



Executive Council

104th session

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Election of the Chair and the Vice-Chairs of the Executive Council for 2017

I. Introduction

1. In accordance with Rule 5 of its Rules of Procedure (see below), the Council is invited to elect its Chair and two Vice-Chairs for 2017.

Officers of the Council

Rule 5

1. *The Council shall elect by secret ballot from among its Members a Chairman, a first Vice-Chairman and a second Vice-Chairman for a term of one year.*

2. *The election shall require a simple majority of the Members of the Council present and voting. If no candidate receives the majority in the first ballot, a second and, if necessary, subsequent ballots shall be held to decide between the two candidates who received the largest number of votes in the first ballot.*

3. *The Chairman and the Vice-Chairmen shall be eligible for a second term of office.*

4. *The Full Members elected to the chairmanship and vice-chairmanships of the Council shall designate the persons to perform the duties of Chairman and Vice-Chairmen.*

2. Although Rule 5 provides that this election shall be by secret ballot, the Council has in practice most often adopted a consensus approach to the election of its Officers.

3. In a letter dated 29 April 2016 and addressed to the Secretary-General (see annex), the Minister of Tourism of Azerbaijan, H.E. Mr. Abulfas Garayev, proposed the candidature of his country for the chairmanship of the Executive Council for the year 2017.

4. On 30 May 2016, the Secretariat addressed a note verbale to the Member States of the Council informing them of Azerbaijan's candidature.



5. As of the date of issue of this document, no other candidatures have been received for the Chair or for the positions of first Vice-Chair or second Vice-Chair of the Executive Council for the year 2017.

II. Actions to be taken by the Executive Council

6. The Executive Council is invited to elect its Chair and Vice-Chairs.

Annex: Letter of candidature of Azerbaijan for the chairmanship of the Executive Council for 2017

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H. E. Mr. Taleb Rifai
Secretary-General
World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)

Dear Secretary-General,

I avail myself of this opportunity to present my compliments to you and to the Secretariat and have the honor officially to propose the candidature of the Republic of Azerbaijan for Chairmanship of the UNWTO Executive Council for the period of 2017.

Azerbaijan is actively engaged in various activities and projects of UNWTO and on September 29th, 2016 it will be fifteen years since the country became a member of the organization. Being a member of UNWTO gave a possibility to host different international events, be a part of regional and international tourism initiatives implemented by the Organization which positively affected many areas in the tourism industry in Azerbaijan.

In 2013, Azerbaijan became the member of the UNWTO Executive Council for the first time, and since then it has been actively engaged within the Council at all levels.

Therefore, we are willing to extend our collaboration even further and believe that as a Chair of the Executive Council for the period of 2017, Azerbaijan will worthily contribute towards the tourism development on the global arena.

With a hope of meeting you in Malaga, please, accept dear Mr. Rifai, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Sincerely,

Minister

Abulfas Garayev