WORLD TOURISM ORGANIZATION



EXECUTIVE COUNCIL



CE/85/DEC

DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AT ITS EIGHTY-FIITH SESSION

Bamako, Mali, 7-8 May 2009

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3. <u>DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL</u>

CE/DEC/1(LXXXV)

Adoption of the agenda

Agenda item 1 (documents CE/85/1 prov. and CE/85/1 prov. annot.)

The Executive Council,	
Adopts the agenda of its eighty-fifth session as proposed.	
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Communication of the Chairman

Agenda item 2 (document CE/85/2)

The Executive Council,

<u>Having heard</u> the communication of its Chairman, H.E. Mr. Carlos Ricardo Benavides, Minister of Tourism of Costa Rica,

- 1. Thanks him for it;
- 2. <u>Shares</u> the views of its Chairman regarding the importance of tourism and its contribution to the process of economic and social development, particularly for developing countries;
- 3. <u>Endorses</u> his opinions regarding the new challenge confronting the sector in the face of the world financial crisis;
- 4. <u>Agrees</u> with him that tourism is once again demonstrating resilience in the face of the current crises, being a factor of unity and dialogue among countries, and <u>welcomes</u> the important role that the UNWTO played on the occasion of the G20 meeting of April 2009;

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- 5. <u>Agrees</u> with the Chairman's position that efforts to mitigate climate change have to be carried out in the context of poverty alleviation and sustainable development, particularly in developing countries, and <u>endorses</u> his proposal for UWNTO to promote the use of sustainability indicators; and
- 6. <u>Thanks</u> him for his commitment in favour of the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism.

CE/DEC/3(LXXXV)

Report of the Secretary-General

Agenda item 3 (document CE/85/3)

The Executive Council,

<u>Having heard</u> the report presented by the Secretary-General a.i. and <u>having</u> discussed it,

- 1. <u>Thanks</u> the Secretary-General for his presentation intended to keep the Members of the Council informed about the situation of international tourism and the action of the Organization;
- 2. <u>Shares</u> the Secretary-General's analysis regarding the world economic situation confronting the tourism industry, whose short-term outlook is not favourable:
- 3. <u>Appreciates</u> the work of the Secretariat on the response contributed by UNWTO to the sector, notably, thanks to the reactivation of the Tourism Resilience Committee, the frequent dissemination of information regarding the evolution of the crisis, its impacts on tourism and the measures taken by the different Member States in this respect;
- 4. <u>Notes</u> the measures taken by the Secretariat urging governments to use tourism as one important tool in their plans for economic recovery and stimulus, as well as to make it one of their principal instruments for transformation towards a "green economy";
- 5. <u>Takes note</u> of the activities and major events that have marked the life of the UNWTO over the past months;

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- 6. <u>Takes note</u> of the sound financial situation of the Organization and of the prudent management exercised during the current financial period; and
- 7. <u>Welcomes</u> the ongoing revision of the administrative procedures of the Secretariat, whose new mechanisms are being progressively implemented.

<u>Having also taken cognizance</u> of the response given by the Secretariat to the situation concerning A(H1N1) influenza,

- 8. <u>Takes note</u> of it, particularly its status, impacts on travel, UNWTO action in the UN System response, Member engagement and industry coordination, and instructs the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to maintain sector preparedness, coordination within the UN system, and limit adverse effects on travel and tourism consistent with overriding health imperatives; and
- 9. <u>Further notes</u> the important role that UNWTO can play, in collaboration with Member States, in facilitating accurate information on the UN system response to the H1N1 influenza and similar situations, to avoid unilateral measures that affect international tourism and travel and <u>requests</u> the Secretary-General to bring the above to the attention of relevant bodies inside and outside the UN System.

CE/DEC/4(LXXXV)

Report of the Secretary-General

Response to the A(H1N1) influenza

The Executive Council,

<u>Having also heard</u> the presentation by the Commission for the Americas,

- 1. <u>Expresses</u> its support and solidarity with the families that have lost their loved ones and with the countries affected by the A(H1N1) influenza;
- 2. <u>Appreciates</u> the efforts of the Government of Mexico to face, in a serious and responsible manner, this outbreak of A(H1N1) influenza and <u>expresses</u> its solidarity with it on this critical issue;

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- 3. <u>Decides</u> to consider this response as a lesson about the importance of an earlier collaboration with affected countries, to recognize that a contingency exists and to adopt the necessary measures to limit its impact on international tourism; and
- 4. Reaffirms the principles and objectives of the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism to avoid in the future unnecessary public attention and official declarations affecting countries that go through critical situations.

CE/DEC/5(LXXXV)

General programme of work for the period 2008-2009

(a) Report on its implementation and evaluation

(b) Report of the Programme Committee

Agenda Items 4(a) and 4(b) (documents CE/85/4(a), CE/85/4(a) Add.1 and CE/85/4(b))

The Executive Council,

<u>Having considered</u> the progress report submitted by the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Organization's general programme of work for the period 2008-2009,

<u>Having considered</u> the report of the thirty-sixth meeting of the Programme Committee,

<u>Having taken note</u> of the evaluation of the results of UNWTO's technical activities for the whole year 2008,

- 1. <u>Notes with satisfaction</u> the considerable progress made in implementing the programme during 2008 and the positive results achieved so far;
- 2. <u>Expresses its appreciation</u> to the Secretariat for the numerous activities undertaken in support of its Members;
- 3. <u>Expresses its appreciation</u> to the Secretariat for establishing a number of results' evaluation mechanisms and indicators of performance referring to technical events, technical missions and development assistance projects;

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- 4. <u>Notes with satisfaction</u> the preliminary results of the evaluation conducted with the mechanisms established, as well as with the indicators stated in the Programme of Work 2008-2009 (A/17/7 Rev.);
- 5. <u>Encourages</u> the Secretariat, in collaboration with the Programme Committee, to continue its efforts in improving performance and productivity regarding all the Organization's activities in order to reach a higher level of excellence and wider impacts from the work of the Secretariat; and
- 6. <u>Approves</u> the careful financial management of the programme of work for 2009, which facilitates the revision of priorities in response to unexpected circumstances linked to the economic crisis or other issues.

CE/DEC/6(LXXXV)

Administrative, financial and statutory matters

- (a) Report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation and plan of expenditure for 2009
 - (b) Report of the Committee on Budget and Finance

Agenda item 5(a) (documents CE/85/5(a), CE/85/5(a) Add. 1 and CE/85/5(b))

The Executive Council,

<u>Having before it</u> the report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation of the Organization,

<u>Having heard</u> the statements by the Secretariat and <u>having before it</u> the report of the Committee on Budget and Finance,

- 1. <u>Takes note</u> of the report on the plan of expenditure for execution of the programme of work in 2009, in accordance with the expected level of income, and the measures taken by the Secretary-General in financial and personnel matters to ensure efficient management of the Secretariat;
- 2. <u>Approves</u> the preparation of an expenditure forecast for the current financial year up to a limit of 92 per cent of approved amounts, so as to maintain the necessary budgetary equilibrium, in accordance with the recommendation made by the General Assembly in resolution 496(XVI) and the Financial Provisions of the Organization;

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- 3. <u>Takes note</u> of the satisfactory level of collection of contributions from Members for financial year 2009, amounting to 6,673,511.47 euros, which represents 57 per cent of the assessed contributions, and also of the collection of contribution arrears, amounting to 747,941.40 euros;
- 4. Approves the updated contribution scale for Full and Associate Members for 2009, consistent with resolution 524(XVII), as it appears in the annex of document CE/85/5(a) Add.1;
- 5. <u>Urges</u> Members that have not yet complied with their financial obligations to take the necessary steps to pay their contributions for 2009, thereby averting delays that could hamper programme execution;
- 6. <u>Takes note</u>, in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Staff Regulations and Rules and the recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission of the adoption effective 1 January 2009 of a new salary scale applicable to staff of the professional and higher categories; and
- 7. Welcomes the new Director of Administration, Mr. José García Blanch and pays special tribute to Mr. Peter Shackleford, former Director of Administration and also Secretary of this Council for many years, for the valuable contribution he has made throughout his professional career with IUOTO and UNWTO (1968-2008).

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CE/DEC/7(LXXXV)

Administrative, financial and statutory matters

(c) Auditors' report and administrative accounts of the Organization for the financial year 2008

Agenda item 5(c) (documents CE/85/5(c), CE/85/5(c) Add.1 and CE/85/5(b))

The Executive Council,

<u>Having before it</u> the Auditors' report and administrative accounts of the Organization for the financial year 2008,

<u>Having considered</u> the explanations by the Secretariat and the report of the Committee on Budget and Finance,

CE/DEC/7(LXXXV)

- 1. <u>Notes</u> that in the financial year 2008 the level of budgetary expenditure, namely, 11,857,375.89 euros, was maintained within the limit of approved appropriations;
- 2. Notes that in 2008 a budget surplus of 80,144.14 euros was recorded;
- 3. Observes that the level of budgetary income received in 2008 made it possible to execute 97.61 per cent of the approved budget;
- 4. Approves the transfers of appropriations indicated in the document and which were made with the prior authorization of the Chairman of the Committee on Budget and Finance (Argentina), in accordance with Financial Regulation 5(3)(a) and Detailed Financial Provision 3.07 and recommends, however, that so far as possible transfers between different sections of the budget be limited to exceptional cases;
- 5. Recommends to the Secretary-General to continue in 2009 his approaches to Members that owe contributions to the Organization in order to secure their payment;
- 6. <u>Endorses</u> the Auditors' appeal to all the Members to pay their contributions to the budget within the time period stipulated by regulation 7(2) of the Financial Regulations;
- 7. Recommends to the General Assembly to approve the administrative accounts for the financial year 2008, as reported by the Auditors;

<u>Having been informed</u> of the action plan presented by the Secretariat for the implementation in the Organization of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS), and <u>taking note</u> of the recommendation made by the Committee on Budget and Finance in the report of its fiftieth meeting,

- 8. Approves that the adoption of such standards be carried out in a progressive manner during the biennium 2010-2011 and that the reserve fund for the replacement of fixed assets be used to finance the cost of their implementation;
- Agrees that the UNWTO should take steps aimed at ensuring that these new accounting standards have been adopted by 1 January 2012; and
- 10. <u>Thanks</u> the Chairman of the Committee on Budget and Finance (Argentina) and the Auditors (Spain and India) for the important work carried out.

CE/DEC/8(LXXXV)

Administrative, financial and statutory matters

(d) Closing of the audited administrative accounts of the sixteenth financial period (2006-2007)

Agenda item 5(d) (documents CE/85/5(d) and CE/85/5(b))

The Executive Council,

<u>Considering</u> the report of the Secretary-General on the financial results of the audited accounts of the sixteenth financial period (2006-2007) and <u>taking note</u> of the report of the Committee on Budget and Finance referring thereto,

<u>Having noted</u> the proposal of the Secretary-General concerning the use of the available surplus from the financial period 2006-2007 to strengthen the activities of the Organization's programme of work for the biennium 2010-2011,

- 1. <u>Observes</u> that on closing the accounts for the period on 31 December 2007, there was a surplus balance of 830,993.50 euros;
- 2. <u>Welcomes</u> the high level of collection of contribution arrears; and
- 3. Recommends to the General Assembly to create a special account for the said surplus; the mobilization of which will be done by the Secretary-General, with the agreement of the Executive Council, with the understanding that these funds will not be used to finance normal operating expenses within the approved budget.

CE/DEC/9(LXXXV)

Administrative, financial and statutory matters

(e) Application of the provisions of Article 34 of the Statutes and of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes

Agenda item 5(e) (documents CE/85/5(e), CE/85/5(e) Add.1 and CE/85/5(b))

The Executive Council,

Observing that the provisions of Article 34 of the Statutes and paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes are applied to 23 Full Members, one Associate Member and 46 Affiliate Members,

<u>Having been informed</u> of the Members benefiting from temporary exemption from the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes, granted by the seventeenth General Assembly,

- 1. <u>Thanks</u> the Members that have made the necessary efforts in order to fulfil their financial obligations despite their internal constraints;
- 2. <u>Notes</u> that Chad has paid most of its contribution arrears and is no longer liable to the provisions of Article 34 of the Statutes, and <u>welcomes with satisfaction</u> the significant efforts undertaken by this country;
- 3. <u>Further notes</u> that Congo is no longer liable to the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules and <u>agrees</u> to the new payment plan for the settlement of its contribution arrears:
- 4. <u>Notes with satisfaction</u> that Bolivia and Cambodia have respected their agreed payment plans up to 2009, and <u>welcomes</u> the fact that Costa Rica has completed its payment plan;
- 5. <u>Notes</u> that Togo and Yemen have partially respected their agreed payment plans up to 2009;
- Requests the Secretary-General to remind Members that have not yet fulfilled their agreed plans or have done so only partially that temporary exemption from the aforementioned provisions is subject to their full observance of those plans;
- 7. <u>Also requests</u> 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;

CE/DEC/9(LXXXV)

Recalling resolution A/RES/523(XVII),

<u>Aware</u> that Iraq benefits from a temporary exemption of the application of the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes and Article 34 of the Statutes during a grace period of two years, and

8. <u>Encourages</u> this country to agree with the Secretariat on a payment plan, to be submitted to the 86th session of the Executive Council so as to regularize its financial situation as soon as possible.

CE/DEC/10(LXXXV)

Administrative, financial and statutory matters

(f) Use of the UNWTO logo

Agenda item 5(f) (document CE/85/5(f))

The Executive Council,

<u>Having taken cognizance</u> of the preliminary report of the Secretary-General on this subject,

Considering nonetheless the urgency of adopting appropriate arrangements,

- <u>Shares</u> the opinion of the Secretary-General regarding the importance of the question of the use of the Organization's logo, name, acronym, emblem, as well as its domain name, which is common to all the institutions of the United Nations system;
- 2. <u>Decides</u> to create a Working Group to study the question in all its aspects, composed of Brazil, France, Ghana, India, Indonesia Spain, and a representative of the Affiliate Members, which will carry out exchanges of views by electronic means:
- 3. Requests the Secretary-General and the Legal Adviser to prepare a study on this subject, based on the deliberations of the Working Group, and to submit such study to it at its eighty-sixth session; and
- 4. <u>Asks</u> the Secretary-General to deal with requests for the use of the logo with caution until the approval of the rules established on this subject.

CE/DEC/11(LXXXV)

Administrative, financial and statutory matters

(g) Report of the Staff Association

Agenda item 5(g) (document CE/85/5(g))

The Executive Council,

Having been informed of the UWNTO Staff Association report,

- 1. <u>Considers positively</u> the presentation of this first report of the Association, in accordance with decision 3(LXXXIII) adopted at its eighty-third session;
- 2. <u>Appreciates</u> the spirit of cooperation and openness to dialogue expressed in the report, within the framework of the application of the recommendations of JIU; and
- Takes note of it and thanks the Chairperson of the Association for her presentation.

CE/DEC/12(LXXXV)

Recommendation by the Executive Council to the General Assembly of a nominee for the post of Secretary-General for the period 2010-2013

Agenda Item 6 (documents CE/85/6 and CE/85/6 Add.1)

The Executive Council,

Recalling Article 12(c) of the Statutes and rule 29(1) of its Rules of Procedure,

<u>Having discussed</u> the admissibility of the candidature of Mr. Arab Hoballah, presented by Lebanon, a country that has unjustified contribution arrears (paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes),

1. Decides not to proceed with the aforementioned candidature;

Having heard the presentations of the three candidates,

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<u>Having held</u> a private meeting in accordance with rule 29(2) of its Rules of Procedure and the relevant provisions of decision 20(LXXIV) taken at its seventy-fourth session,

<u>Having heard</u> the designation by its Chairman of the representatives of Germany and Mali as tellers to count the votes,

<u>Having held</u> a secret ballot during this meeting in accordance with the guiding principles for the conduct of elections by secret ballot annexed to the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly,

Noting that the ballot gave 20 votes to Mr. Taleb Rifai (Jordan), 10 votes to Mr. Oh Jee chul (Republic of Korea) and one vote to Mr. Khalid Malik (Pakistan),

Also noting that Mr. Taleb Rifai received in the first ballot the required majority of Council Members,

2. <u>Recommends</u> the General Assembly to appoint Mr. Taleb Rifai to the post of Secretary-General for the period 2010-2013.

CE/DEC/13(LXXXV)

<u>Draft programme of work and budget for the period 2010-2011</u>

- (a) Draft programme budget prepared by the Secretary-General
 - (b) Report of the Programme Committee
 - (c) Report of the Committee on Budget and Finance

Agenda Items 7(a), 7(b) and 7(c) (documents CE/85/7(a), CE/85/7(b) and CE/85/7(c))

The Executive Council.

<u>Having considered</u> the draft general programme of work and budget of the Organization for the period 2010-2011, prepared by the Secretary-General in accordance with Article 23(2) of the Statutes and on the basis of the policy guidelines and programming principles adopted by the Council at its seventy-ninth session in decision 11(LXXIX),

<u>Having before it</u> the reports of the Programme Committee and of the Committee on Budget and Finance,

CE/DEC/13(LXXXV)

- Notes with satisfaction that the programme proposed is built upon strategic and specific objectives that respond to the Members' needs and also to wider commitments with the UN System;
- 2. <u>Shares the Programme Committee's view</u> that the draft programme, as requested by the General Assembly, presents more focussed objectives, activities and actions in order to reach better results and impacts;
- 3. <u>Advocates</u>, in the light of the difficult global economic situation, for clear leadership by UNWTO in providing information, analyses and policy direction for Member States to help them manage their tourism industry through the crisis;
- 4. <u>Supports</u>, therefore, the Programme Committee's recommendation that the Secretary General establishes a contingency mechanism for special activities or unexpected events that may arise after the approval of the draft programme by the General Assembly and that may require UNWTO intervention;
- 5. Expresses its satisfaction with the way in which the Secretariat has prepared the draft programme, including a clear consultation process with all Members and a constant and fruitful collaboration with the Programme Committee and the Committee on Budget and Finance, reinforcing the Member States' ownership regarding the work of the Organization;
- 6. <u>Approves</u> the draft programme of work, as recommended by the Programme Committee;
- 7. Recommends to the General Assembly to adopt a contribution scale for 2010-2011 with zero nominal growth in individual country contributions with respect to 2009, except when required by technical changes in the class situation of individual country cases, and also recommends to apply this policy in the formulation of the 2012-2013 budget proposal, after a mid-term review;
- 8. Recommends to the General Assembly to adopt a draft programme and budget for 2010-2011 amounting to a total, revised from the initial amount of 26,546,000 Euro, resulting from the application of Zero Nominal Growth to individual country contributions, and adjusted by any modification in membership that may occur until that time;
- 9. Recommends to the General Assembly to authorize the Secretary-General to execute the programme of work and budget for 2010-2011 in accordance with the amounts collected, in line with the satisfactory budgetary practice established in the previous years; and
- 10. <u>Commends</u> the Committee on Budget and Finance, the Programme Committee and their Chairpersons for their valuable contributions to the preparation of the Organization's draft programme of work for 2010-2011.

CE/DEC/14(LXXXV)

Relations with the United Nations System

(a) Coordination mechanisms

Agenda item 8(a) (document CE/85/8(a))

The Executive Council,

Having taken cognizance of document CE/85/8(a),

- 1. <u>Takes note with interest</u> of the UNWTO's regular collaboration with various United Nations authorities, as well as its participation in technical meetings of the system, with the objective of ensuring the full recognition of tourism's contribution in favour of sustainable development and poverty reduction, and ensuring optimal utilization of the resources of the United Nations by avoiding duplication of efforts;
- 2. <u>Further notes</u> the participation of the Organization in UN activities, as well as in technical and administrative meetings, in particular in the Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB), the High-Level Committee on Programmes and the High-Level Committee on Management;
- 3. <u>Encourages</u> the Secretariat to reinforce its cooperation with the Resident Representatives of the UN System in the different countries, so as to give to international tourism the importance it deserves,

Recalling furthermore decision 7(LXXIV).

- 4. <u>Entrusts</u> the Secretary-General with continuing his actions in the framework of the United Nations campaign to encourage the States that have not yet done so to ratify the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies, and in particular, to accept the new annexes that include UNWTO; and
- 5. Requests the Secretary-General to report to it, at its forthcoming sessions, on the participation of the Organization in the system's coordination mechanisms.

CE/DEC/15(LXXXV)

Relations with the United Nations System

21

(b) Report of the Joint Inspection Unit

Agenda item 8(b) (document CE/85/8(b))

The Executive Council,

<u>Having taken cognizance</u> of the report prepared by the Joint Inspection Unit of the United Nations (JIU),

- 1. <u>Welcomes</u> this first audit report of UNWTO as a specialized agency of the United Nations, prepared by the Joint Inspection Unit;
- 2. <u>Supports</u> generally the main directives of this report;
- 3. Welcomes the constructive approach of the Secretariat towards this report;
- 4. <u>Decides</u> to create a Working Group to study the question composed of Brazil, Egypt, Germany, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Italy, Kazakhstan, Mali, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation and Spain, which will carry out exchanges of views by electronic means, to enable the Secretary-General to prepare an implementation plan of the JIU recommendations, referring to all implications, including those of a financial nature; and

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Relations with the United Nations System

(c) Inclusion of tourism in the United Nations Global Compact

Agenda item 8(c) (document CE/85/12(c))

The Executive Council,

<u>Having considered</u> the report of the Secretary-General on the inclusion of tourism in the United Nations Global Compact,

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- 1. <u>Notes with interest</u> the creation of *TOURpact.GC*, a joint initiative of the UNWTO with the Global Compact;
- 2. <u>Shares the opinion</u> of the Secretary-General regarding the role that the tourism industry can play in this initiative, which entails commitments for the participating entities;
- 3. <u>Takes cognizance</u> of the fact that an initial group of some thirty enterprises have confirmed their participation in the initiative;
- 4. Takes note of the formulation of a joint action plan on this initiative; and
- 5. <u>Requests</u> the Secretary-General to report to it at its eighty-eighth session regarding the development of projects underway on this subject.

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Progress report on:

(a) Themis Foundation (b) ST-EP Foundation

- (c) Regional Support Office for Asia and the Pacific
- (d) World Centre of Excellence for Destinations of Montreal
 - (e) Bonn Consulting Unit on Biodiversity and Tourism
 - (f) Permanent Secretariat of the World Committee on Tourism Ethics in Rome

Agenda item 9 (document CE/85/9)

The Executive Council,

<u>Having taken note</u> with appreciation of the current status and activities of the various external entities associated with UNWTO, including: the Themis Foundation, the ST-EP Foundation, the Regional Support Office for Asia and the Pacific, the Centre of Excellence of Destinations, the Consulting Unit on Biodiversity and Tourism, and the Permanent Secretariat of the World Committee on Tourism Ethics,

<u>Having heard</u> the report of the Secretary-General regarding all these external bodies associated in one way or another with the World Tourism Organization,

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- 1. <u>Agrees</u> that an appropriate policy framework should be adopted regarding all these bodies;
- 2. Requests the Secretary General to prepare within the above policy framework, a proposal including the governance relationship with UNWTO, as well as the management and financial aspects applicable to all non-Headquarters based entities associated with the Organization, and
- 3. <u>Entrusts</u> the Secretary-General to present this proposal at its eighty-eighth session, after having consulted the above mentioned entities.

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CE/DEC/18(LXXXV)

Report of the Working Group entrusted to study the feasibility of a legal instrument to deal with the facilitation of tourist travel

Agenda Item 10 (document CE/85/10)

The Executive Council

Recalling decision 12(LXXXIV) whereby it entrusted the Working Group with preparing a final draft, taking into account the comments made during the last session of the Executive Council and those to be submitted in writing by the Members,

<u>Having considered</u> the report of the Secretary-General containing the conclusions of the fifth meeting of the Working Group, held at Headquarters on 13 February 2009,

1. <u>Takes cognizance</u> of the summary conclusions of the fifth meeting of the Working Group;

<u>Having before it</u> the new draft Declaration on the facilitation of tourist travel revised by the members of the Group taking into account the positions expressed by the Members,

- 2. <u>Approves</u> the new text prepared by the Group, with the modifications proposed by Australia and Colombia for its presentation to the forthcoming session of the General Assembly; and
- 3. <u>Warmly thanks</u> the members of the Working Group for the work they have accomplished and <u>pays tribute</u> to Ms. Blanka Belosevic for her performance as Chair of the Group on behalf of Croatia.

CE/DEC/19(LXXXV)

World Tourism Day: themes for 2010 and 2011 to be proposed to the General Assembly, and the selection of the host countries

Agenda Item 11 (documents CE/85/11 and CE/85/11 Add.1)

The Executive Council,

<u>Having taken cognizance</u> of the Secretary-General's report regarding the procedure for the selection of themes for World Tourism Day 2010 and 2011,

<u>Having considered</u> the themes proposed by the Secretary-General and taking into account those adopted for the international years declared under the aegis of the United Nations.

- 1. <u>Decides</u> to propose to the General Assembly the following two themes for the celebration of World Tourism Day in 2010 and 2011:
 - 2010 Tourism and biodiversity
 - 2011 Tourism and rapprochement of cultures

<u>Recalling</u> that, through resolution 470(XV), the General Assembly decided that the host countries of World Tourism Day should be selected with due regard to geographical rotation,

- 2. <u>Notes</u> that the Commission for East Asia and the Pacific has nominated China as host state for 2010, and that the Commission for the Middle East has nominated Yemen to host WTD in 2011; and
- Proposes to the General Assembly that it select, at its forthcoming session, China and Yemen as the host countries of World Tourism Day 2010 and 2011 respectively.

Affiliate Members

25

(a) Report of the Chairman

Agenda item 12(a) (document CE/85/12(a))

The Executive Council,

Having heard the report of the Chairman of the UNWTO Affiliate Members,

- 1. Thanks the Chairman for his presentation;
- 2. <u>Expresses its satisfaction</u> with the activities carried out by the Secretariat of the Affiliate Members and its three Councils;
- 3. <u>Takes note with satisfaction</u> of the participation of the Affiliate Members in various UNWTO projects;
- 4. <u>Takes note</u> of the Affiliate Members' request to the Secretary-General for a transformation and rejuvenation process of the Organization, giving a more important role to the Affiliate Members; and
- 5. <u>Requests</u> the Secretariat of the Affiliate Members to inform it about the progress made at its next session.

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Affiliate Members

(b) Revision process of the Rules of Procedure of the Affiliate Members

Agenda item 12(b) (document CE/85/12(b))

The Executive Council,

<u>Having before it</u> the report of the Chairman of the UNWTO Affiliate Members on this subject and the draft text of the Rules of Procedure of the UNWTO Affiliate Members,

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- Notes the progress made so far in the revision of the draft Rules of Procedure and appreciates the active participation of the Members of the Board of Directors in this process; and
- 2. <u>Recalls</u> that the draft text of the Rules of Procedure of the Affiliate Members will have to be approved by the Affiliate Members at their General Meeting before it is submitted to the General Assembly for approval.

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Affiliate Members

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

Agenda item 12(c) (document CE/85/12(d)

The Executive Council.

<u>Having taken cognizance</u> of the report of its Committee for the review of applications for affiliate membership, which met on 7 and 8 May 2009, under the chairmanship of San Marino,

- 1. Endorses the recommendations of the Committee; and
- 2. <u>Decides</u> to admit provisionally to affiliate membership the following candidates, pending ratification by the eighteenth session of the General Assembly:
 - AGENZIA TURISMO FVG (Italy)
 - ANATO ASOCIACIÓN COLOMBIANA DE AGENCIAS DE VIAJES Y TURISMO (Colombia)
 - ASOCIACIÓN NACIÓNAL DE HOTELES Y RESTAURANTES, INC (ASONAHORES) (Dominican Republic)
 - BALKAN ALLIANCE OF HOTEL ASSOCIATIONS BAHA (The Former Republic of Macedonia)
 - CENTRO SUPERIOR DE HOSTELERÍA DE GALICIA- SOCIEDADE DE IMAXE E PROMOCION TURÍSTICA DE GALICIA, S.A. (Spain)
 - CENTRO TURISTICO STUDENTESCO E GIOVANILE (Italy)
 - CROATIAN NATIONAL TOURIST BOARD (Croatia)
 - ÉCOLE D'HÔTELLERIE ET DE TOURISME DE LA CEMAC (EHT CEMAC) (Cameroon)
 - FÉDÉRATION TUNISIENNE DES AGENCES DE VOYAGES ET DE TOURISME (FTAV) (Tunisia)

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- GIPET GROUPEMENT INTERPROFESSIONNEL DES PROFESSIONNELS DES ENTREPRISES TOURISTIQUES (Cameroon)
- GLOBAL TOURISM INTERFACE (France)
- INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES BAD HONNEF -BONN (Germany)
- INSTITUTO DE PLANEAMENTO E DESENVOLVIMENTO DO TURISMO (IPDT) (Portugal)
- ISRAEL SCHOOL OF TOURISM (Israel)¹
- LUCERNE UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES AND ARTS-INSTITUTE OF TOURISM (Switzerland)
- MACAU UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (Macau, China)
- MALTA HOTELS & RESTAURANTS ASSOCIATION (MHR) (Malta)
- SENECA S.p.A. (Italy)
- RESERVA DE LA BIOSFERA DE FUERTEVENTURA (Spain)
- SOCIEDAD ESTATAL PARA LA GESTIÓN DE LA INNOVACIÓN Y LAS TECNOLOGÍAS TURÍSTICAS, S.A. (SEGITTUR) (Spain)
- SOCIEDAD ESTATAL PARA LA GESTIÓN DE LA INNOVACIÓN Y LAS TECNOLOGÍAS TURÍSTICAS, S.A. (SEGITTUR) (Spain)
- SOUV CLUB CAMEROON (Cameroon)
- TOURISM RESOURCE LIMITED (Nigeria
- UNIVERSITA DI CALABRIA CORSO DI LAUREA IN SCIENZE TURISTICHE (Italy)
- UNIVERSIDAD DE HUELVA (Spain)
- ZAGREB FAIR (Croatia)

as well as, pending governmental support:

 CENGIZ ORGANIZATION FOR ART AND TOURISM (COAT) (Niger

¹ Noting Iran's reservation on the approval of this candidate

CE/DEC/23(LXXXV)

Report on preparations for the eighteenth session of the General Assembly

Agenda Item 13 (document CE/85/13)

The Executive Council,

<u>Having taken cognizance</u> of the Secretary-General's report on the preparations for the eighteenth session of the General Assembly,

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1. <u>Notes with satisfaction</u> that the agreement between the Government of Kazakhstan and the Organization was signed on 28 January 2009;

<u>Having heard</u> the statement by the delegation of Kazakhstan concerning the preparation of the General Assembly,

- 2. <u>Thanks</u> the Kazakh authorities for the efforts already made to ensure the success of the General Assembly session in Astana;
- 3. <u>Takes due</u> note of the structure of the Assembly and of the seven-day duration of the proceedings and related activities, including a meeting of the Tourism Resilience Committee and the Seminar organized by the Affiliate Members, avoiding as much as possible the parallel holding of meetings; and
- 4. Requests the Secretary-General to finalize the structure of the session of the Assembly, taking into account, in as much as possible, the comments raised during this session concerning the duration of the proceedings, and in collaboration with the authorities of Kazakhstan.

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CE/DEC/24(LXXXV)

Place and dates of the eighty-sixth session of the Executive Council

Agenda Item 14

The Executive Council,

<u>Decides</u> to hold in principle its eighty-sixth session, as well as the eighty-seventh, in Astana, Kazakhstan, on 3 and 9 October 2009, respectively, in the context of the eighteenth session of the General Assembly.

CE/DEC/25(LXXXV)

Vote of thanks to the host country

The Executive Council,

<u>Having successfully carried out</u> the proceedings of its eighty-fifth session in the favourable conditions placed at its disposal by the host country of the session,

- 1. <u>Feels honoured</u> by the presence of H.E. Mr. Amadou Toumani Touré, President of the Republic of Mali and for the speech he delivered at the opening of the session;
- Expresses its most sincere gratitude to the Government of Mali for making it
 possible for the Council to meet in a country with a vast and millenary cultural
 heritage;
- 3 <u>Extends its warmest thanks</u> to H.E. Mr. N'Diaye Bah, Minister of Handicrafts and Tourism, and to his staff for their kind hospitality to the delegations present at this session of the Council; and

4.	Warmly welcome	Mr.	Adama	Sangaré,	District	Mayor	of	Bamako,	for	his

4. LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

The eighty-fifth session of the Executive Council was attended by:

- (1) delegates of the following Members of the Council: Algeria, Argentina, Benin, Brazil, Cameroon, China, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Eritrea, France, Germany, Ghana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Italy, Kazakhstan, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, San Marino, Senegal, Spain, and Tunisia;
- (2) the Chairman of the Regional Commission for Africa (Cameroon);
- (3) the Chairman of the Regional Commission for the Americas (Colombia);
- (4) the Chairman of the Regional Commission for Europe (Cyprus);
- (5) the Chairman of the Regional Commission for South Asia (Iran);
- (6) the representative of the Affiliate Members (THR), and the observer AMFORT;
- (7) the representatives of the following UNWTO Member States: Jordan, Mauritania, Nigeria and Pakistan as observers;
- (8) the United Nations Joint Inspection Unit; and
- (9) the ST-EP Foundation