



WORLD TOURISM ORGANIZATION

**EXECUTIVE  
COUNCIL**



CE/85/4(b)  
Madrid, March 2009  
Original: English

---

Eighty-fifth session  
Bamako, Mali, 7-8 May 2009  
Provisional agenda item 4(b)

**GENERAL PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE PERIOD 2008-2009**

**(b) Report of the Programme Committee**

**Note by the Secretary-General**

This document contains the section of the 36<sup>th</sup> Programme Committee meeting's report (24-25 February 2009) regarding the specific points that refer to the 2008-2009 programme of work.

## **GENERAL PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE PERIOD 2008-2009**

### **(b) Report of the Programme Committee**

1. The Programme Committee (PC) held its thirty-sixth meeting at the Organization's Headquarters on 24 and 25 February 2009. The meeting was chaired by Datuk Dr. Victor Wee (Malaysia).

#### **Implementation and evaluation of the General Programme of Work for the period 2008-2009**

2. After examining the documents PC/36/4(a), PC/36/4(b) and PC/36/4(b) Add.1, the Committee took note with satisfaction of the large number of activities undertaken by the Secretariat during the second half of 2008 and appreciated the progress accomplished and the results achieved so far.

3. Regarding the evaluation process of UNWTO technical events, the Committee congratulated the Secretariat for producing the *Guidelines for planning, organizing and holding UNWTO Technical Events*, as was requested during the last PC meeting, in order to improve their quality, increase their practical results and achieve excellence. It strongly recommended to DPC to make sure that all events are properly evaluated and the results of such evaluation are widely disseminated.

4. The Committee examined the results of the evaluation of the technical events for 2008. Though it appreciates that these results were globally positive, there is still room for improvement. Members of the Committee acknowledged that the strict application of the above-mentioned guidelines have strongly contributed to this task and underlined the importance of its distribution to speakers and moderators.

5. The Committee also appreciated the positive results obtained in the evaluation of technical missions for 2008. Here again, it also noted that improvements could be made to reach a higher level of excellence. In order to achieve a higher response rate from Member States to the evaluation questionnaire, the Committee recommended that countries should be informed that it would be difficult for UNWTO to undertake new missions if they had not given feedback on whether the expectations were reached in the previous mission.

6. The Committee encouraged the Secretariat to pursue its efforts in evaluating all UNWTO activities, including also the global evaluation against the indicators included in the Programme of Work 2008-2009 (document A/17/7 Rev.).

7. The PC examined, jointly with the Committee on Budget and Finance, the possible adjustments required for the 2009 budget in order to respond to the economic downturn. Part of this response will be carried out by the Tourism Resilience Committee, the actions and calendar of which were presented to the PC by the Assistant Secretary General. In addition, the Committee approved the prudent expenses management for 2009 explained by the Deputy Secretary General, (Secretary General *ad interim* as from 1 March), which gave room to re-allocate some funds for actions in response to unexpected circumstances linked to the economic crisis or other issues.

8. In addition, the Committee emphasized the need to continue looking for other financial donors through UNDP, the World Bank, IMF, etc. and perhaps also through the collaboration of our Affiliate Members.