



Executive Council

104th session

Luxor, Egypt, 30 October – 1 November 2016

CE/104/DEC

DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AT ITS 104TH SESSION

Luxor, Egypt, 30 October – 1 November 2016

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CE/DEC/1(CIV)

Adoption of the agenda

Agenda item 1
(document CE/104/1 prov.)

The Executive Council

Adopts the agenda of its 104th session as proposed.

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CE/DEC/2(CIV)

Communication of the Chair

Agenda item 2
(document CE/104/2)

The Executive Council,

Having heard the communication of the Chair of the 104th session of the Executive Council, Mr. Mohamed 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 a contributor to the global economy and as a major provider of employment;
3. *Concurs* with him that sustainability is key in helping communities and businesses to maximize the social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits of tourism while minimizing its negative impacts; and
4. *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(CIV)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part I: Tourism trends and activities

(a) International tourism in 2016

Agenda item 3(a)
(document CE/104/3(a))

The Executive Council

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

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CE/DEC/4(CIV)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part I: Tourism trends and activities

(b) Mainstreaming tourism in the global agenda

Agenda item 3(b)
(document CE/104/3(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;
2. *Encourages* Member States to embrace the implementation processes of the SDGs at the national and international levels; and
3. *Invites* Member States to strongly engage with and support the celebration of the International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development 2017 as a unique opportunity to mainstream tourism in the national agendas.

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CE/DEC/5(CIV)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part I: Tourism trends and activities

(c) Priorities and Management vision

Agenda item 3(c)
(document CE/104/3(c))

The Executive Council

1. *Takes note of the progress made in the priorities of the Organization;*
2. *Recognizes that the integration of the tourism and security sectors is of fundamental importance to ensure safe, secure and seamless travel as well as to prevent, mitigate and recover from possible crises;*
3. *Welcomes the proposal for the creation of a High Level Task Force on Tourism and Security in order to strengthen the collective efforts to address these issues in the tourism sector at the global level;*
4. *Encourages Member States to become active members of the High Level Task Force on Tourism and Security;*
5. *Expresses its solidarity and support to Italy in the aftermath of the earthquakes that hit the central part of the country, as well as to the Bahamas and Haiti that were recently affected by Hurricane Matthew; and*
6. *Also expresses its deepest condolences to the people of Thailand for the loss of His Majesty Rama IX, King of Thailand.*

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CE/DEC/6(CIV)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part II: General Programme of Work

(a) Implementation of the General Programme of Work 2016-2017

Agenda item 5(a)
(documents CE/104/4 and CE/104/5(a))

The Executive Council,

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

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

Having specific regard to the International Year on Sustainable Tourism for Development,

2. *Thanks* Samoa, as its Chair, and all other members of the Steering Committee for the International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development 2017 (IY2017), for their valued advice, commitment and engagement;

3. *Takes note of* the official Roadmap for celebrating the IY2017, which presents objectives, five key areas, lines of action, proposed activities for all stakeholders, as well as sponsorship and partnership opportunities;

4. *Encourages* all Member States, Associate and Affiliate Members, the private sector, academia, civil society and other tourism stakeholders to develop initiatives and activities—at international, regional, national and local levels—to celebrate the IY2017 as well as to support, contribute to, and participate in UNWTO activities;

5. *Encourages* all stakeholders to become Official Sponsors, Partners or Friends of the IY2017 by supporting the celebrations through financial and in-kind contributions;

Having specific regard to the UN activities,

6. *Encourages*

(a) the Secretariat to follow up on the conclusions of the Habitat III Conference (Quito, Ecuador, October 2016) and the related processes;

(b) the Member States to participate in the UN Conference on Climate Change – COP 22 and the 10YFP-related events (7-18 November 2016, Marrakech, Morocco); and

(c) the Ministers of Tourism to take part at the High-Level Segment of the UN Conference COP 13 dedicated to Biodiversity and Tourism (2-3 December 2016, Cancún, Mexico) and to consider the decisions taken by the COP 13 which are relevant for the tourism sector at the 22nd General Assembly in China in 2017;

7. *Invites* Members to actively engage in the implementation of the recommendations of the UNGA resolution 69/233 “Promotion of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, for poverty eradication and environment protection”;

Having specific regard to the Convention on the Protection of Tourists and the Rights and Obligations of Tourism Service Providers,

8. *Entrusts* the Secretary-General to continue with the elaboration of the Convention on the Protection of Tourists and the Rights and Obligations of Tourism Service Providers;

9. *Specially thanks* all Member States that have participated in the public consultation process by providing to the Secretariat its comments and suggestions on the Convention;

Having specific regard to the Report of the Working Group on the UNWTO Convention on Tourism Ethics

10. *Encourages* the continuation of the ongoing work on the draft Convention on Tourism Ethics;

Having specific regard to UNWTO’s International Network of Sustainable Tourism Observatories,

11. *Takes note* of the Rules for the Operation and Management of Observatories;

12. *Welcomes* the expansion of the Observatories and progress made in strengthening its governance mechanism; and

13. *Invites* governments and other stakeholders to support destinations to join the UNWTO International Network of Sustainable Tourism Observatories (INSTO).

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CE/DEC/7(CIV)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part II: General Programme of Work

(b) Preparation of the General Programme of Work 2018-2019

Agenda item 5(b)
(documents CE/104/4 and CE/104/5(b))

The Executive Council,

Having examined the report on the preparation of the general programme of work for 2018-2019, as well as the report of the Programme and Budget Committee (Programme part),

Urges all UNWTO Members to complete the online survey to allow a more inclusive and representative picture of everyone's needs.

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CE/DEC/8(CIV)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part III: Administrative and statutory matters

(a) Financial situation of the Organization for 2016

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

Agenda item 7(a)

(documents CE/104/7(a), CE/104/7(a) Add.1 and CE/104/4)

The Executive Council,

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

1. *Approves* the adjustments made by the Secretary-General to the staff appropriations of programmes for 2016;
2. *Takes note* of the level of collection of contributions from Members for the financial year 2016 as of 30 June 2016 amounting to EUR 9,908,913, and also of the collection of contributions in arrears, amounting to EUR 810,325;
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. *Approves* the implementation of the Initiative projects as decided by the Secretary-General;
5. *Also approves* the use of the Special Contingency Reserve (SCR) up to an amount of EUR 100,000 for the replacement of the Headquarters building floorings, in lieu of the renovation of the 9th floor meeting room;
6. *Takes note* that an updated salary scale and dependency allowance for staff in the General Service category will be applied by the Secretary-General when the relevant scale is formally notified by the ICSC and that the new compensation package for staff in the Professional and higher categories will be applied by the Secretary-General as shown in CE/DEC/12(CIII) unless other application dates are approved by the UN General Assembly; and

7. *Further approves* the amendments to the UNWTO Detailed Financial Rules as presented in document CE/104/7(a) Addendum 1 to enter into force following dates of effect as indicated in document CE/103/7(e).

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CE/DEC/9(CIV)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part III: Administrative and statutory matters

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

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

Agenda item 7(b)
(documents CE/104/7(b) and CE/104/4))

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 Cambodia, the Gambia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Nicaragua have respected their agreed payment plans up to 2016;
3. *Notes with appreciation* that Full Member Gabon is no longer subject to the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules since it has reduced its contribution arrears partially;
4. *Approves* the payment plans submitted by Guinea-Bissau and Kyrgyzstan for the settlement of their arrears;
5. *Reminds* Members to pay their contributions to the budget within the time period stipulated by regulation 7(2) of the Financial Regulations;
6. *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; and

7. The Council was also informed by the Secretary-General of the intention of Palestine to become a Full Member.

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CE/DEC/10(CIV)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part III: Administrative and statutory matters

(c) Report on the reform of the Organization (White Paper implementation)

Agenda item 7(c)
(document CE/104/7(c))

The Executive Council,

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

1. *Approves* it; and
2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep working on the reform progress of the Organization along with the approved lines of the White Paper and to report on its status to the 22nd session of the General Assembly.

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CE/DEC/11(CIV)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part III: Administrative and statutory matters

(d) Report on the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit in 2015

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

Agenda item 7(d)
(documents CE/104/7(d) and CE/104/4)

The Executive Council,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General on the Joint Inspection Unit 2015 recommendations,

1. *Takes note* of the reports and the management letter issued by the Joint Inspection Unit in 2015 referenced in document CE/104/7(d) and thanks the Unit for its insights;
2. *Reconfirms* decision CE/DEC/7(XCIV) approving the White Paper Implementation Plan as the main instrument to drive the reform process at the UNWTO;
3. *Welcomes* the constructive approach started by the JIU in 2013 in relation to their differentiating recommendations addressed to smaller agencies into recommendations for information and recommendations for action according to their relevance to these agencies;
4. *Takes note* of the relevant recommendations presented in JIU reports, notes or management letters in 2015; and
5. *Approves* the actions to be taken on each one of them, as proposed in the annex of document CE/104/7(d), and requests the Secretary-General to report accordingly to the JIU on them.

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CE/DEC/12(CIV)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part III: Administrative and statutory matters

(e) Information and communication technologies at the Secretariat

Agenda item 7(e)
(documents CE/104/7(e) and CE/104/4)

The Executive Council,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General on information and communication technologies,

1. *Takes note* of the status of ICT activities in document CE/104/7(e); and
2. *Notes* the progress in the technology infrastructure already implemented by the Organization while acknowledging that a rapidly evolving technology environment and budgetary constraints represent a set of unique challenges in the near future.

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CE/DEC/13(CIV)

Affiliate Members

(a) Report of the Chair of the Affiliate Members

Agenda item 8(a)
(document CE/104/8(a))

The Executive Council,

Having heard the report of the Chair of the Board of the UNWTO Affiliate Members,

1. *Thanks* the Chair for his report;
2. *Congratulates* the Secretariat for the increasing relevance of the Gastronomy Network and the launching of the City Tourism Network;
3. *Encourages* participation of Member States in the UNWTO Gastronomy, Shopping and City Tourism Networks in order to foster innovation processes and the exchange of expertise;
4. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the “Mayors for Tourism Initiative” and invites Member States to support it by informing and encouraging their mayors to be part of it;
5. *Congratulates* the Secretariat for 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
6. *Recognizes* the importance of the Prototype Methodology and related materials developed by the Secretariat including its names and signs, such as the Wine Tourism exercise “The Joyful Journey”.

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CE/DEC/14(CIV)

Affiliate Members

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

Agenda item 8(b)
(document CE/104/8(b))

The Executive Council,

Having taken cognizance of the candidatures received as listed in paragraph 2 of document CE/104/8(b) and of the report of the Committee for the Review of Applications for Affiliate Membership, which met in Luxor, Egypt, on 31 October 2016, under the chairmanship of Thailand,

1. *Endorses* the report of the Committee;
2. *Entrusts* the Secretariat (a) to receive, within a period of thirty days, the necessary clarifications, including comments from the Members of the Executive Council on any candidature and (b) to report to the General Assembly on the candidates admitted provisionally as a result of this process, together with any comments related to all candidatures for its information and approval;
3. *Notes with interest* that, following decision CE/DEC/19(C) of the Executive Council, the Secretariat circulated a first draft of guidelines on criteria for endorsement of Affiliate Members to the members of the Committee for their comments; and
4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on this issue at the 105th session of the Executive Council.

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CE/DEC/15(CIV)

Procedure and calendar for the election of the Secretary-General of the Organization for the period 2018-2021

Agenda item 9
(document CE/104/9)

The Executive Council,

Having examined document CE/104/9 submitted by the Secretary-General on this subject,

1. *Confirms* that the statutory rules governing the election of the Secretary-General will be supplemented by the rules and procedure established in document CE/104/9;
2. *Invites* Member States to propose candidates for the post of Secretary-General for the period 2018-2021, ensuring that their nominations reach the Organization's Headquarters by 11 March 2017, at 24:00 hours at the latest, Madrid time;
3. *Requests* candidates to submit their candidature together with all other information as specified in the established procedures (document CE/104/9); and
4. *Confirms* that the Council shall select at its 105th session the nominee it should recommend to the twenty-second session of the General Assembly for the post of Secretary-General for the period 2018-2021.

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CE/DEC/16(CIV)

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

Agenda item 10
(document CE/104/10)

The Executive Council,

Having regard to Rule 5 of its Rules of Procedure,

Having considered the different candidatures received for the chairmanship,

1. *Decides* to elect Azerbaijan as Chair of the Council for 2017;

Having taken note of the candidatures for the first and second vice-chairmanships,

2. *Decides* to elect Zambia as first Vice-Chair of the Council and Serbia as second Vice-Chair of the Council for 2017;

3. *Thanks* Kenya for its generous decision to withdraw its candidature for Vice-Chair in favour of the two other candidates;

4. *Requests* the Full Members elected to the chairmanship/vice-chairmanships to designate the persons to perform these duties, in accordance with Rule 5(4) of its Rules of Procedure; and

5. *Pays special tribute* to the outgoing Chair, His Excellency Mr. Mohamed Yehia Rashed, Minister of Tourism of Egypt, for the quality of the work he has accomplished for the benefit of the Organization in the performance of his functions.

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Executive Council

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CE/DEC/17(CIV)

Vote of thanks to the host country

The Executive Council,

Having carried out the work of its 104th session under the excellent conditions placed at its disposal by the Government of Egypt,

1. *Expresses its most sincere gratitude* to the Government and people of Egypt, to the Governorate of Luxor and to all the institutions involved in hosting this session of the Council in the beautiful city of Luxor;
2. *Also expresses 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. *Further expresses its deep appreciation* to H.E. Mr. Mohamed Yehia Rashed, Minister of Tourism of Egypt, and Mr. Mohamed Sayed Badr, Governor of Luxor, and to their teams for their utmost dedication, generous hospitality and personal commitment to the organization of the meeting.

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