



Executive Council

CE/99/DEC

Ninety-ninth session

Samarkand, Uzbekistan, 1-4 October 2014

DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AT ITS NINETY-NINTH SESSION

Samarkand, Uzbekistan, 1-4 October 2014

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CE/DEC/1(XCIX)

Adoption of the agenda

Agenda item 1
(document CE/99/1 prov.)

The Executive Council,

Having examined the provisional agenda,

1. *Decides* to adopt the agenda of its ninety-ninth session without item 8; and

Having examined the proposal of the Government of Azerbaijan entitled “Prevention of Promotion of Conflict Zones as Tourism Destinations and Using Tourism for Illegal Purposes”, and

Noting that the proposal made by the Government of Azerbaijan frequently refers to the UNWTO Global Code of Ethics for Tourism,

2. *Decides* to refer the topic to the World Committee on Tourism Ethics and requests the Committee to include it on the agenda of its meeting to be held in Rome on 17-18 November 2014, and to make recommendations to the next meeting of the Executive Council on the proposal of the Government of Azerbaijan from the point of view of ethics in tourism.

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CE/DEC/2(XCIX)

Communication of the Chair

Agenda item 2
(document CE/99/2)

The Executive Council,

Having heard the communication of the Chair of the 99th session of the Executive Council, the Honourable Sapta Nirwandar, Vice-Minister for Tourism and Creative Economy of Indonesia,

1. *Thanks* the Chair for his communication to the Executive Council;
2. *Shares* the view of the Chair about the importance of cultural assets to tourism and the need to maximize the use of culture for tourism development;
3. *Endorses* the call of the Chair to continue to work towards realizing the mandate of the Organization, and particularly to ensure the sustainable development of the tourism sector; and
4. *Extends* its gratitude and appreciation to the Chair, H.E. Mr. Sapta Nirwandar, Vice-Minister for Tourism and Creative Economy of Indonesia, to the first Vice-Chair, Ms. Jennifer Griffith, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Tourism and Entertainment of Jamaica, and to the second Vice-Chair, Ms. Isabel Maria Estevao Macie, National Director for Planning and Cooperation, Ministry of Tourism of Mozambique, of the Council 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(XCIX)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part I. Current situation and activities

(a) International tourism in 2014 and prospects for 2015

Agenda item 3(a)
(document CE/99/3(a))

The Executive Council,

Having heard the report presented by the Secretary-General on international tourism in 2014 and prospects for 2015 and having discussed it,

Thanks the Secretary-General for his presentation and takes note of the information provided.

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Executive Council

Ninety-ninth session

Samarkand, Uzbekistan, 1-4 October 2014

CE/DEC/4(XCIX)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part I. Current situation and activities

(b) Mainstreaming tourism in the global agenda

Agenda item 3(b)
(document CE/99/3(b))

The Executive Council,

Having heard the report presented by the Secretary-General on mainstreaming tourism in the global agenda,

1. *Takes note* of the work of the Secretariat in mainstreaming tourism in the global and national agendas;
2. *Commends* the Members which have accepted the Open Letter and encourages those which have not yet to do so;
3. *Encourages* Member States to support tourism's positioning in the international agenda, in particular in the framework of the ongoing UN processes;
4. *Also encourages* Member States to join and promote the UNWTO/UNODC/UNESCO anti-trafficking campaign; and
5. *Further encourages* Member States to take an active role in the UNWTO/ICAO and UNWTO/UNESCO Conferences.

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CE/DEC/5(XCIX)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part I. Current situation and activities

(c) Implementation of the general programme of work for 2014-2015

Agenda item 3(c)
(documents CE/99/3(c) and CE/99/4)

The Executive Council,

Having examined the report on the implementation of the general programme of work for 2014-2015 and its annexes, as well as the report of the Programme and Budget Committee (Programme part),

1. *Takes note* of all the activities implemented with satisfaction;
2. *Welcomes* the outcomes of:
 - (a) the 2nd virtual meeting (3 July 2014) of the Committee on Tourism and Competitiveness (CTC) approving the status of INNORPI (Tunisia) and Instituto de Competitividad Turística (Mexico) as invited participants in the CTC; and
 - (b) the 2nd and the 3rd meetings of the Committee on Tourism and Sustainability (CTS);
3. *Confirms* the Philippines as a new member of the CTC, as recommended by the Commission for East Asia and the Pacific at the 26th CAP-CSA joint meeting; and
4. *Thanks* all the committees' members for their valuable work.

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CE/DEC/6(XCIX)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part I. Current situation and activities

(d) Preparation of the general programme of work for 2016-2017

Agenda item 3(d)
(documents CE/99/3(d) and CE/99/4)

The Executive Council,

Having examined the report on the preparation of the general programme of work for 2016-2017, 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/7(XCIX)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part I. Current situation and activities

(e) UNWTO activities in the United Nations system

Agenda item 3(e)
(document CE/99/3(e))

The Executive Council,

Having examined the report on the UNWTO activities in the United Nations system,

1. *Notes with interest* the UNWTO's ongoing participation with various United Nations networks and mechanisms on substantive issues and supports the continuation of such participation and involvement in those issues as well as in the CEB subsidiary structure working groups;
2. *Applauds* the activities of the Organization in the area of advocacy through joint activities, particularly in promoting tourism as an engine for development and supports continued efforts in this endeavour;
3. *Acknowledges* the growing importance of tourism security and supports the Secretariat in pursuing its work by continuing its discussions with relevant stakeholders;
4. *Also notes with satisfaction* the active participation of the Secretariat in the Open Working Group discussions and encourages it to follow up on the processes leading to the approval of Sustainable Development Goals as part of the post-2015 Development Agenda;
5. *Welcomes* the decision of the 10YFP Secretariat to invite UNWTO to lead the preparation of the final programme proposal on sustainable tourism, having France, Morocco and the Republic of Korea as co-leads, while encouraging Member States to actively support the Secretariat in this process;
6. *Notes with satisfaction* the Secretariat's active participation in the Third UN Conference on Small Island Developing States (Apia, Samoa, September 2014) and in the preparations for the Second Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries (Vienna, Austria, November 2014) and encourages its further engagement; and

7. *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.

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Executive Council

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CE/DEC/8(XCIX)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part I. Current situation and activities

(f) World Tourism Day 2014

Agenda item 3(f)
(document CE/99/3(f))

The Executive Council,

Having heard the report presented by the Secretary-General on World Tourism Day 2014,

1. *Thanks* the Secretary-General for his presentation and takes note of the information provided;
2. *Supports* the proposal of Saudi Arabia to encourage all Member States to make the celebrations of World Tourism Day each year a key event in their calendars as an opportunity to promote the socioeconomic value of the sector and work with the Secretariat in increasing the global awareness and impact of World Tourism Day, particularly among the private sector, media and civil society; and
3. *Commends* Mexico for hosting the World Tourism Day official celebrations in 2014 and looks forward to the celebrations to be hosted by Burkina Faso in 2015.

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CE/DEC/9(XCIX)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part I. Current situation and activities

(g) Report of the Working Group on Official Development Assistance

Agenda item 3(g)
(document CE/99/3(g))

The Executive Council,

Having examined the report of the Working Group on Official Development Assistance,

1. *Thanks* the Chair (South Africa) and the members of the Working Group;
2. *Takes note* of the activities of the Working Group on Official Development Assistance in pursuing the objective of achieving full ODA eligibility for UNWTO and mobilizing new resources for the Organization, as set out in decision CE/DEC/4(XCV);
3. *Also takes note* of UNWTO's status as an eligible organization for bilateral ODA; and
4. *Requests* the Secretary-General:
 - (a) To further strengthen the advocacy efforts in positioning tourism as a sector with high impact for development and UNWTO as a "development" UN agency through its wide political messaging; and
 - (b) To continue exploring alternatives that best fit the specificities of UNWTO, in order to move towards the objective of attaining full ODA eligibility for the Organization.

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Executive Council

Ninety-ninth session

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CE/DEC/10(XCIX)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part II. Administrative and statutory matters

(a) Financial situation of the Organization

Agenda item 5(a)
(document CE/99/5(a))

The Executive Council

1. *Takes note* of the level of collection of contributions from Members for the financial year 2014 as of 30 June 2014 amounting to EUR9,439,334.54, and also of the collection of contributions in arrears, amounting to EUR639,757.43;
2. *Approves* the adjustments made by the Secretary-General to the staff appropriations of programmes for 2014;
3. *Expresses its deep satisfaction* with the healthy financial situation of the Organization;
4. *Urges* Members that have not yet complied with their financial obligations to take the necessary steps to pay their contributions for 2014 thereby averting delays that could hamper programme execution; and
5. *Takes note* of the outcome of the salary survey for General Service staff held in October 2013 and which will result in a new salary scale to be applied by the Secretary-General when the relevant scales are formally notified by the ICSC.

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CE/DEC/11(XCIX)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part II. Administrative and statutory matters

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

Agenda item 5(b)
(document CE/99/5(b))

The Executive Council

1. *Thanks the Members* that have made the necessary efforts in order to fulfil their financial obligations despite their internal constraints;
2. *Takes note* that Cambodia and Nicaragua have respected their agreed payment plans up to 2014 and Uganda partly so;
3. *Reminds* Members to pay their contributions to the budget within the time period stipulated by regulation 7(2) of the Financial Regulations; and
4. *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/12(XCIX)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part II. Administrative and statutory matters

(c) IPSAS progress report: UNWTO restated Statement of Financial Position compliant with IPSAS as at 1 January 2014

Agenda item 5(c)
(document CE/99/5(c))

The Executive Council

1. *Takes note* of the progress done within the implementation of IPSAS by UNWTO and of UNWTO's restated opening balance compliant with IPSAS at 1 January 2014 as approved by the External Auditors of the Organization;
2. *Thanks* the External Auditors (Germany, India and Spain) for the important work carried out; and
3. *Takes note* of the opinion of the External Auditors that the restated statement of financial position presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the UNWTO as at 1 January 2014 in compliance with International Public Sector Accounting Standards.

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CE/DEC/13(XCIX)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part II. Administrative and statutory matters

(d) Information and communication technologies at the Secretariat

Agenda item 5(d)
(document CE/99/5(d))

The Executive Council

1. *Takes note of* 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; and
2. *Also takes note of* the audit reports on the status of ICT activities in document CE/99/5(d).

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Executive Council

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CE/DEC/14(XCIX)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part II. Administrative and statutory matters

(e) Joint Inspection Unit recommendations in the context of the White Paper

Agenda item 5(e)
(document CE/99/5(e))

The Executive Council

1. *Takes note* of the reports and notes issued by the Joint Inspection Unit in 2013 referenced in document CE/99/5(e), 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 34 recommendations presented in JIU reports and notes in 2013, of which the 33 addressed to the UNWTO for information are to be closed without further action needed;
5. *Endorses* the implementation of the recommendation in relation to reference checks as described in the annex to document CE/99/5(e), and requests the Secretary-General to update the implementation plan of the White Paper accordingly; and
6. *Requests* the Programme and Budget Committee to review the reports for the period 2006-2012 agreed with the Joint Inspection Unit for detailed consideration and to report back at a subsequent session of the Executive Council prior to the 21st session of the General Assembly with a proposed course of action, including updating the White Paper Implementation Plan, as appropriate.

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Executive Council

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CE/DEC/15(XCIX)

Report of the Secretary-General

Part II. Administrative and statutory matters

(f) New membership

Agenda item 5(f)
(document CE/99/5(f))

The Executive Council,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the decision of Samoa to join the Organization and recommends the General Assembly to approve the country's candidature in accordance with Article 5(3) of the Statutes;
2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary steps, in accordance with the relevant resolution of the General Assembly (resolution 53(III) adopted in Torremolinos, Spain, in 1979), to ensure that Samoa as a candidate enjoys certain UNWTO services, in particular, being invited to technical meetings and, with the agreement of the Members concerned, to the joint Regional Commission meetings of the CAP-CSA until the General Assembly approves the country's candidature;
3. *Encourages* in particular the Secretary-General to continue his efforts vis-à-vis non-member States, with a view to their possible membership; and
4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on the follow-up actions taken regarding these different approaches.

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CE/DEC/16(XCIX)

Report of the Programme and Budget Committee (Budget part)

Agenda item 6
(document CE/99/6)

The Executive Council,

Having read the report of the Programme and Budget Committee (Budget part),

1. *Takes note* of the report and approves it; and
2. *Thanks* Argentina for its dedicated chairmanship of the Committee.

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Executive Council

Ninety-ninth session
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CE/DEC/17(XCIX)

Affiliate Members

(a) Report of the Chair of the Affiliate Members

Agenda item 7(a)
(document CE/99/7(a))

The Executive Council,

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

1. *Recognizes* the role of the initiatives implemented in the Action Plan of the Affiliate Members Programme in the growing number of Affiliate Members that participate in them, contributing to the grouping together of the different Members by area of interest, and encouraging interaction, the exchange of knowledge and innovation processes;
2. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the methodological contribution of the Affiliate Members Programme's prototypes carried out through the active collaboration of its Members;
3. *Welcomes* the development of the Punta del Este 365 prototype to serve as a reference for other destinations affected by marked seasonality;
4. *Encourages* the 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;
5. *Welcomes* the contribution of the Affiliate Members at the UNWTO events where the Affiliate Members Programme has had the opportunity to actively participate; and
6. *Encourages* Member States to help identify potential Affiliate Members from their countries that could be contacted by the Secretariat, particularly in countries that do not have any companies, organizations, academic institutions or destination management organizations as Affiliate Members.

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Executive Council

Ninety-ninth session

Samarkand, Uzbekistan, 1-4 October 2014

CE/DEC/18(XCIX)

Affiliate Members

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

Agenda item 7(b)
(document CE/99/7(b))

The Executive Council,

Having taken cognizance of the report of its Committee for the Review of Applications for Affiliate Membership, which met on 2 October 2014, under the chairmanship of Egypt,

1. *Endorses* the recommendation of the Committee; and
2. *Decides* to admit provisionally to affiliate membership the following candidates, pending ratification by the twenty-first session of the General Assembly:
 - APSARA NATIONAL AUTHORITY (Cambodia)
 - ANTALYA INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE OF TOURISM (Turkey)
 - CARIBBEAN OFFICE OF TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT LIMITED (Trinidad and Tobago)
 - CLUSTER ESPAÑOL DE TURISMO DE SALUD (Spain)
 - EMPRESA MUNICIPAL DE TURISMO DE BELO HORIZONTE – BELOTUR (Brazil)
 - ERIC FRIEDHEIM TOURISM INSTITUTE (United States of America (the))
 - ESTUDIO SINGERMANN, MAKÓN Y ASOCIADOS SRL (Argentina)
 - GANGNAMEH HAMADAN TOURISM RECREATION AND SPORTS COMPANY (Iran (Islamic Republic of))
 - ICF SH&E, INC. (United States of America (the))

- INTERNATIONAL YOUTH HOSTEL FEDERATION (IYHF) operating as HOSTELLING INTERNATIONAL (United Kingdom).
- IRANIAN TOURISM SCIENTIFIC ASSOCIATION (ITSA) (Iran (Islamic Republic of))
- LIBERTAS REGIS D.O.O., BEST CROATIAN TRAVEL (Croatia)
- SUSTAINABLE TOURISM PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME (STPP) (South Africa)

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Executive Council

CE/DEC/19(XCIX)

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Thematic discussion: “Tourism and Culture: Creating New Partnership Models”

Agenda item 9
(document CE/99/9)

The Executive Council

1. *Calls* for enhanced collaboration between tourism and culture aimed at building new partnership models that ensure the promotion and protection of cultural values and assets while advancing sustainable tourism;
2. *Encourages* Member States to actively participate in the UNWTO/UNESCO Conference on Tourism and Culture in Siem Reap, Cambodia, to be held on 4-6 February 2015, as well as to engage their tourism and cultural stakeholders; and
3. *Recalls* the importance of the Samarkand Declaration on Silk Road Tourism on the occasion of its 20th anniversary, and invites the signatory parties and the participating member states of the UNWTO Silk Road Tourism initiative to promote its full implementation.

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Executive Council

Ninety-ninth session

Samarkand, Uzbekistan, 1-4 October 2014

CE/DEC/20(XCIX)

Election of the Chair and the Vice-Chairs of the Executive Council for 2015

Agenda item 10
(document CE/99/10)

The Executive Council,

Having regard to rule 5 of its Rules of Procedure,

1. *Elects* Croatia as second Vice-Chair of the Council for 2015;
2. *Invites* Jamaica, Mozambique and Croatia to designate the persons to perform the duties of Chair, first Vice-Chair and second Vice-Chair, respectively; and
3. *Thanks* the officers from Indonesia (Chair), Jamaica (first Vice-Chair) and Mozambique (second Vice-Chair) for the quality of the work they have accomplished for the benefit of the Organization in the performance of their functions in 2014.

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Executive Council

Ninety-ninth session

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CE/DEC/21(XCIX)

Vote of thanks to the host country

The Executive Council,

Having carried out the work of its ninety-ninth session under the excellent conditions placed at its disposal by the Government of Uzbekistan,

1. *Expresses its most sincere gratitude* to the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, H.E. Mr. Islam Karimov, for his gracious presence at the official opening, and also to the Government and people of Uzbekistan for the support extended to the UNWTO and its Members in hosting this session of the Council in the beautiful city of Samarkand; and
2. *Expresses, in particular, its deepest appreciation* to the authorities of Uzbekistan and of the city of Samarkand, as well as to their team members and staff, for their magnificent hospitality and for their personal involvement and constant support to the organization of the meeting.

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