



## Executive Council

103rd session  
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Provisional agenda item 7(d)

CE/103/7(d)  
Madrid, 29 February 2016  
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### Report of the Secretary-General

#### Part III: Administrative and statutory matters

##### (d) Membership status

###### I. Withdrawals

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1. In a note verbale addressed to the Spanish Government and dated 19 August 2015, Australia notified the Secretariat of its intention to withdraw from the Organization (on the expiry of one year's notice, in accordance with Article 35 of the Statutes) effective 19 August 2016. The Secretary-General took all the necessary steps to encourage Australia to reconsider its position, but Australia has maintained it. Its withdrawal will take effect on 19 August 2016.



## II. Actions to be taken by the Executive Council

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2. The Executive Council is invited:
  - (a) To urge Australia to reconsider its decision and maintain its membership in the Organization;
  - (b) To call upon the member countries of the United Nations that do not yet belong to the UNWTO to join the Organization and to encourage the Secretary-General to continue his efforts in this regard; and
  - (c) To request the Secretary-General to report on the above-mentioned follow-up actions taken regarding membership status.

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**Annex I. Note Verbale of Australia**

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Nº 125/15

The Embassy of Australia presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation and has the honour to inform that Australia wishes to submit the instrument of its withdrawal from the World Tourism Organization, in accordance with Article 35 of the Statutes of the World Tourism Organization, adopted on 27 September 1970 in Mexico City.

The Embassy of Australia avails itself of this opportunity to reiterate to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation the assurances of its highest consideration.

Madrid, 19 August 2015



TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND COOPERATION - MADRID