of the level of collection of contributions from Members for financial year 2017 as of 30 June 2017 amounting to EUR 9,800,066, and also of the collection of contributions in arrears, amounting to EUR 622,561;
2. *Urges* Members that have not yet complied with their financial obligations to take the necessary steps to pay their contributions for 2017 thereby averting delays that could hamper programme execution;
3. *Takes note with appreciation* of the voluntary contributions, in-kind donations and Initiative projects and encourages the Secretary-General to implement them, seeking whenever possible to diversify the sources of financing UNWTO activities in support of the aims of the Organization;
4. *Approves* the use of the Special Contingency Reserve (SCR) funding amounting to EUR 35,000 for the update of the CRM system within the Web project;
5. *Takes note* that the United Nations may approve within 2017 a revised post adjustment index for staff in the Professional and higher categories with effect presumably within 2017 and an updated salary scale for staff in the General Service (GS) category effective 1 October 2017, and also takes note that the Secretary-General may apply both in accordance with Staff Rule 33(1);
6. *Takes note* of the advances made in the IPSAS post-implementation phase project and of the pressure that these major business projects (sustainability of IPSAS and implementation of Athena II plan) has put on the Secretariat;
7. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to advance in the IPSAS post-implementation phase project and to continue reporting its progress to the EC; and

8. *Takes note* that the go-live of Athena II modules and processes is planned within the first semester of 2018.

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General Assembly

Twenty-second session
Chengdu, China, 11-16 September 2017

A/RES/691(XXII)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part III: Administrative and statutory matters

(c) Human resources situation of the Organization

Agenda item 10(III)(c)
(document A/22/10(III)(c))

The General Assembly,

Having examined the report,

1. *Takes note* of the information provided on the human resources of the Organization;
2. *Expresses* its great satisfaction at the work currently being carried out by those staff in the service of the Organization and their contribution to its Programme of Work, especially in view of the rising demands made on the Organization with its limited resources;
3. *Encourages* Member States to send concrete proposals to the Secretariat to support the Junior Professional Officers at UNWTO, through the UNDP framework agreement; and
4. *Thanks* the Ethics Officer for the work carried out, as presented in his report, and takes note of the ongoing implementation of the ethics functions.

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General Assembly

Twenty-second session
Chengdu, China, 11-16 September 2017

A/RES/692(XXII)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part III: Administrative and statutory matters

(d) Election of the members of the UNWTO Staff Pension Committee for 2018-2019

Agenda item 10(III)(d)
(document A/22/10(III)(d))

The General Assembly,

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

1. *Thanks* Argentina and Spain for their service in the Committee; and

Having taken note of the willingness of Argentina and Spain to continue to serve in this committee,

2. *Decides* to elect the following members to the UNWTO Staff Pension Committee for the biennium 2018-2019:

- (a) Argentina (member)
- (b) Spain (member)

* * *



General Assembly

Twenty-second session
Chengdu, China, 11-16 September 2017

A/RES/693(XXII)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part III: Administrative and statutory matters

(e) Election of the External Auditor for 2018-2019

Agenda item 10(III)(e)
(document A/22/10(III)(e))

The General Assembly

Designates Spain as the External Auditor to carry out the auditing of the Organization for the period 2018-2019 for the external audit of the UNWTO Financial Statements for the years ended 31 December 2017 and 2018.

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General Assembly

Twenty-second session
Chengdu, China, 11-16 September 2017

A/RES/694(XXII)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part III: Administrative and statutory matters

(f) Status of ratification of amendments to the Statutes and of the 1947 Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies

Agenda item 10(III)(f)
(document A/22/10(III)(f))

The General Assembly,

Taking note of the possible adoption of a new amendment procedure through the amendment to Article 33 of the Statutes and the low level of accessions to Annex XVIII of the 1947 Convention,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the situation of amendments to the Statutes;
2. *Thanks* the Member States that have ratified one or several amendments or that have initiated the necessary procedure;
3. *Calls upon* Member States to do everything in their power to ratify all amendments to the Statutes and the Financing Rules, with particular regard to the amendment to Article 33 of the Statutes proposed in document A/22/10(III)(g);
4. *Requests* the Executive Council to prepare and implement a plan for the gradual introduction of the Chinese language in the Organization, following the practice on the introduction of new languages in the Organization, with the aim of the establishing Chinese as an official language of UNWTO at the 23rd session of the General Assembly subject to its entry into force in accordance with Article 33 of the Statutes; and
5. *Calls upon* Member States to ratify the 1947 Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies and to explicitly notify to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the application of Annex XVIII to UNWTO.

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General Assembly

Twenty-second session

Chengdu, China, 11-16 September 2017

A/RES/695(XXII)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part III: Administrative and statutory matters

(g) Report of the Working Group on the review of the amendment procedure of the Statutes and amendment to Article 33 of the Statutes

Agenda item 10(III)(g)
(document A/22/10(III)(g))

The General Assembly,

Having examined the report of the Working Group on the review of the amendment procedure of the Statutes:

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Working Group and thanks the Members for their work and support to the constitutional development of the Organization;

2. *Adopts* the amendment to Article 33 of the Statutes whose text reads as follows:

“1. Any suggested amendment to the present Statutes and its Annex shall be transmitted to the Secretary-General who shall circulate it to the Full Members at least six months before being submitted to the consideration of the Assembly.

2. An amendment shall be voted by the Assembly and adopted by a two-thirds majority of Full Members present and voting.

3. An amendment shall come into force for all Members one year after it has been adopted by the Assembly, unless the resolution by which it is adopted provides that the procedure established in paragraph 4 shall be applicable.

4. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 3, any amendment to Articles 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 14, 23, 25, 28, 33 or 35 of the Statutes, or to the Financing Rules, or any amendment involving fundamental alterations in the aims or the structure of the Organization or to the rights and obligations for the member States -so determined by the General Assembly- shall come into force for all Members forthwith when two-thirds of the member States have notified the Depositary Government of their approval of such amendment. The General

Assembly may also establish a deadline for member States to notify the approval of such amendment.

5. *Amendment to Article 14 of the Statutes (adopted by the General Assembly through resolution 134 (V)), amendment to Article 15 of the Statutes (adopted by the General Assembly through resolution 208 (VII)), amendment to Article 22 of the Statutes (adopted by the General Assembly through resolution 512 (XVI)), amendment to Article 37 of the Statutes (adopted by the General Assembly through resolution 93 (IV)), amendment to Paragraph 4 of the Financing Rules (adopted by the General Assembly through resolution 422 (XIV)) and amendment to Paragraph 12 of the Financing Rules (adopted by the General Assembly through resolution 61 (III)) shall enter into force upon entry into force of the present amendment to Article 33” ;*
3. *Reminds* Member States of the importance of this amendment to the Statutes that will provide the Organization with the necessary flexibility to undertake significant reforms as appropriate and adapt in a timely manner to the will of its Members;
4. *Calls upon* Member States to initiate immediately the internal procedures necessary to notify the Depositary of the Statutes of the approval of the amendment to Article 33 of the Statutes for its entry into force in a timely manner;
5. *Recalls* that the entry into force of this amendment will occur when two-thirds of the Full Members have notified their approval of the amendment to the Depositary;
6. *Further recalls* that the entry into force of the amendments contained in paragraph 5 of the amendment to Article 33 has no implications for the Organization and its Members, as explained in the document A/22/10(III)(g); and
7. *Encourages* the Working Group to further continue its analysis of the actual relevance of other pending amendments to the Statutes and its Financing Rules and to submit its recommendations to the Executive Council for endorsement and subsequently to the 23rd session of the General Assembly for approval.

* * *



General Assembly

Twenty-second session
Chengdu, China, 11-16 September 2017

A/RES/696(XXII)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part III: Administrative and statutory matters

(h) Amendment to Article 12(g) and Article 26 of the Statutes, and paragraph 11 of the Financing Rules

Agenda item 10(III)(h)
(document A/22/10(III)(h) rev.1)

The General Assembly

1. Approves the amendments to the Statutes (Article 12 (g) and Article 26) and to the Financing Rules (paragraph 11) with the following wordings:

(a) Article 12 (g): “to elect the Auditor on the recommendation of the Council”;

(b) Article 26: “1. The accounts of the Organization shall be examined by an Auditor elected by the Assembly on the recommendation of the Council for a period of two years. The Auditor shall be eligible for re-election;

2. The Auditor, in addition to examining the accounts, may make such observations as the Auditor deems necessary with respect to the efficiency of the financial procedures and management, the accounting system, the internal financial controls and, in general, the financial consequences of administrative practices”; and

(c) Annex Financing Rules paragraph 11: “The accounts of the Organization for the last financial year shall be transmitted by the Secretary-General to the Auditor and to the competent organ of the Council

The Auditor shall report to the Council and to the Assembly”.

2. Recalls that these amendments will take effect on the date when their ratification occurs in accordance with Article 33 of the Statutes; and

3. Approves the amendment to the Financial Regulations (Financial Regulation 15.1) as presented in the Annex of document A/22/10(III)(h) rev.1 and consequently align the required rule, regulations, and detailed financial rule of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council, the Financial Regulations and

the Detailed Financial Rules respectively presented in the Annex of document A/22/10(III)(h) rev.1 to replace the words Auditors/External Auditors by Auditor/External Auditor respectively with the understanding that such amendments will only come into force on the date of entry into force of the aforementioned amendments to the Statutes and the Financing Rules.

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General Assembly

Twenty-second session
Chengdu, China, 11-16 September 2017

A/RES/697(XXII)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part III: Administrative and statutory matters

(i) Amendment to Rule 54 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly (Election of Members to the Executive Council)

Agenda item 10(III)(i)
(document A/22/10(III)(i) rev.1)

The General Assembly,

Having regard to Rule 58 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly,

Noting the ad hoc practice that was initially applied at its last session in Medellín, Colombia, regarding the number of seats in the Executive Council for the period 2017-2019,

1. *Stresses* the importance of balance, representativeness and equitable regional representation in the Executive Council of the Organization; and
2. *Decides* to amend Rule 54 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly as follows:

“The Assembly shall elect by secret ballot the Members of the Council in the proportion of one Member of the Council for every five Full Members of the Organization, having regard to fair and equitable geographical distribution. This proportion shall be applied to the number of Full Members by region in order to determine the number of seats on the Executive Council to be allocated to the corresponding region. In the event that the figure obtained after the calculation of the said ratio is not whole, it shall be rounded up to the nearest higher integer.”

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General Assembly

Twenty-second session
Chengdu, China, 11-16 September 2017

A/RES/698(XXII)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part III: Administrative and statutory matters

(j) Guidelines for States on Criteria for Support of Affiliate Members

Agenda item 10(III)(j)
(document A/22/10(III)(j))

The General Assembly,

Having examined the “Guidelines for States on the Criteria for Support of Affiliate Members”,

1. *Supports* the proposals of the “Guidelines for States on the Criteria for Support of Affiliate Members” made by the Secretariat, as recommended by the Executive Council in its decision CE/DEC/16(CV);
2. *Approves* the “Guidelines for States on the Criteria for Support of Affiliate Members” in the Annex of the document A/22/10(III)(j); and
3. *Encourages* Member States to adhere to the “Guidelines for States on Criteria for Support of Affiliate Members”.

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General Assembly

Twenty-second session

Chengdu, China, 11-16 September 2017

A/RES/699(XXII)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part III: Administrative and statutory matters

(k) Agreements concluded by the Organization

Agenda item 10(III)(k)
(documents A/22/10(III)(k) and A/22/10(III)(k) Add.1)

The General Assembly,

Having examined 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 non-governmental organizations, local authorities, public and private entities,

Decides to approve the agreements listed in documents A/22/10(III)(k) and A/22/10(III)(k) Add.1.

* * *



General Assembly

Twenty-second session
Chengdu, China, 11-16 September 2017

A/RES/700(XXII)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part IV: Report on the reform of the Organization (White Paper implementation)

Agenda item 10(IV)
(document A/22/10(IV))

The General Assembly,

Having examined the report on the reform of the Organization (White Paper implementation),

1. *Appreciates* the great achievements resulting from the implementation of the White Paper under the strong leadership of the current Secretary-General;
2. *Approves* the report and considers closed those recommendations that have been 100% implemented; and
3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep working on the improvement of the governance of the Organization and to report on it to the next session of the General Assembly.

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General Assembly

Twenty-second session
Chengdu, China, 11-16 September 2017

A/RES/701(XXII)

Affiliate Members

(a) Report of the Chair of the Affiliate Members

Agenda item 11(a)
(document A/22/11(a))

The General Assembly,

Having examined the Report of the Chair of the Affiliate Members, presented in document A/22/11(a),

1. *Acknowledges* the constructive role of the initiatives implemented in the Action Plan of the Affiliate Members Programme, including prototypes, networks, working groups, reports, joint projects with other programmes, technical seminars and specialized events as well as the growing number of Affiliate Members that participate in them;
2. *Encourages* participation of the Member States in the existing UNWTO Networks and UNWTO Working Groups as well as proactive involvement of new areas of exchange of expertise;
3. *Continues* supporting the importance of the Prototype Methodology and related materials developed by the Secretariat including its names and signs, acknowledging these as being under UNWTO's brand, including phases 4 and 5, as an ideal framework where the public and private sectors can collaborate in the sharing of knowledge and development of projects that enhance competitiveness within an ethical and sustainable environment;
4. *Takes note* of the further dissemination and visibility of the UNWTO Awards for Excellence and Innovation as a way of recognizing the importance of the contribution of tourism to society; and
5. *Supports* the creation of the Wine Tourism Network, "The Joyful Journey - A UNWTO Wine Tourism Network" and endorses the terms and conditions for participating in the Network and the guidelines for the use of its specific logo, which will be applicable in future Prototypes.

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General Assembly

Twenty-second session
Chengdu, China, 11-16 September 2017

A/RES/702(XXII)

Affiliate Members

(b) Rules of Procedure of the Committee of the Affiliate Members

Agenda item 11(b)
(document A/22/11(b))

The General Assembly,

Having examined the final draft of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee of the Affiliate Members,

1. *Recognizes* the efforts made by the Working Group and by the Secretariat to reform the Rules of Procedure of the Committee of the Affiliate Members; and
2. *Ratifies* the amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Committee of Affiliate Members contained in the Annex of document A/22/11(b), as approved by the 39th Plenary Session of the UNWTO Affiliate Members held on 11 September 2017.

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General Assembly

A/RES/703(XXII)

Twenty-second session

Chengdu, China, 11-16 September 2017

World Tourism Day: information on the activities of 2016-2017, adoption of themes and designation of the host countries for 2018-2019

Agenda item 12
(document A/22/12)

The General Assembly

1. *Takes note of* the report submitted by the Secretary-General on the observance of World Tourism Day in 2016 and the preparations in place for the celebrations of World Tourism Day 2017;
2. *Encourages* Members States to celebrate World Tourism Day 2017 and promote the role of tourism in contributing to the three pillars of sustainability—economic, social and environmental—and the achievement of the SDGs;
3. *Expresses* its gratitude to the Governments of Thailand and Qatar for hosting the official celebrations of World Tourism Day 2016 and 2017;
4. *Approves* the themes for the celebrations of World Tourism Day 2018 and 2019 as follows:
 - 2018: Tourism and the digital transformation
 - 2019: Tourism and Jobs: a better future for all; and
5. *Designates* Hungary and India to host the official celebrations of World Tourism Day in 2018 and 2019, respectively.

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General Assembly

Twenty-second session

Chengdu, China, 11-16 September 2017

A/RES/704(XXII)

Election of the Executive Council members

Agenda item 13
(document A/22/13 rev.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 period 2018-2021, for the 17 seats to be filled:*

Africa:

- (a) Cabo Verde
- (b) Congo
- (c) Namibia
- (d) Sudan
- (e) Zimbabwe

Americas:

- (f) Argentina (2018-2019) - Peru (2020-2021)
- (g) Jamaica (2018-2019) - Honduras (2020-2021)
- (h) Uruguay (2018-2019) - Brazil (2020-2021)

Europe:

- (i) Azerbaijan
- (j) Greece
- (k) Lithuania
- (l) Romania
- (m) Russian Federation

Middle East:

- (n) Bahrain
- (o) Egypt

South Asia:

(p) India

(q) Iran, Islamic Republic of

2. *Approves* Kenya's proposal to grant its seat to Seychelles for the remainder of its term (2017-2019) in the Executive Council;
3. *Also notes* that the Associate Members will be represented by Flanders for the period 2017-2021; and
4. *Further notes* that the Affiliate Members will be represented on the Council by the Chair of their Board.

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General Assembly

Twenty-second session
Chengdu, China, 11-16 September 2017

A/RES/705(XXII)

Report of the World Committee on Tourism Ethics

Agenda item 14
(document A/22/14)

The General Assembly,

Having examined the report of the World Committee on Tourism Ethics regarding the activities carried out by the Committee during the period from June 2015 to June 2017,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Chair and members of the World Committee on Tourism Ethics for the efforts deployed in streamlining the promotion and the implementation of the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism;
2. *Acknowledges with satisfaction* the wide range of activities and promotional events contributed by the Committee, inter alia, the launch of the UNWTO Ethics Award category, the re-edition of the Tips for the Responsible Traveller and the development of the Recommendations on the topic of Accessible Tourism for All;
3. *Endorses* the Recommendations on the Responsible Use of Ratings and Reviews on Digital Platforms and encourages the Committee to continue monitoring this matter in order to update the text of the Recommendations as necessary, duly giving account to the Assembly;
4. *Thanks* the World Committee on Tourism Ethics for the report summarizing the implementation efforts of the adhered signatories to the Private Sector Commitment to the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism;
5. *Congratulates* the 529 companies and trade associations from 70 countries which have adhered to the Private Sector Commitment to the UNWTO Global Code of Ethics for Tourism as of June 2017, and calls upon all signatories to report to the World Committee on Tourism Ethics on how they have applied the ethical principles and standards of the Code to their business operations; and
6. *Encourages* tourism enterprises around the world to adopt more responsible and accountable business practices, and invites those that have not yet done so to join the Private Sector Commitment to the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism.

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General Assembly

Twenty-second session

Chengdu, China, 11-16 September 2017

A/RES/706(XXII)

Election of the Members of the World Committee on Tourism Ethics

Agenda item 15
(document A/22/15)

The General Assembly,

Having considered the proposal of the Selection Board (composed of the President of the General Assembly, the Chair of the Executive Council and the Chair of the Board of the Affiliate Members, the Secretary-General and the Legal Counsel of UNWTO) with regards to the Chair, four Members and three Alternates of the World Committee on Tourism Ethics for the period from 17 September 2017 until the 24th session of the General assembly in 2021,

1. *Takes note* that, in accordance with resolution 636(XX), Yoshiaki HOMPO, Fiona JEFFERY, Tanja MIHALIC and Eugenio YUNIS were designated to continue their mandate as members of the Committee until 2019;
2. *Endorses* the proposal of the Selection Board and;
3. *Appoints* the following individuals as Chair, Members and Alternates for the period from 17 September 2017 until the 24th session of the General Assembly in 2021:
 - (a) Chair: Pascal LAMY
 - (b) Members (4): I Gede ARDIKA, Jean Marc MIGNON, Ron OSWALD and Rosette Chantal RUGAMBA
 - (c) Alternates (3): Hiran COORAY, Gunnur DIKER and Suzy HATOUGH
4. *Decides* that, consequently, the composition of the World Committee on Tourism Ethics is as follows:

Chair: Mr. Pascal LAMY (2017-2021)
Former Director-General of the World Trade Organization (WTO)

Members:

Mr. I Gede ARDIKA (2017-2021)
Former Minister of Tourism of Indonesia

Mr. Yoshiaki HOMPO (2013-2019)
Former Commissioner of Japan Tourism Agency

Ms. Fiona JEFFERY (2013-2019)
Former Chair of the World Travel Market

Mr. Jean-Marc MIGNON (2017-2021)
President, International Social Tourism Organisation (ISTO)

Ms. Tanja MIHALIC (2013-2019)
Head of Institute of Tourism, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia

Mr. Ron OSWALD (2017-2021)
General Secretary, International Union of Food, Agricultural, Hotel,
Restaurant, Catering, Tobacco and Allied Workers' Associations (IUF)

Mr. Eugenio YUNIS (2013-2019)
Advisor to the Board of Hotel Trade Association of Chile

Ms. Rosette Chantal RUGAMBA (2017-2021)
Managing Director of Songa African Tourism Company

Alternate Members:

Mr. Hiran COORAY (2017-2021)
Chairman, Jetwing

Ms. Gunnur DIKER (2017-2021)
Adviser to the President, Association of Turkish Travel Agents (TÜRSAB)

Ms. Suzy HATOUGH (2017-2021)
CEO of Dar Al-Diafa for Tourism Human Resources Development Consultancy

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General Assembly

Twenty-second session
Chengdu, China, 11-16 September 2017

A/RES/707(XXII)

Consideration, approval or adoption of the UNWTO Framework Convention on Tourism Ethics

Agenda item 16
(document A/22/16 rev.2)

The General Assembly,

Having examined the draft UNWTO Framework Convention on Tourism Ethics,

Recalling its resolution 406(XIII) of 1999 in which it solemnly adopted the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism as a non-binding instrument, and called upon all the stakeholders in tourism development, both Members and non-members of UNWTO, to model their conduct on the principles embodied in the Code,

Also recalling resolution 56/212 of 2001 of the General Assembly of the United Nations by which it "... takes note with interest of the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism adopted at the thirteenth session of the General Assembly of the World Tourism Organization (...) to serve as a frame of reference for the different stakeholders in the tourism sector",

Further recalling resolution 668(XXI) by which the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit the final text of the Convention for approval at the 22nd session of the General Assembly,

1. *Expresses* its appreciation to the Chair and Members of the Working Group, constituted in accordance with resolution 668(XXI), for their efforts in the preparation of the text of the Convention;
2. *Takes note* of the deliberations of the Ad Hoc Committee specifically designated for the purpose of finalizing the text of the Convention and submitting a text to the General Assembly for its consideration;

Having held a roll-call vote in accordance with Rule 40 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly and having voted on the approval of the English version of the Framework Convention on Tourism Ethics,

3. *Notes* the results of the vote, which were as follows:

Y= Yes

N= No

A= Abstention

Y= 51

N= 0

A= 23

| | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---|---------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| | Afghanistan | Y | Democratic People's Republic of Korea | | Liberia | A | San Marino |
| | Albania | Y | Democratic Republic of the Congo | Y | Libya | | Sao Tome and Principe |
| A | Algeria | | Djibouti | Y | Lithuania | Y | Saudi Arabia |
| A | Andorra | | Dominican Republic | Y | Madagascar | | Senegal |
| A | Angola | | Ecuador | | Malawi | | Serbia |
| Y | Argentina | | Egypt | | Malaysia | Y | Seychelles |
| Y | Armenia | | El Salvador | A | Maldives | | Sierra Leone |
| A | Austria | | Equatorial Guinea | Y | Mali | | Slovakia |
| Y | Azerbaijan | | Eritrea | | Malta | | Slovenia |
| | Bahamas | | Ethiopia | | Mauritania | Y | Somalia |
| Y | Bahrain | | Fiji | | Mauritius | A | South Africa |
| Y | Bangladesh | Y | France | Y | Mexico | A | Spain |
| | Barbados | | Gabon | Y | Monaco | Y | Sri Lanka |
| | Belarus | | Gambia | | Mongolia | A | Sudan |
| | Benin | Y | Georgia | | Montenegro | A | Swaziland |
| Y | Bhutan | A | Germany | | Morocco | A | Switzerland |
| | Bolivia | | Ghana | | Mozambique | Y | Syrian Arab Republic |
| | Bosnia and Herzegovina | Y | Greece | | Myanmar | | Tajikistan |
| | Botswana | | Guatemala | | Namibia | | Thailand |
| Y | Brazil | Y | Guinea | A | Nepal | | The Former Yugoslav Rep. of Macedonia |
| | Brunei Darussalam | | Guinea Bissau | | Netherlands | | Timor Leste |
| Y | Bulgaria | | Haiti | | Nicaragua | | Togo |
| | Burkina Faso | | Honduras | Y | Niger | | Trinidad and Tobago |
| | Burundi | A | Hungary | Y | Nigeria | | Tunisia |
| Y | Cabo Verde | Y | India | | Oman | Y | Turkey |
| Y | Cambodia | Y | Indonesia | A | Pakistan | | Turkmenistan |
| | Cameroon | | Iran, Islamic Republic of | Y | Panama | | Uganda |
| | Central African Republic | A | Iraq | A | Papua N. Guinea | Y | Ukraine |
| | Chad | | Israel | Y | Paraguay | | United Arab Emirates |
| A | Chile | A | Italy | | Peru | | United Republic of Tanzania |
| Y | China | Y | Jamaica | | Philippines | Y | Uruguay |
| | Colombia | A | Japan | | Poland | | Uzbekistan |
| A | Comoros | | Jordan | Y | Portugal | | Vanuatu |
| | Congo | | Kazakhstan | | Qatar | Y | Venezuela |
| Y | Costa Rica | Y | Kenya | Y | Republic of Korea | A | Viet Nam |
| Y | Côte d'Ivoire | | Kuwait | | Republic of Moldova | | Yemen |
| A | Croatia | | Kyrgyzstan | Y | Romania | Y | Zambia |
| | Cuba | Y | Lao People's Democratic Republic | Y | Russian Federation | Y | Zimbabwe |
| Y | Cyprus | | Lebanon | | Rwanda | | |
| | Czech Republic/Czechia | | Lesotho | Y | Samoa | | |

4. *Approves* the English version of the Framework Convention on Tourism Ethics and the Optional Protocol to the Convention as submitted by the Ad Hoc Committee and annexed to the present resolution; and

5. *Requests* the Secretariat to take all necessary steps for the adoption of the Framework Convention on Tourism Ethics as approved by the General Assembly in all the official languages of the Organization.

ANNEX: FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON TOURISM ETHICS

THE HIGH CONTRACTING PARTIES,

Desiring to develop tourism with a view to contributing to economic development, international understanding, peace, prosperity and universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and freedoms for all without distinction of any kind such as race, colour, gender, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, age, birth or other status,

Considering that tourism has the potential to contribute directly or indirectly to the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in particular with regard to inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all, sustainable consumption and production and the sustainable use of oceans and marine resources and the terrestrial ecosystem,

Firmly believing that, through the direct, spontaneous and non-mediatised contacts it engenders between men and women of different cultures and lifestyles, tourism represents a vital force for peace and a factor of friendship and understanding among the peoples of the world,

In keeping with the rationale of reconciling environmental protection, economic development and the fight against poverty in a sustainable manner, as formulated by the United Nations in 1992 at the "Earth Summit" of Rio de Janeiro, expressed in Agenda 21, adopted on that occasion, and reiterated by the "Earth Summits" of Johannesburg in 2002 and Rio in 2012 (Rio + 20),

Taking into account the swift and continued growth, both past and foreseeable, of the tourism activity, whether for leisure, business, culture, religious or health purposes and other special interest tourism products and segments, and its powerful effects, both positive and negative, on the environment, the economy and the society of both generating and receiving countries, on local communities and indigenous peoples, as well as on international relations and exchanges,

Aiming to promote responsible, sustainable and universally accessible tourism in the framework of the right of all persons to use their free time for leisure pursuits or travel with respect for the choices of society of all peoples,

Firmly convinced that, provided a number of principles and a certain number of rules are observed, responsible and sustainable tourism is by no means incompatible with the growing liberalization of the conditions governing the provision of goods and services and under whose aegis the enterprises of this sector operate and that it is necessary to reconcile, in this context, environment with economic and social development, openness to international trade with protection of social and cultural identities,

Considering that, with such an approach, all the stakeholders in tourism development – national, regional and local administrations, enterprises, business associations, workers in the sector, non-governmental organizations and bodies of all kinds related to the tourism sector, as well as host communities, the media and the tourists themselves, including excursionists – have different albeit interdependent responsibilities in the individual and societal development of tourism and that the formulation of their individual rights and duties will contribute to meeting this aim,

Emphasizing that, also in the field of tourism, both the State and the enterprises share the responsibility of advancing the protection and respect of human rights in the business context as laid down by the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights unanimously adopted by the UN Human Rights Council in its resolution 17/4 of 16 June 2011,

Referring to the Conventions adopted by the International Labour Organization (ILO) covering subjects that are considered as fundamental principles and the rights at work: freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining; the elimination of forced or compulsory labour; the abolition of child labour; the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation,

Recalling resolution A/RES/406(XIII) of 1999 adopted by the General Assembly of the World Tourism Organization (hereinafter referred to as “UNWTO”) in which it solemnly adopted the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism,

Recalling resolution A/RES/668(XXI) of 2015 whereby the General Assembly of the UNWTO expressed its wish to convert the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism into a legally binding treaty in order to reinforce its effectiveness at the international and national level,

Considering that the World Committee on Tourism Ethics (hereinafter referred to as “the Committee”) established in 2001 under resolution A/RES/438(XIV) is a subsidiary organ of the UNWTO General Assembly,

Convinced that this Framework Convention (hereinafter referred to as “the Convention”) will enhance the advancement of a more sustainable and ethical tourism as stated in the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism,

Aiming to supplement the present Framework Convention with an Optional Protocol, which is a separate and independent legal instrument open to the States Parties to this Convention, providing a process for the settlement of disputes that can guide and strengthen the implementation of the ethical principles by all stakeholders concerned,

Inspired by the resolutions and decisions related to the implementation of the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism, adopted by the UNWTO General Assembly and the Executive Council,

Reaffirming that, as a specialized agency of the United Nations, UNWTO, as well as its Member States, is guided in its activities by the Charter of the United Nations, relevant United Nations resolutions and the generally accepted norms and principles of international law,

Have agreed as follows:

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

Definitions

For the purposes of this Convention and unless otherwise provided in particular provisions, the following definitions shall apply:

- (a) *ethical principles in tourism* means the principles set out in this Convention in Articles 4 to 12 below.
- (b) *tourism* refers to the activities of visitors, whether tourists or excursionists.
- (c) *tourist* means a person taking a trip which includes an overnight stay to a main destination outside his/her usual environment, for less than a year, for any main purpose (business, leisure or other personal purpose) other than to be employed by a resident entity in the country or place visited.
- (d) *excursionist* means a person taking a trip which does not include an overnight stay to a main destination outside of his/her usual environment. For the purpose of this Convention any reference to tourists constitutes at the same time a reference to excursionists.
- (e) *stakeholders in tourism development* includes:
 - (i) national governments;
 - (ii) local governments with specific competence in tourism matters;
 - (iii) tourism establishments and tourism enterprises, including their associations;
 - (iv) institutions engaged in financing tourism projects;
 - (v) tourism employees and professionals;
 - (vi) trade unions of tourism employees;
 - (vii) tourists and excursionists;
 - (viii) local populations and host communities at tourism destinations through their representatives; and
 - (ix) other juridical and natural persons having stakes in tourism development including non-governmental organizations specializing in tourism and directly involved in tourism projects and the supply of tourism services.
- (f) *Tourism resources* mean natural and cultural resources that have the potential to attract tourists.

Article 2

Aim and scope

(1) The present Convention aims to promote responsible, sustainable and universally accessible tourism through the implementation of the ethical principles in tourism.

(2) The present Convention refers to all stakeholders in tourism development within the meaning of Article 1(e) in the observance of the ethical principles in tourism.

Article 3

Means of implementation

(1) States Parties shall promote responsible, sustainable and universally accessible tourism by formulating policies that are consistent with the ethical principles in tourism set out in the Convention.

(2) States Parties shall respect and promote the ethical principles in tourism, especially through encouraging tourism enterprises and bodies to reflect these principles in their contractual instruments and make reference to them in their codes of conduct or professional rules.

(3) States Parties shall periodically submit a report to the World Committee on Tourism Ethics concerning any measures taken or envisaged for the implementation of this Convention.

(4) States Parties, which are also parties to the Optional Protocol to the Framework Convention on Tourism Ethics, shall promote among tourism enterprises and bodies the conciliation mechanism provided for in the Optional Protocol.

ETHICAL PRINCIPLES IN TOURISM

Article 4

Tourism's contribution to mutual understanding and respect between peoples and societies

(1) The understanding and promotion of the ethical values common to humanity, with an attitude of tolerance and respect for the diversity of religious, philosophical and moral beliefs, are both the foundation and the consequence of responsible tourism; stakeholders in tourism development and tourists themselves should observe the social and cultural traditions and practices of all peoples, including those of minorities and indigenous peoples and recognize their worth.

(2) Tourism activities should be conducted in harmony with the attributes and traditions of the host regions and countries and in respect for their laws, practices and customs.

(3) The host communities, on the one hand, and local professionals, on the other, should acquaint themselves with and respect the tourists who visit them and find out about their lifestyles, tastes and expectations; the education and training imparted to professionals contribute to a hospitable welcome.

(4) It is the task of the public authorities to provide protection also for tourists and their belongings; they must pay attention to the safety of foreign tourists; if necessary, they should facilitate the introduction of means of information, prevention, security, insurance and assistance consistent with their needs; any attacks, assaults, kidnappings or threats against tourists or workers in the tourism industries, as well as the willful destruction of tourism facilities or of elements of cultural or natural heritage should be severely condemned and punished in accordance with their respective national laws.

(5) When travelling, tourists should not commit any criminal act or any act considered criminal by the laws of the country visited and abstain from any conduct felt to be offensive or injurious by the local populations, or likely to damage the local environment; they should refrain from all trafficking in illicit drugs, arms, antiquities, protected species and products and substances that are dangerous or prohibited by national regulations.

(6) Tourists have the responsibility to acquaint themselves, even before their departure, with the characteristics of the countries they are preparing to visit; they must be aware of the health and security risks inherent in any travel outside their usual environment and behave in such a way as to minimize those risks.

Article 5

Tourism as a vehicle for individual and collective fulfillment

(1) Tourism, the activity most frequently associated with rest and relaxation, sport and access to culture and nature, should be planned and practiced as a privileged means of individual and collective fulfillment; when practiced with a sufficiently open mind, it is an irreplaceable factor of self-education, mutual tolerance and for learning about the legitimate differences between peoples and cultures and their diversity.

(2) Tourism activities should respect the equality of men and women; they should promote human rights and, more particularly, the individual rights of the most vulnerable groups, notably children, the elderly, persons with disabilities, ethnic minorities and indigenous peoples.

(3) The exploitation of human beings in any form, particularly sexual, especially when applied to children, conflicts with the fundamental aims of tourism and is the negation of tourism; as such, in accordance with international law, it should be energetically combated with the cooperation of all the States concerned and penalized without concession by the national legislation of both the countries visited and the countries of the perpetrators of these acts, even when they are carried out abroad.

(4) Travel for purposes of health, education and spiritual, cultural or linguistic exchanges is particularly beneficial and deserve encouragement.

(5) The introduction into curricula of education about the value of tourism exchanges, their economic, social and cultural benefits, and also their risks, should be encouraged.

Article 6

Tourism, a factor of environmental sustainability

(1) All the stakeholders in tourism development should safeguard the natural environment with a view to achieving sound, continuous and sustainable economic growth geared to satisfying equitably the needs and aspirations of present and future generations.

(2) All forms of tourism development that are conducive to saving rare and precious natural resources, in particular water and energy, as well as avoiding so far as possible waste production, should be given priority and encouraged by national, regional and local public authorities.

(3) The staggering in time and space of tourist flows, particularly those resulting from paid leave and school holidays, and a more even distribution of holidays should be sought so as to reduce the pressure of tourism activity on the environment and enhance its beneficial impact on the tourism industries and the local economy.

(4) Tourism infrastructure should be designed and tourism activities programmed in such a way as to protect the natural heritage composed of ecosystems and biodiversity and to preserve endangered species of wildlife; the stakeholders in tourism development, and especially professionals, should agree to the imposition of limitations or constraints on their activities when these are exercised in particularly sensitive areas: desert, polar or high mountain regions, coastal areas, tropical forests or wetlands, propitious to the creation of nature reserves or protected areas.

(5) Nature tourism and ecotourism are recognized as being particularly conducive to enriching and enhancing the standing of tourism, provided they respect the natural heritage and local populations and are in keeping with the carrying capacity of the sites.

Article 7

Tourism, a user of cultural resources and a contributor to their enhancement

(1) Tourism resources are fundamental elements of the civilization and culture of peoples; the inhabitants in whose territories they are situated have particular rights and obligations to them.

(2) Tourism policies and activities should be conducted with respect for the artistic, archaeological and cultural heritage, which they should protect and pass on to future generations; particular care should be devoted to preserving monuments, worship sites, archaeological and historic sites as well as upgrading museums which must be widely open and accessible to tourism visits; no excessive obstacles should be placed to public access to privately-owned cultural property and monuments, with respect to the rights of their owners, as well as to worship sites, without prejudice to normal needs of worship.

(3) Financial resources derived from visits to cultural sites and monuments should, at least in part, be used for the upkeep, safeguard, development and embellishment of this heritage.

(4) Tourism activity should be planned in such a way as to allow traditional cultural products, crafts and folklore to survive and flourish, rather than causing them to degenerate and become standardized.

Article 8

Tourism, a beneficial activity for host countries and communities

(1) Local populations should be associated with tourism activities and share equitably in the economic, social and cultural benefits they generate, and particularly in the direct and indirect creation of jobs resulting from them.

(2) Tourism policies should be applied in such a way as to help to raise the standard of living of the populations of the regions visited and meet their needs; the planning and architectural approach to and operation of tourism resorts and accommodation should aim to integrate them, to the extent possible, in the local economic and social fabric; where skills are equal, priority should be given to local manpower.

(3) Special attention should be paid to the specific problems of coastal areas and island territories and to vulnerable rural or mountain regions, for which tourism often represents a rare opportunity for development in the face of the decline of traditional economic activities.

(4) Tourism professionals, particularly investors, governed by the regulations laid down by the public authorities, should carry out studies of the impact of their development projects on the environment, and on cultural and natural surroundings; they should also deliver, with the greatest transparency and objectivity, information on their future programmes and their foreseeable repercussions and foster dialogue on their contents with the populations concerned.

Article 9

Responsibilities of stakeholders in tourism development

(1) States Parties should ensure that tourism professionals provide tourists with objective and honest information on their places of destination and on the conditions of travel, hospitality and stays. Tourism professionals should ensure that the contractual clauses proposed to their customers are readily understandable as to the nature, price and quality of the services they commit themselves to providing and the financial compensation payable by them in the event of a unilateral breach of contract on their part.

(2) Tourism professionals, insofar as it depends on them, should show concern, in cooperation with the public authorities, for the security and safety, accident prevention, health protection and food safety of those who seek their services; likewise, they should ensure the existence of suitable systems of insurance and assistance; they should accept the reporting obligations prescribed by national regulations and pay fair compensation in the event of failure to observe their contractual obligations.

(3) Tourism professionals, so far as this depends on them, and if appropriate, should contribute and allow the cultural and spiritual fulfillment of tourists, during their trip.

(4) The public authorities of the generating States and the host countries, in cooperation with the professionals concerned and their associations, should ensure that the necessary mechanisms are in place for the repatriation of tourists in any event.

(5) 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 sector of the host countries and the interests of their own operators; the contents of travel advisories should therefore be the subject of consultation, where applicable, with the authorities of the host countries; 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.

(6) The press, and particularly the specialized travel press and the other media, including modern means of electronic communication, should issue honest and balanced information on events and situations that could influence the flow of tourists; they should also provide accurate and reliable information to the consumers of tourism services; the new communication and electronic commerce technologies should also be developed and used for this purpose; as is the case for the media, they should not in any way promote sexual exploitation in tourism.

Article 10

Right to tourism

(1) The prospect of direct and personal access to the discovery and enjoyment of the planet's resources constitutes a right equally open to all the world's inhabitants; the increasingly extensive participation in domestic and international tourism should be regarded as one of the best possible expressions of the sustained growth of free time, and obstacles should not be placed in its way.

(2) The right to tourism is a corollary of the right to rest and leisure, including reasonable limitation of working hours and periodic holidays with pay, in compliance with international treaties.

(3) Social tourism, and in particular associative tourism, which facilitates widespread access to leisure, travel and holidays, should be developed with the support of the public authorities.

(4) Family, youth, student and senior tourism and tourism for persons with disabilities, should be encouraged and facilitated.

Article 11

Liberty of tourist movements

(1) Tourists should benefit, in compliance with international law and national legislation, from the liberty to move within their countries and from one State to another, in accordance with Article 13 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; they should have access to places of transit and stay and to tourism and cultural sites without being subject to excessive formalities or discrimination.

(2) Tourists should have access to all available forms of communication, internal or external; in case of need, they should benefit from prompt and, easy access to local administrative, legal and health services; they should be free to contact their consular representatives in compliance with the international treaties in force.

(3) Tourists should benefit from the same rights as the citizens of the country visited concerning the protection of the personal data and information that they provide, especially when these are stored electronically.

(4) Administrative procedures relating to border crossings whether they fall within the competence of States or result from international agreements, such as visas or health and customs formalities, should be adapted, so far as possible, so as to facilitate to the maximum freedom of travel and widespread access to international tourism; agreements between groups of countries to harmonize and simplify these procedures should be encouraged; specific taxes and levies penalizing the tourism sector and undermining its competitiveness should be gradually phased out or corrected.

(5) So far as the economic situation of the countries from which they come permits, tourists should have access to convertible currencies needed for their travels.

Article 12

Rights of employees and professionals in the tourism sector

(1) The fundamental rights of employees and professionals in the tourism sector and related activities should be guaranteed under the supervision of the national and local administrations, both of their States of origin and of the host countries with particular care, given the specific constraints linked in particular to the seasonality of their activity, the global dimension of their industries and the flexibility often required of them by the nature of their work.

(2) Employees and self-employed workers in the tourism sector and related activities should be able to access appropriate initial and continuous training; they should be given adequate social protection; job insecurity should be limited so far as possible; and a specific status, with particular regard to their social welfare, should be offered to seasonal workers in the sector.

(3) Any natural or legal person, provided he, she or it has the necessary abilities and skills, should be entitled to develop a professional activity in the field of tourism under existing national laws; entrepreneurs and investors - especially in the area of small and medium-sized enterprises - should be entitled to free access to the tourism sector with a minimum of legal or administrative restrictions.

(4) Exchanges of experience offered to executives and workers, from different countries, contribute to fostering the development of the world tourism sector; these movements should be facilitated so far as possible in compliance with the applicable national laws and international conventions.

(5) As an irreplaceable factor of solidarity in the development and dynamic growth of international exchanges, multinational enterprises of the tourism sector should not exploit the dominant positions they sometimes occupy; they should avoid becoming the vehicles of cultural and social models artificially imposed on the host communities; in exchange for their freedom to invest and trade which should be fully recognized, they should promote local and sustainable consumption and production patterns and involve themselves in local development, avoiding, by the excessive repatriation of their profits or their induced imports, a reduction of their contribution to the economies in which they are established.

(6) Partnership and the establishment of balanced relations between enterprises of generating and receiving countries contribute to the sustainable development of tourism and an equitable distribution of the benefits of its growth.

WORLD COMMITTEE ON TOURISM ETHICS

Article 13

Mandate

(1) The World Committee on Tourism Ethics is a subsidiary organ of the UNWTO General Assembly, and notwithstanding the functions performed in relation to the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism, it shall be responsible for monitoring the implementation of the provisions of this Convention and carrying out any other tasks entrusted to it by the Conference of States Parties.

(2) The Committee shall fix the modalities for the submission and examination of the reports of the States Parties.

(3) The Committee shall adopt a biennial report on the implementation and interpretation of the Convention that will be transmitted by the Secretary-General of the UNWTO to the General Assembly of the UNWTO and to the Conference of States Parties to the present Convention.

(4) The Committee may also act, where applicable, as a conciliation mechanism to the States Parties and other stakeholders in tourism development in accordance with the Optional Protocol annexed to the Framework Convention on Tourism Ethics.

Article 14

Composition

(1) The General Assembly of the UNWTO, in cooperation with the Conference of States Parties, shall determine the composition of the Committee as well as the modalities for the nomination and appointment of its Members with a view to achieving their independence and impartiality.

(2) The General Assembly of the UNWTO, in cooperation with the Conference of States Parties, shall elect the members of the Committee with due regard being paid to gender and age balance and equitable regional and sectorial representation.

Article 15

Functioning

(1) The Secretary-General of the UNWTO shall place at the Committee's disposal the personnel and financial resources necessary for the performance of its functions. The expenses necessary to the functioning of the Committee will be entered in the budget of the Organization with the approval of the General Assembly.

(2) The Committee shall adopt its own rules of procedure under the framework of the present Convention. The text of the rules of procedure shall be transmitted to the Conference of States Parties and to the General Assembly of the UNWTO for information.

CONFERENCE OF STATES PARTIES

Article 16

Composition and responsibilities

(1) The Conference of States Parties shall be the plenary body of this Convention composed of representatives of all States Parties.

(2) The Conference of State Parties shall meet in ordinary sessions every two years in conjunction with the General Assembly of the UNWTO. It may meet in extraordinary session if it so decides or if the Secretary-General of the UNWTO receives a request to that effect from at least one-third of the States Parties.

(3) The presence of a majority of States Parties shall be necessary to constitute a quorum at meetings of the Conference of States Parties.

(4) The Conference of States Parties shall adopt its own rules of procedure and amendments thereto.

(5) The Conference of States Parties shall perform, *inter alia*, the following functions:

- (a) considering and adopting amendments to this Convention and to the Optional Protocol to the Framework Convention on Tourism Ethics where applicable;
- (b) adopting plans and programmes for the implementation of this Convention; and taking any other measures it may consider necessary to further the objectives of this Convention; and
- (c) approving the operational guidelines for the implementation and application of the provisions of the Convention prepared upon its request by the World Committee on Tourism Ethics.

(6) The Conference of the States Parties may invite observers to its meetings. The admission and participation of observers shall be subject to the rules of procedure of the Conference of States Parties.

(7) The Conference of the States Parties may establish a fund, if necessary, to cover any expenses for the implementation of the Convention that are not met by UNWTO and determine the contribution to be made by each of the States Parties to the present Convention.

Article 17

Secretariat

The Secretariat of the UNWTO shall provide administrative support to the Conference of States Parties, as necessary.

FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 18

Signature

The present Convention shall be open for signature by all Member States of the UNWTO and all Member States of the United Nations at [venue], and thereafter at the Headquarters of the UNWTO in Madrid until [date].

Article 19

Ratification, acceptance, approval or accession

The present Convention is subject to ratification, acceptance, approval or accession by States. Instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval and accession shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the UNWTO.

Article 20

Entry into force

(1) The present Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day following the date of deposit of the tenth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.

(2) For each State Party ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to the Convention after the deposit of the tenth instrument of ratification acceptance, approval or accession, the Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day following deposit by such State Party of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession

Article 21

Amendment of the Convention

(1) Any State Party may propose amendments to the present Convention.

(2) The text of any proposed amendment shall be communicated by the Secretary-General of the UNWTO to all States Parties at least ninety days before the opening of the session of the Conference of States Parties.

(3) Amendments shall be adopted by a two-thirds majority vote of States Parties present and voting and shall be transmitted by the Secretary-General of the UNWTO to the States Parties for ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.

(4) Instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession to the amendments shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the UNWTO.

(5) Amendments adopted in accordance with paragraph 3 shall enter into force for those States Parties having ratified, accepted, approved or acceded to such amendments on the thirtieth day following the date of receipt by the Secretary-General of the UNWTO of the instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession of at least five of the States Parties to this Convention. Thereafter the amendments shall enter into force for any other State Party on the thirtieth day after the date on which that State Party deposits its instrument.

(6) After entry into force of an amendment to this Convention, any new State Party to the Convention shall become a State Party to the Convention as amended.

Article 22

Denunciation

(1) The present Convention shall remain in force indefinitely, but any State Party may denounce it at any time by written notification. The instrument of denunciation shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the UNWTO. After one year from the date of deposit of the instrument of denunciation, the Convention shall no longer be in force for the denouncing State Party, but shall remain in force for the other States Parties.

(2) The denunciation shall not affect the possible remaining financial obligation of the denouncing State Party, any requests for information or assistance made, or procedure for the peaceful settlement of disputes commenced during the time the Convention is in force for the denouncing State Party.

Article 23

Dispute settlement

Any dispute that may arise between States Parties as to the application or interpretation of this Convention shall be resolved through diplomatic channels or, failing which, by any other means of peaceful settlement decided upon by the States Parties involved, including, where applicable, the conciliation mechanism provided for in the Optional Protocol.

Article 24

Authentic texts

The Arabic, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts of this Convention shall be regarded as equally authentic.

Article 25

Depositary

(1) The Secretary-General of the UNWTO shall be the depositary of this Convention.

(2) The Secretary-General of the UNWTO shall transmit certified copies to each of the signatory States Parties.

(3) The Secretary-General of the UNWTO shall notify the States Parties of the signatures, of the deposits of instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval and accession, amendments and denunciation.

Article 26

Registration

In conformity with Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations, this Convention shall be registered with the Secretary-General of the United Nations by the Secretary-General of the UNWTO.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized to that effect, have signed this Convention.

DONE at VENUE, on DATE

OPTIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON TOURISM ETHICS

THE HIGH CONTRACTING PARTIES,

Having concluded the Framework Convention on Tourism Ethics (hereinafter referred to as “the Convention”) as a fundamental frame of reference for the development of responsible, sustainable and universally accessible tourism,

Recognizing that disputes in the tourism sector may sometimes seriously disrupt the positive impacts of the sector towards a harmonious socio-cultural and economic development and the advancement of peace and prosperity,

Aiming to supplement the present Framework Convention with an Optional Protocol, which is a separate and independent legal instrument open to the States Parties of this Convention, providing a process for the settlement of disputes that can guide and strengthen the implementation of the ethical principles by all stakeholders concerned,

Encouraging all parties to try to resolve all disputes in a peaceful manner before resorting to litigation,

Have agreed as follows:

1. The World Committee on Tourism Ethics (hereinafter referred to as “the Committee”) shall act as an independent and voluntary conciliation mechanism for any dispute that may arise among States Parties to the present Protocol, or stakeholders in tourism development, concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention.
2. Any dispute between two or several States Parties to the present Protocol, or a State Party and one or more stakeholders may be referred to the Committee.
3. In so far as the Parties agree to submit the dispute to the Committee, they shall present written statements, accompanied by all documents and other evidence as deemed necessary to the Chairperson of the Committee who shall appoint a sub-committee of three members responsible for examining the dispute and for formulating recommendations suitable to form the basis of a settlement.
4. In order to adopt relevant recommendations, the sub-committee may ask the Parties for additional information and, if deemed useful, may hear them at their request; the necessary expenses incurred by the conciliation procedure shall be borne by the Parties in dispute. The failure of one of the Parties to appear even though it has been given a reasonable opportunity to participate shall not prevent the sub-committee from adopting its recommendations.
5. Unless otherwise agreed by the Parties in dispute, the Committee shall announce recommendations of the sub-committee within three months from the date on which the dispute was referred to it. The Parties in dispute shall inform the Chairperson of the Committee of any settlement reached on the basis of the recommendations and of any action taken to implement such settlement.
6. If within a period of two months after notification of the recommendations the Parties in dispute have failed to agree on the terms of a final settlement, the Parties may separately or jointly refer the dispute to a plenary session of the Committee.

7. The plenary session of the Committee shall adopt a decision that shall be notified to the Parties in dispute and, if the Parties in dispute agree so, made public. If the Parties in dispute agree with the decision, they will be requested to apply it at the earliest possible opportunity and they shall provide information in due course to the Chairperson of the Committee on the actions they have taken to implement the abovementioned decision.

8. A State Party may, at the time of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, or any subsequent date, declare that it agrees with respect to any other State Party assuming the same obligation, to consider binding the decision of the Committee in any dispute covered by this Protocol on which no settlement has been reached in accordance with paragraph 4.

9. Tourism establishments and tourism enterprises, as well as their associations, may include in their contractual documents a provision making the decisions of the Committee binding in their relations with their contracting parties.

10. Except in cases where new elements have been submitted to it, the Committee shall not consider matters it has already dealt with (*non bis in idem*) and will inform the Parties in dispute accordingly.

11. The present Protocol is open to the ratification, acceptance, approval or accession to the States Parties to the Convention. The rules concerning the amendment and denunciation of the Convention shall apply mutatis mutandis to the Protocol. The Protocol shall form an Annex to the Convention for the States having ratified, accepted, approved or acceded to it.

12. Denunciation of the Convention shall involve the immediate denunciation of this Protocol. The denunciation shall take effect one year after the receipt of the instrument of denunciation. However, States Parties denouncing the Protocol shall remain bound by its provisions in respect of any dispute which may have been referred to the Committee before the end of the one-year period provided for above.

13. The Protocol shall enter into force on the thirtieth day following the date of deposit of the second instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.

14. For each State Party ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to the Protocol after the deposit of the second instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the Protocol shall enter into force on the thirtieth day following the deposit by such State Party of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized to that effect, have signed the present Protocol.

DONE at VENUE, on DATE

* * *



General Assembly

Twenty-second session
Chengdu, China, 11-16 September 2017

A/RES/708(XXII)

Place and dates of the twenty-third session of the General Assembly

Agenda item 17
(document A/22/17 rev.1)

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 two offers submitted respectively by the Government of Argentina and by the Government of the Russian Federation,

Having taken note of the withdrawal of the candidature of Argentina in support of the candidature of Russian Federation,

1. *Takes note of* the reservations of Ukraine regarding the holding of the 23rd session of the General Assembly in the Russian Federation;
2. *Welcomes* the candidature of the Russian Federation to host the twenty-third session of the General Assembly in 2019;
3. *Thanks* the Argentine Republic for having withdrawn its candidature in support of the candidature of the Russian Federation; and
4. *Designates* the Russian Federation (Saint Petersburg) as the venue of the twenty-third session of the General Assembly in the second half of 2019.

* * *



General Assembly

Twenty-second session
Chengdu, China, 11-16 September 2017

A/RES/709(XXII)

Vote of thanks

The General Assembly,

Noting the remarkable role of His Royal Highness Prince Sultan bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud and Mr. David Scowsill, former CEO and President of WTTC in world travel and tourism throughout the past years,

1. *Expresses* its appreciation for their contribution to the development of sustainable tourism with particular reference to their close cooperation with UNWTO;

Noting the exceptional leadership displayed by the current Secretary-General of the Organization, Mr. Taleb Rifai, and the great achievements accomplished during his tenure, especially in areas such as advancing the tourism agenda and sustainable development at the global level,

2. *Expresses* its special appreciation to him for having raised the profile of the Organization and the tourism sector at large;

Also noting with particular satisfaction the successful conclusion of its proceedings, made possible by the outstanding working conditions provided to the Organization by the Government of the People's Republic of China,

3. *Expresses its most sincere appreciation* to H.E. Mr. Wang Yang, Vice-Premier of the People's Republic of China, for presiding over the Official Opening Ceremony of its twenty-second session;

4. *Conveys its profound gratitude* to H.E. Mr. Li Jinzao, Chairman of the China National Tourism Administration for his personal contribution in leading the preparation and successful organization of the twenty-second session of the UNWTO General Assembly, and to all of the responsible officials and the staff for their outstanding collaboration with the Secretariat to ensure the success of the meeting; and

5. *Also expresses* its deep gratitude to the people and authorities of the city of Chengdu and the province of Sichuan for their wonderful hospitality and the exceptional facilities they placed at the disposal of the participants.

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