



Executive Council

103rd session
Málaga, Spain, 9-11 May 2016

CE/103/DEC

DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AT ITS 103RD SESSION

Málaga, Spain, 9-11 May 2016

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CE/DEC/1(CIII)

Adoption of the agenda

Agenda item 1
(document CE/103/1 prov.)

The Executive Council

Adopts the agenda of its 103rd session as proposed.

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CE/DEC/2(CIII)

Communication of the Chair

Agenda item 2
(document CE/103/2)

The Executive Council,

Having heard the communication of the Chair of the 103rd session of the Executive Council, Mr. Yehia Rashed, Minister of Tourism of Egypt,

1. *Thanks* the Chair for his communication to the Executive Council;
2. *Shares* the view of the Chair about the importance of tourism as one of the world's largest economic sectors, providing one in eleven jobs around the world and contributing directly and indirectly to 10 percent of the global GDP;
3. *Also shares* his view about the vast potential and increasing capacity of tourism to address some of the world's most pressing challenges, including economic growth, inclusive development, resource management, biodiversity conservation and environmental preservation;
4. *Takes note* of Egypt's "Tourism Impact Plan", focusing on six main priorities to restore tourism to Egypt; and
5. *Extends* its gratitude and appreciation to the Chair of the Council, to the first Vice-Chair, Croatia, and to the second Vice-Chair, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, for their dynamic leadership and for their personal contributions to the successful deliberations of its various agenda items.

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CE/DEC/3(CIII)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part I: Tourism trends and activities

(a) International tourism in 2015 and 2016

Agenda item 3(a)
(document CE/103/3(a))

The Executive Council

Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the current situation and prospects for international tourism.

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CE/DEC/4(CIII)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part I: Tourism trends and activities

(b) Mainstreaming tourism in the global agenda

Agenda item 3(b)
(document CE/103/3(b))

The Executive Council,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General,

1. *Takes note* of the work of the Secretariat in mainstreaming tourism in the global and national agendas; and
2. *Encourages* Member States to embrace the implementation processes of the SDGs at the national and international levels.

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CE/DEC/5(CIII)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part I: Tourism trends and activities

(c) Priorities and Management vision

Agenda item 3(c)
(document CE/103/3(c))

The Executive Council

Supports the Management priorities and vision in accordance with the 2016-2017 Programme of Work.

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CE/DEC/6(CIII)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part I: Tourism trends and activities

(d) Preparations for the International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development 2017

Agenda item 3(d)
(document CE/103/3(d))

The Executive Council,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General, document CE/103/3(d),

1. *Welcomes with appreciation* the efforts of the Secretariat in the preparations for the International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development 2017, and offers to provide full support in implementing the International Year and its related activities;
2. *Acknowledges with appreciation* the establishment of the Steering Committee for the International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development 2017, and thanks all its members for their commitment and engagement;
3. *Requests* the Steering Committee to advise, support and assist the Secretariat in preparing and implementing the activities of the International Year so that they are aligned with its objectives and goals; and
4. *Encourages* all Member States, Associate and Affiliate Members, the private sector, academia, civil society and other tourism stakeholders to engage in and contribute to the preparations and the successful implementation of the International Year and its related activities.

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CE/DEC/7(CIII)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part II: Implementation of the general programme of work

Report of the Programme and Budget Committee (Part I: Programme)

Agenda item 5
(documents CE/103/4 and CE/103/5 rev.2)

The Executive Council,

Having read the report by the Secretary-General and the report of Programme and Budget Committee on the implementation of the general programme of work,

1. *Takes note* of all the activities summarized in this report and its annexes;

Having examined the report of the Committee on Tourism and Competitiveness (CTC, Annex I), the Committee on Tourism and Sustainability (CTS, Annex II) and the Committee on Statistics and Tourism Satellite Account (CSTSA, Annex III),

2. *Welcomes* the new members in the Committees and their respective elected chairs and vice-chairs;

3. *Acknowledges with satisfaction* the progress made by the Committees and approves their different reports;

4. *Encourages* the CTC to continue working on improving the normative role of the Organization by harmonizing concepts, definitions and factors related to “tourism destination competitiveness”;

5. *Endorses* the definitions indicated in the CTC report;

6. *Thanks* the Chair of the CTC (Peru) for her initiative and encourages the CTC members to contribute to this technical work;

7. *Takes note* of the recommendation made by the Chair (Peru) of the CTC on the review of the Rules of Procedure for the Technical Committees and requests the Secretary-General to submit the revised version to the 104th session of the Executive Council;

8. *Endorses* the modified list of invited participants proposed by the Secretary-General, in

consultation with the Chair of the CTC (Peru): AENOR (Spanish Association for Standardization and Certification and representative of the ISO Technical Committee – ISO/TC 228) and Prof. Geoffrey I. Crouch (La Trobe Business School, Melbourne, Australia);

Having also examined the report on UNWTO in the United Nations system (Annex IV),

9. *Acknowledges and supports* the UNWTO's ongoing participation with various United Nations networks and mechanisms on substantive issues, as well as in the CEB subsidiary bodies' meetings;

10. *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;

11. *Acknowledges with satisfaction* 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;

12. *Supports* the Secretariat in continuing its contribution to the global and UN system response to the Zika virus and similar global risks;

13. *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 further examined the report on the UNWTO Convention on the Protection of Tourists and Tourism Service Providers (Annex VI),

14. *Thanks* the UNWTO Working Group on the Convention on the Protection of Tourists and Tourism Service Providers for the results achieved;

Recalling Executive Council decision CE/DEC/6(C) and the General Assembly resolution A/RES/645(XXI),

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To continue with the preparation of the Convention, and

(b) To present the final text of the Convention to the next General Assembly for its approval and to inform about any other related matters that may arise in relation to this Convention and/or the protection of tourists and tourism service providers;

Having read the report of the Working Group on the UNWTO Convention on Tourism Ethics (Annex VII),

16. *Welcomes* the members of the Working Group and wishes them fruitful work;

Having also read the report on the authorizations granted for the use of the UNWTO logo (Annex VIII),

17. *Takes note* of the entities to which the Secretariat has, during the period May 2015 - January 2016, granted permission to use of the UNWTO signs; and

18. *Also takes note* of the proposal by the Programme and Budget Committee on the formulation of the 2018-2019 Programme of Work and Budget, including financial scenarios.

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CE/DEC/8(CIII)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part III: Administrative and statutory matters

(a) Financial report of the Organization for 2016

Report of the Programme and Budget Committee (Part II: Administrative and statutory matters)

Agenda item 7(a)

(documents CE/103/7(a), CE/103/7(a) Add.1 and CE/103/4)

The Executive Council,

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

1. *Takes note* of the level of collection of contributions from Members for the financial year 2016 as of 31 March 2016 amounting to EUR 8,391,977, and also of the collection of contributions in arrears, amounting to EUR 650,176;
2. *Approves* the adjustments made by the Secretary-General to the staff appropriations of programmes for 2016;
3. *Urges* Members that have not yet complied with their financial obligations to take the necessary steps to pay their contributions for 2016 thereby averting delays that could hamper programme execution;
4. *Also approves* the use the Special Contingency Reserve (SCR) and the Replacement Reserve (RR) funding for: (i) the lobby reform project (SCR project) in replacement of the printing services project funding and, (ii) the measuring sustainable tourism & improving tourism data management and data collection project (RR project) instead of the Statistics Information System project, at unchanged levels;
5. *Takes note* of the new salary scale approved by the United Nations (A/RES/70/244) and applied by the Secretary-General with effect from 1 January 2016 in accordance with Staff Rule 33(1);
6. *Also takes note* of the advances made in the IPSAS post-implementation phase project and the pressure that major business projects 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 it; and
8. *Further takes note* that the go-live of the Athena II plan is planned within the first semester of 2017.

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CE/DEC/9(CIII)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part III: Administrative and statutory matters

(b) UNWTO financial report and audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2015

Report of the Programme and Budget Committee (Administrative and statutory matters)

Agenda item 7(b)
(documents CE/103/7(b) and CE/103/4)

The Executive Council,

Having examined the UNWTO financial report and audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2015,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General and the Programme and Budget Committee,

1. *Takes note* of the favourable opinion of the External Auditors that the UNWTO Financial Statements for the year ended 2015 present fairly the financial position of the UNWTO as at 31 December 2015 and the results of the operations for this period, in compliance with UNWTO Financial Regulations and Rules and International Public Sector Accounting Standards with one exception regarding the timing difference in the presentation of audit reports of the Themis Foundation;
2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue discussions with the External Auditors and the Government of Andorra to find a solution to the timing differences in the auditing of the Financial Statements of the Themis Foundation;
3. *Recommends* the General Assembly to approve the UNWTO Financial Statements for the year ended 2015;
4. *Notes* that in the financial year 2015 the level of budgetary expenditure was maintained within the limit of approved appropriations, resulting in an implementation rate of 97 per cent out of the total budgetary income, and observes that the level of budgetary income received (cash-in) in 2015, including the Members' arrears, represents 99.6 per cent of the approved budget income, resulting in a

cash surplus which was returned to the Working Capital Fund (WCF) to partially cover the advance made from the WCF in previous years;

5. *Recommends* the Secretary-General to continue in 2016 his approaches to Members that owe contributions to the Organization in order to secure their payment;

6. *Approves* the adjustments made by the Secretary-General to the 2015 programme staff appropriations and the transfers of appropriations indicated in the document which have been recommended by the Programme and Budget Committee and by the Executive Council members through a written consultation in accordance with Financial Regulations 5.3(a) and 5.3(b);

7. *Also takes note* of the amendment of the Detailed Financial Rule (DFR) IV.1 to read "...This contribution shall be considered miscellaneous revenue for the current financial period...." and to include a new DFR (DFR IV.6) on the application of collection of contributions to read "The application of collection of contributions is done from the oldest arrear to the most recent one except if otherwise indicated by the Member" as recommended by the External Auditors during the external audit of the 2014 UNWTO Financial Statements, while noting Germany's reservation with regard to this change; and

8. *Expresses* its gratitude to the Chair of the Programme and Budget Committee (Argentina) and the External Auditor (Spain) for the work carried out.

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CE/DEC/10(CIII)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part III: Administrative and statutory matters

(c) Application of Article 34 of the Statutes and paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules

Report of the Programme and Budget Committee (Part II: Administrative and statutory matters)

Agenda item 7(c)
(documents CE/103/7(c) and CE/103/4)

The Executive Council,

Having examined the report by the Secretary-General,

1. *Thanks* the Members that have made the necessary efforts in order to fulfil their financial obligations despite their internal constraints;
2. *Notes* that Lao People's Democratic Republic and Nicaragua have respected their agreed payment plans up to 2016;
3. *Notes with appreciation* that Full Members Mali and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia are no longer subject to the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules and/or Article 34 of the Statutes since they have reduced their contribution arrears partially or in full;
4. *Approves* the payment plan submitted by Mauritania for the settlement of its arrears;
5. *Takes note* that in accordance with resolution A/RES/646(XXI) the provisions of Article 34 of the Statutes are once again applicable to the Full Members Guinea, Niger, Togo, Uganda and Yemen, as well as to the Affiliate Members Fédération Inter-États des Syndicats des Agences de Voyages et de Tourisme de l'Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre (FISAVET) and Fundação CTI Nordeste;
6. *Reminds* Members to pay their contributions to the budget within the time period stipulated by regulation 7(2) of the Financial Regulations; and
7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to inform it, at its next session, about the Members' compliance with the agreements made with a view, as the case may be, to maintaining the temporary exemption

from the provisions of paragraph 13 that they were granted by the General Assembly or reapplying those provisions to them if they have not fulfilled their commitments.

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CE/DEC/11(CIII)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part III: Administrative and statutory matters

(d) Membership status

Agenda item 7(d)
(document CE/103/7(d))

The Executive Council,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General,

1. *Urges* Australia to reconsider its decision and maintain its membership in the Organization;
2. *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; and
3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on the above-mentioned follow-up actions taken regarding membership status.

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CE/DEC/12(CIII)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part III: Administrative and statutory matters

(e) Human resources report

Report of the Programme and Budget Committee (Administrative and statutory matters)

Agenda item 7(e)
(documents CE/103/7(e) and CE/103/4)

The Executive Council,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General on the human resources situation of the Secretariat,

1. *Takes note* of the information provided on the human resources of the Secretariat;
2. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the work currently being carried out by those persons 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. *Approves* the amendments of the Staff Rules of Annex I as a consequence of UNGA Resolution A/RES/70/244 with dates of effect as indicated in document CE/103/7(e);
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 function;

Having heard the statement of the Secretary-General on the Management composition of the Secretariat,

5. *Takes note* of the decision of the Secretary-General that, within the existing structure of the Senior Management, Executive Director Mr. Márcio Favilla would assume the prime responsibility in the Secretariat if and when needed.

6. *Also takes note* of the Secretary-General's choice to name Mr. Carlos Vogeler as Executive Director for Member Relations in addition to the three Executive Directors, Mr. Márcio Favilla, Mr. Zoltan Somogyi, and Mr. Shanzhong Zhu, to serve for the period 2016-2017;
7. *Acknowledges* that these decisions do not have any financial and structural consequences on the UNWTO Secretariat; and
8. *Broadly supports* the above decisions of the Secretary-General.

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CE/DEC/13(CIII)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part III: Administrative and statutory matters

(f) Report of the Working Group on the Review of the Amendment Procedure of the Statutes

Agenda item 7(f)
(document CE/103/7(f))

The Executive Council,

Having examined the report of the Working Group for the Review of the Amendment Procedure of the Statutes and Financing Rules,

1. *Takes note* of the activities of the Working Group for the review of the procedure of amendment to the Statutes and Financing Rules pursuing the objectives of amending Article 33 of the Statutes, as set out in resolution A/RES/662(XXI);
2. *Approves* the proposal made by the Working Group to modify Article 33 and endorses the text as proposed in document CE/103/7(f);
3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to initiate the circulation of the proposed amendment to the Full Members before submitting it to the consideration of the General Assembly, as prescribed in Article 33(1) of the Statutes; and
4. *Thanks* the Working Group for its work and encourages it to continue working on its recommendations concerning pending amendments that could be effective upon the entry into force of the new amendment procedure, to be submitted to the 104th Executive Council for its approval and to the twenty-second session of the UNWTO General Assembly for its adoption.

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CE/DEC/14(CIII)

Affiliate Members

(a) Report of the Chair of the Affiliate Members

Agenda item 8(a)
(document CE/103/8(a))

The Executive Council,

Having examined the report of the Chair of the Board of the Affiliate Members,

1. *Acknowledges* the constructive role of the initiatives implemented in the Action Plan of the Affiliate Members Programme, including publications, events and prototypes as well as the growing number of Affiliate Members that participate in them;
2. *Encourages* participation in the grouping together of the different Members by area of interest in the UNWTO Networks, promoting interaction, the exchange of knowledge and innovation processes;
3. *Takes note with satisfaction* 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
4. *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.

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CE/DEC/15(CIII)

Affiliate Members

(b) Report of the Committee for the Review of Applications for Affiliate Membership

Agenda item 8(b)
(document CE/103/8(b))

The Executive Council,

Having taken cognizance of the report of its Committee for the Review of Applications for Affiliate Membership, which met in Málaga, Spain, on 10 May 2016, under the chairmanship of Thailand,

1. *Endorses* the recommendation of the Committee; and
2. *Decides* to admit provisionally to affiliate membership the following candidates, pending ratification by the twenty-second session of the General Assembly:
 1. AIRBNB (UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
 2. ASOCIACIÓN EUROPEA PARA EL DESARROLLO DE LA CULTURA GASTRONÓMICA (SPAIN)
 3. CÁMARA DE COMERCIO DE BOGOTÁ (COLOMBIA)
 4. CHEMONICS INTERNATIONAL INC. (UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
 5. CHINESE FRIENDLY INTERNATIONAL S.L. (SPAIN)
 6. COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY (UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
 7. CONSORCIO TURISMO DE SEVILLA (SPAIN)
 8. CORK FOREST CONSERVATION ALLIANCE (CFCA) (UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
 9. E&Y (UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
 10. ENTE DE TURISMO DE LA CIUDAD DE BUENOS AIRES (ARGENTINA)
 11. EURHODIP (BELGIUM)
 12. FACULTAD DE TURISMO GASTRONÓMICO DE LA UNIVERSIDAD AUTÓNOMA DEL ESTADO DE MÉXICO (MEXICO)
 13. GRUPO MENUS (WEB MENUS SL) (SPAIN)

14. GURUNAVI, INC. (JAPAN)
15. INSTITUTO DE TURISMO DE LA REGIÓN DE MURCIA (SPAIN)
16. ITTIC (IRAN TOURING & TOURISM INVESTMENT COMPANY) (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN)
17. KYOTO UNIVERSITY, DEPARTMENT OF APPLIED MATHEMATICS AND PHYSICS GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS (JAPAN)
18. NEOTURISMO (SPAIN)
19. ONTARIO CULINARY TOURISM ALLIANCE (OCTA) (CANADA)
20. QUESTEX - DESTINATION DEVELOP (UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
21. RED ESPAÑOLA DE TURISMO ACCESIBLE-RED ESTABLE (SPAIN)
22. SEOUL TOURISM ORGANIZATION (STO) (REPUBLIC OF KOREA)
23. TAYLOR UNIVERSITY (MALAYSIA)
24. THE STYLE OUTLETS-NEINVER S.A. (SPAIN)
25. TOURING & AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN)
26. TOYO UNIVERSITY (JAPAN)
27. UNITED SAEED ASSIRI CO LTD/UNITED ALPHA TOURISM CO.LTD. (SAUDI ARABIA)
28. UNIVERSIDAD DE GUADALAJARA - CENTRO UNIVERSITARIO DE CIENCIAS ECONÓMICO ADMINISTRATIVAS - CENTRO DE RECURSOS INFORMATIVOS (MEXICO)
29. UNIVERSIDAD REY JUAN CARLOS (SPAIN)
30. UNIVERSIDAD AGUSTINIANA – UNIAUGUSTINIANA (COLOMBIA)
31. WORLD TOURISM FORUM (TURKEY)

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Executive Council

103rd session

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CE/DEC/16(CIII)

Thematic discussion on “Tourism and Security: Towards a Framework for Safe, Secure and Seamless Travel”

Agenda item 9
(document CE/103/9)

The Executive Council

1. *Recognizes* that integration of the tourism and security sectors is of fundamental importance to ensure safe, secure and seamless travel, and to prevent and recover from possible crises;
2. *Takes note* of the initiatives undertaken by the Secretariat in this area; and
3. *Asks* the Secretary-General to continue working on prioritizing the promotion of safety, security and seamless travel as reflected in the Programme of Work of the Secretariat for the period 2016-2017.

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Executive Council

103rd session

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CE/DEC/17(CIII)

Place and dates of the 104th, 105th and 106th sessions of the Executive Council

Agenda item 10
(document CE/103/10)

The Executive Council

1. *Expresses* its gratitude to the governments of Jamaica and of the Bahamas, which withdrew their joint candidature to host the 104th session of the Council in favour of Egypt;
2. *Accepts* the generous invitation of Egypt to hold the 104th session of the UNWTO Executive Council in Luxor, from 30 October to 1 November, immediately before the Summit on City Tourism;
3. *Decides* to hold its 105th session in Madrid, Spain, in May 2017, on dates to be agreed with Spain, the host country; and
4. *Confirms* its decision to hold its 106th session in Chengdu, China, immediately before the 22nd session of the UNWTO General Assembly, in the fourth quarter of 2017, on a date to be agreed with China, the host country.

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Executive Council

103rd session

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CE/DEC/18(CIII)

Vote of thanks to the host country

The Executive Council,

Having carried out the work of its 103rd session under the excellent conditions placed at its disposal by the Government of Spain,

1. *Expresses its most sincere gratitude* to the Government and people of Spain and, more particularly, to Málaga Turismo Costa del Sol and the people of Málaga for the support extended to the UNWTO and its Members in hosting this session of the Council in the beautiful city of Málaga;
2. *Expresses, also, its appreciation* for the opportunity provided to the delegates to enjoy the attractions of the city and to attend various social events and technical visits; and
3. *Expresses, in particular, its deepest appreciation* to Ms. Isabel Borrego, Secretary of State of Tourism of Spain, Mr. Francisco de la Torre Prados, Mayor of Málaga, Mr. Elias Bendodo, President of the Diputación de Málaga and Mr. Francisco Javier Fernandez, Tourism Councillor of the Junta de Andalucía and to their staff, for their magnificent hospitality, as well as their personal involvement in and constant support to the organization of the meeting.

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