

DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
AT ITS FIFTIETH SESSION

Buenos Aires, Argentina, 25-26 May 1995

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3. Decisions taken by the Council

CE/DEC/1(L)

Adoption of the agenda

Agenda item 1
(documents CE/50/1 prov. and CE/50/1 prov.annot.)

The Executive Council

Adopts the agenda of its fiftieth session.

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CE/DEC/2(L)

Report of the Secretary-General

Agenda item 2
(document CE/50/2)

The Executive Council,

Having taken cognizance of the report presented by the Secretary-General,

1. Thanks him for his report;
2. Expresses its agreement with the main lines of emphasis expressed therein, in particular those concerning the budget and programme of work for the period 1996-1997, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue the process leading to their adoption by the General Assembly;
3. Welcomes the progress made in the Organization's representativeness and influence, as reflected in the accession of new States as well as the growing number of Affiliate Members;
4. Also welcomes the progress made in setting up the Regional Support Office for Asia and the Pacific, which, thanks to the assistance of the Japanese Government, will be opened at Osaka in June;

- 4. Expresses its disappointment, however, at the announcement by Canada of its forthcoming withdrawal and urges that country, which has always made an important contribution within the Organization, to reconsider this decision both in the light of its own interests and in a desirable spirit of common purpose between countries anxious to develop their tourism;
- 5. Expresses, more generally, the wish that countries in the process of adapting their internal tourism structures do not lose sight of the desirability of maintaining active multilateral cooperation in this area; and
- 6. Notes with pleasure the progress made in considering the various solutions for enhancing the social protection of officials and considers that an improvement in their pension scheme is compatible with the current and foreseeable financial situation of the Organization.

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CE/DEC/3 (L)

General programme of work for the period 1994-1995

Agenda item 3
(documents CE/50/3, CE/50/3 Add.1, CE/50/3 Add.1 Corr.
and CE/50/3 Add.2)

The Executive Council,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the progress in implementing the general programme of work of the Organization for the period 1994-1995 since its forty-ninth session,

- 1. Takes cognizance of the development of technical cooperation activities in the various regions;
- 2. Notes with interest the Secretary-General's approaches to UNDP to mitigate the disadvantages of the "new orientations" in development assistance affecting the Organization's technical cooperation activities;
- 3. Encourages the Secretary-General to expand contacts and strengthen cooperation with multilateral and bilateral financing institutions operating in the field of tourism;

4. Notes with satisfaction the success achieved in the various regions by the international seminar on educating the educators, the promising results of the fourth meeting of the WTO Network of Education and Training Centres, as well as the start made on the important study on the quality of tourism services;
5. Takes cognizance of the various meetings and actions concerning sustainable tourism development, as well as the organization in 1995 and 1996 of regional seminars on the funding of tourism projects;
6. Observes the progress made in implementing the recommendations on tourism statistics, with particular reference to the completion of the technical manuals and the organization of an initial training seminar in this area;
7. Notes with satisfaction the various activities carried out under the heading of quality of tourism services, especially in the areas of liberalization of trade in tourism services, the protection of travellers' health, the promotion of senior tourism and the prevention of sex tourism;
8. Decides to transmit the draft WTO statement on the prevention of organized sex tourism to the eleventh session of the General Assembly for approval;
9. Expresses its satisfaction at the large number of publications that have been issued since its previous session, as well as the conclusion of new distribution agreements and the notable increase in the sales of publications; and
10. Welcomes the draft study on new trends in tourism laws and regulations.

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CE/DEC/4 (L)

Administrative and financial matters

**(a) Report of the Secretary-General
on administrative and financial matters**

**I. Financial situation and plan of
expenditure for 1995**

II. Personnel matters

Agenda item 4(a)
(documents CE/50/4(a) (I), CE/50/4(a) (I) Add.1
and CE/50/4(a) (II))

The Executive Council,

Having before it the report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation of the Organization and personnel matters,

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

1. Takes note of the report on the plan of expenditure for 1995 for execution of the programme of work, which matches expenditure to expected income;
2. Observes that the plan of expenditure for the current financial year remains within the limit of the appropriations approved by the General Assembly;
3. Urges Members that have not yet complied with their financial obligations to take the necessary steps to pay their contributions for 1995 as soon as possible, avoiding delays that could hamper programme execution;
4. Approves, in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Staff Regulations and Rules and the recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission,
 - (a) the incorporation of part of the post adjustment into the base salary resulting in new salary scales for the professional and higher categories, effective 1 March 1995, with the corresponding adjustment in the percentages used for calculating the staff assessment

deductible from gross salaries; and

- (b) the adjustment of the education grants, applicable to the current academic year, and of the family allowances;

Having been informed that the United Nations is preparing a report on the revision of its formula for fixing the contributions of its Members,

- 5. Decides to postpone consideration of the revision of the formula applied by WTO until the decisions adopted by the United Nations are known, so that any modifications that could be applied to the Organization are taken into account.

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CE/DEC/5 (L)

Administrative and financial matters

(c) Auditors' report and administrative accounts for the financial year 1994

Agenda item 4(c)
(document CE/50/4(c))

The Executive Council,

Having before it the reports of the Auditors and of the Committee on Budget and Finance on the accounts for the financial year 1994,

- 1. Notes that, in the financial year 1994, a real balance was maintained between budgetary expenditure and income;
- 2. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the General Assembly, with the favourable opinion of the Council, the administrative accounts for the financial year 1994; and
- 3. Expresses its appreciation to the Auditors, Mr. Angel Turrión (Spain) and Mr. Athlua Fernando (Sri Lanka), for their report.

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CE/DEC/6 (L)

Administrative and financial matters

**(d) Closing of the audited administrative accounts
of the ninth financial period (1992-1993)**

Agenda item 4(d)
(documents CE/50/4(d) and CE/50/4(b))

The Executive Council,

Considering document CE/50/4(d) reporting on the financial results of the audited accounts of the ninth financial period (1992-1993) and the report of the Committee on Budget and Finance referring thereto,

1. Notes that the closing of the accounts for the period on 31 December 1994 reveals a surplus balance of 1,965,045 dollars;
2. Expresses its satisfaction at the amount of this surplus, being the result of effective collection of arrear contributions; and
3. Decides to consider the possible use of this surplus under the agenda item concerning the social protection of staff.

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CE/DEC/7 (L)

Administrative and financial matters

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

Agenda item 4(e)

(document CE/50/4(e))

The Executive Council,

Having been informed of the application of the provisions of Article 34 of the Statutes and paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes to the Members listed in document CE/50/4(e),

Having considered the situation of Members benefiting from suspension of the provisions of Article 34 and/or paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes,

1. Notes that the Full Members CAMEROON, LEBANON, PERU, SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC and VENEZUELA and the Affiliate Member PATRONATO PROVINCIAL DE TURISMO DE GRANADA have complied fully or in part with the conditions stipulated by the General Assembly;
2. Decides to reapply the provisions of paragraph 13 to the Full Members CAMBODIA, CONGO, SUDAN and YEMEN and the Affiliate Member DA'SILVA TRAVEL SERVICES;
3. Reminds Members benefiting from suspension of the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 304(X), that they are obliged to pay the corresponding instalment in 1995 in order to comply with the plans for payment of their arrear contributions;
4. Expresses concern over the contribution arrears of Members subject to the provisions of Article 34 of the Statutes and/or paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules; and
5. Entrusts the Secretary-General with pursuing, with the support of the Executive Council and the Regional Commissions, his approaches to Members in arrears in order to agree with them on plans for the payment of those arrears and to urge them to comply with the corresponding commitments.

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CE/DEC/8(L)

Administrative and financial matters

(f) Social protection of the Organization's staff

Agenda item 4(f)
(documents CE/50/4(f), CE/50/4(f) Add.1, CE/50/4(f) Add.2
CE/50/4(f) Add.3, CE/50/4(b) and CE/50/4(d))

The Executive Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 265(VIII) and 320(X),

Recalling also its decisions 12(XLV), 9(XLVI), 11(XLVIII) and 8(XLIX),

I. Concerning the choice of a retirement scheme for the WTO staff,

Taking into account Staff Regulation 19, according to which "the Secretary-General shall establish a retirement scheme for the staff providing benefits upon separation from service equivalent to those generally existing in international organizations",

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General CE/50/4(f) containing an assessment of the three main pension options, viz:

- (a) a scheme concluded with an insurance company;
- (b) an autonomous pension fund; and
- (c) the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund,

Having also considered the report of the Committee on Budget and Finance CE/50/4(b), which recommended the affiliation of the Organization to the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund (UNJSPF),

Taking into account the results of the two consultations carried out by the Secretary-General among the WTO staff, according to which a majority favoured affiliation to the UNJSPF and validation of previous years of service, and the comments of the Staff Association, transmitted through the Secretary-General (CE/50/4(f) Add.1, Add.2 and Add.3),

1. Recommends the General Assembly to select membership of the UNJSPF as the best retirement option for the WTO staff;
2. Consequently invites the Secretary-General to resume negotiations with the Secretary of the UNJSPF on the modalities of the Organization's membership of the Fund and to report thereon to the Council at its fifty-first session;
3. Accordingly recommends the General Assembly to authorize

the Secretary-General to apply for the Organization's admission to the UNJSPF, effective 1 January 1996 or as soon as possible thereafter, in accordance with the provisions of Article 3 of the Regulations of the Fund; and

4. Invites the Secretary-General to prepare such amendments to the Staff Regulations and Rules as may be necessary to meet the conditions stipulated by the UNJSPF and to submit them in due time to the General Assembly and the Executive Council, respectively;

II. Concerning the use of the surplus from the financial period 1992-1993

Having regard to the surplus of 1,965,045 dollars existing in the General Fund at the close of the ninth financial period (1992-1993),

Mindful of Financial Regulations 5(2)(a) and 10(1)(c) and of previous resolutions adopted by the General Assembly in 1989 and 1993 concerning the return of surplus balances,

Aware of the desire expressed by several Members to assist WTO staff in the validation of years with the UNJSPF, and the opinion of other Members that all or part of the surplus could contribute to strengthening programme activities,

Noting the remarks of the CBF contained in document CE/50/4(b) concerning the respect of the above-mentioned Financial Regulations,

1. Considers that fifty-eight Full and three Associate Members of the Organization are entitled to receive the 1992-1993 surplus in proportion to their contributions assessed and paid in full for that financial period;
2. Decides consequently to invite them to determine the use to which their share of the surplus should be put;
3. Encourages the Members concerned to choose whether they desire their contributions:
 - (a) to be applied to assist WTO staff members in the validation of years with the UNJSPF; and/or
 - (b) to be applied for specific programme objectives desired by the Members concerned; and/or

(c) to be set against contribution arrears or the payment of contributions for the financial period 1996-1997;

- 4. Asks the Members concerned to inform the Secretary-General of their decision as soon as possible and in any case not later than 31 December 1995; and
- 5. Requests the Secretary-General to complete, as necessary, the information concerning the purchase in the UNJSPF of back years having regard to the total number of years served by staff in the Organization.

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CE/DEC/9(L)

**Draft programme of work and budget
for the period 1996-1997**

Agenda item 5
(documents CE/50/5(a), CE/50/5(b) and CE/50/5(c))

The Executive Council,

Having considered the draft general programme of work and budget of the Organization for the period 1996-1997, prepared by the Secretary-General in accordance with Article 23(2) of the Statutes,

Having before it the reports of the Technical Committee for Programme and Coordination (TCPC) and of the Committee on Budget and Finance (CBF),

- 1. Notes that the draft budget presented by the Secretary-General surpasses the objective set by the Council in that it represents negative growth in real terms;
- 2. Thanks the Technical Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Committee on Budget and Finance for the quality of their reports;
- 3. Approves the draft programme of work for 1996-1997, considering that it was prepared bearing in mind the proposals of Members;
- 4. Requests the Secretary-General to incorporate the amendments proposed by the TCPC into the draft programme to

be submitted to the General Assembly for adoption at its eleventh session;

5. Decides to include a survey of fiscal barriers to tourism development among the priority activities of the programme, to be carried out in cooperation with the other organizations and institutions concerned;
6. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to it at its next session, preceding the eleventh session of the General Assembly, all the supplementary data likely to entail a change in appropriations owing to application of the United Nations operational rate of exchange; and
7. Recommends the General Assembly to adopt the draft programme and budget for 1996-1997.

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CE/DEC/10 (L)

Affiliate Members

(a) Report of the Chairman

Agenda item 6(a)
(document CE/50/6(a))

The Executive Council,

Having heard the report of the Chairman of the Affiliate Members, presented by its Vice-Chairman, IBERIA, Airlines of Spain,

1. Notes with satisfaction the activities carried out by the Affiliate Members under their own programme of work, with particular reference to the many seminars organized on topics of specific interest serving to foster greater awareness within the operational sector of WTO's work;
2. Expresses its appreciation to the Affiliate Member MOONSHINE MARKETING & MEDIA, S.L. for the excellent publication of the new Directory which has been circulated to all Members;
3. Encourages the Permanent Secretariat to continue its effective action among the Affiliate Members; and
4. Thanks the Chairman of the Affiliate Members for his report.

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CE/DEC/11(L)

Affiliate Members

**(b) Report of the Sub-Committee for the review
of applications for affiliate membership**

Agenda item 6(b)
(document CE/50/6(b))

The Executive Council,

Having considered the report of its Sub-Committee for the review of applications for affiliate membership, which met at Buenos Aires on 25 May 1995 in conjunction with its fiftieth session,

1. Endorses the recommendations of the Sub-Committee;
2. Decides to submit to the eleventh session of the General Assembly the following applications for affiliate membership:
 - 1.ABAV - Associação Brasileira de Agencias de Viajens (Brazil)
 - 2.ADM & TEC - Instituto de Administração e Tecnologia (Brazil)
 - 3.AFORHOT - Associação para a Formação Técnica Hoteleira (Portugal)
 - 4.Asociación de Agencias de Viajes y Turismo de Buenos Aires (Argentina)
 - 5.Câmara de Turismo de Foz do Iguaçu (Brazil)
 - 6.Centro de Formación en Turismo - CENFOTUR (Peru)
 - 7.Cham Palaces and Hotels (Syrian Arab Republic)
 - 8.Compañía Trasmediterránea, S.A. (Spain)
 - 9.Consorcio para el Desarrollo de la Formación Ocupacional (CODEFOC) (Spain)
 10. Corporación de Educación Superior UNITEC (Colombia)

11. Council on International Educational Exchange - Student and Youth Flight Services (United States of America)
 12. DAGUFER, S.A. (Spain)
 13. Ecole moderne de commerce et de tourisme (EMCT) (Switzerland)
 14. Empresa de Turismo da Bahia S/A - BAHIATURSA (Brazil)
 15. Escuela Superior de Turismo del Instituto Politécnico Nacional (Mexico)
 16. Federación de Cámaras de Turismo de Centro América - FEDECATUR (Panama)
 17. Fundação para o Desenvolvimento Turístico de Fortaleza - FORTTUR (Brazil)
 18. Instituto Cultural Newton Paiva Ferreira (Brazil)
 19. Izfas - Izmir Fair (Turkey)
 20. Jibek Joly Holding Company (Kazakhstan)
 21. Lincoln University (New Zealand)
 22. M.P. SIAT, s.r.l. (Italy)
 23. New York University - Centre for Hospitality Industries Studies (United States of America)
 24. Organización Mundo Maya (Honduras)
 25. Royal Air Maroc (Morocco)
 26. Salam Hotels (Morocco)
 27. Sochi Institute for Tourism and Recreation (Russian Federation)
 28. Tourism Development Strategies International (United States of America)
 29. Union inter-arabe pour l'hôtellerie et le tourisme
3. Decides in principle also to submit the application of VingCard, subject to confirmation of the Norwegian Government's endorsement;

- 4. Notes the announcement received from the Malaysian Government that Arab Malaysian Tours and Travel Sdn. Bhd. has ceased operating and that its application will not therefore go forward to the eleventh session of the General Assembly;
- 5. Decides to delete from the list of Affiliate Members the following body that has ceased to exist:

Inter-American Educational Institute

- 6. Welcomes the efforts made by the Secretariat of the Affiliate Members to attract an ever-increasing number of new applicants.

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CE/DEC/12 (L)

Report on preparations for
the eleventh
session of the General Assembly

Agenda item 7
(document CE/50/7)

The Executive Council,

Having taken cognizance of the report of the Secretary-General on preparations for the eleventh session of the General Assembly, to be held at Cairo, Egypt from 15 to 22 October 1995,

- 1. Reiterates its gratitude to the Egyptian Government for the efforts already made to ensure the success of the Assembly session;
- 2. Expresses its full satisfaction at the assurance given by the Minister of Tourism of Egypt that all the necessary measures will be taken to guarantee that the session is held in optimal conditions; and

- 3. Takes due note of the structure of the Assembly and of the seven-day duration of the proceedings and various activities, including the three round tables and the specific programme for Affiliate Members.

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CE/DEC/13 (L)

**Place and dates of the fifty-first session
of the Council**

Agenda item 8

The Executive Council

Decides to hold its fifty-first session in conjunction with the eleventh session of the General Assembly at Cairo, Egypt on 15 and 16 October 1995.

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CE/DEC/14 (L)

Buenos Aires Declaration

The Executive Council,

Having considered the attached Buenos Aires Declaration presented by the Delegation of Argentina,

- 1. Warmly congratulates the Argentine delegation on its initiative;
- 2. Adopts the Declaration which is also endorsed by the States participating as observers in the fiftieth session of the Executive Council at Buenos Aires; and
- 3. Decides unanimously to submit the Buenos Aires Declaration to the eleventh session of the General Assembly for information and consideration.

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A N N E X

BUENOS AIRES DECLARATION

THE STATES MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF THE WORLD TOURISM ORGANIZATION PARTICIPATING IN THE FIFTIETH SESSION, HELD AT BUENOS AIRES ON 25 AND 26 MAY 1995,

Recognizing that tourism is the most important economic activity worldwide owing to its contribution to World Gross National Product and its dynamic growth,

Recognizing the important part that tourism plays in the national development of countries, with direct repercussions on their balance of payments,

Aware of tourism's potential as a generator of jobs, direct and indirect alike,

Aware of the contribution that tourism provided if it is properly organized, if properly planned, can make to the conservation of cultural and natural attractions,

Considering that tourism benefits a wide range of sectors and that, for its appropriate and sustainable development, it needs inputs from other sectors of national administrations,

Recognizing its function as a creator of new activities in industry, handicrafts and production and as a promoter of the establishment of small and medium-sized businesses,

Aware of the enormous contribution that tourism makes to the culture and knowledge of peoples,

REQUEST GOVERNMENTS TO ENSURE THAT

tourism, as a specific activity, forms part of their policies and decisions and that, at the same time, the official bodies entrusted with tourism policy are granted their rightful place in the administrative and institutional hierarchy.

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CE/DEC/15 (L)

Vote of thanks to the host country

The Executive Council,

Having considered the various items on the agenda of its fiftieth session in conditions of considerable efficiency and comfort, thanks to the facilities generously provided by the Government of Argentina,

1. Expresses its most sincere gratitude to the Argentine Government;
2. Requests the Secretary of Tourism, Mr. Francisco Mayorga, to convey to H.E. Mr. Carlos Menem, President of the Republic of Argentina, the deepest satisfaction and gratitude of all the participants in the Executive Council session and the technical seminar, who have been able to appreciate the traditional hospitality of his country; and
3. Expresses its warmest congratulations to the Argentine Government and people on the occasion, commemorated on 25 May 1995, of the 185th anniversary of Argentina's May Revolution.

4. List of participants

The fiftieth session of the Executive Council was attended by:

1. Delegates of the following Members of the Council: Argentina, Canada, Chile, China, Egypt, Finland, France, Gabon, Ghana, Greece, India, Kenya, Lesotho, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, and Spain as a privileged Member.
2. The Chairmen of the following Regional Commissions: Africa (Cameroon), East Asia and the Pacific (Malaysia), and South Asia (Iran).
3. The representatives of the following member States: Austria, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, Guatemala, Jamaica, Japan, Portugal, Uruguay, and Venezuela, as observers.
4. The Permanent Observer, the Holy See.
5. The representative of the Affiliate Members (Iberia, Airlines of Spain).
6. The Chairman of the Committee on Budget and Finance (Germany).
7. The Chairman of the Technical Committee for Programme and Coordination (Venezuela).
8. The representatives of the United Nations, the International Civil Aviation Organization and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, as observers.
9. The Auditor (Sri Lanka).