



Executive Council

Eighty-eighth session
Puerto Iguazú, Argentina, 6-8 June 2010

CE/88/DEC

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

Puerto Iguazú, Argentina, 8 June 2010

Adoption of the agenda

Agenda item 1
(documents CE/88/1 prov. and CE/88/1 prov. annot.)

The Executive Council

Adopts the agenda of its eighty-eighth session as proposed.

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Communication of the Chairman

Agenda item 2
(document CE/88/2)

The Executive Council,

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

1. Thanks him for his communication to the Executive Council;
2. Agrees with the views of its Chairman regarding the characteristics of the year of transition experienced and the global recovery process initiated, in which tourism constitutes a principal source of many national economies;
3. Shares his assessment of the crisis in terms of lessons learned: renewed links between the public sector and the private sector; changes in the interaction of credit institutions with the business sector; transformations in commercial aviation and the strengthened role of the UNWTO with the leadership of the Secretary-General;
4. Endorses the comments on recent events caused by the Icelandic volcano and the need for greater protection for travellers in the event of serious disasters in all parts of the world;
5. Takes note of the positive assessment of the Chairman regarding the necessary changes that the World Tourism Organization is carrying out and which are set forth in the White Paper; and
6. Shares the position of the Chairman regarding the entry of new States into the Organization, as well as that of public and private institutions as Affiliate Members.

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CE/DEC/3(LXXXVIII)

Report of the Secretary-General

Agenda item 3
(document CE/88/3)

The Executive Council,

Having heard the report presented by the Secretary-General and having discussed it,

1. Thanks the Secretary-General for his presentation intended to keep the Members of the Council informed about the recent developments in the tourism sector and the UNWTO's responses to the economic crisis;
2. Shares the Secretary-General's analysis regarding the challenging times we are in, and acknowledges the information provided on the international tourism performance in 2009 and the trends for 2010, observing that, though recovery seems underway, many downside risks remain;
3. Notes with satisfaction the follow-up work of the Secretariat in relation with the Tourism Resilience Committee, notably the members-driven *T-20 Initiative* and the dissemination and implementation of the *Roadmap for Recovery*;
4. Shares the Secretary-General's concerns regarding the recent disruption of the air traffic in Europe, an exceptional crisis born from the eruption of the Icelandic volcano, which has stressed the importance of international standards and regulations concerning the tourist/consumer protection; and requests him to present to the 89th session of the Executive Council for its opinion, a draft document based on the principles of the Global Code of Ethics for tourism and/or any other existing international regulation concerning this issue; and
5. Appreciates the general overview given by the Secretary-General on the programme of work of the Organization, its sound financial situation and the restructuring of the Secretariat.

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CE/DEC/4(LXXXVIII)

General programme of work

Agenda items 4(a), 4(b) and 4(c)
(documents CE/88/4(a) and addenda 1, 2 and 3, CE/88/4(b) and CE/88/4(c))

The Executive Council,

Having considered:

- the report on the implementation and evaluation of the Organization's general programme of work for the period 2008- 2009, and its addenda, and

- the report on the implementation of the programme of work of the Organization for the period 2010-2011

Having before it the report of the thirty-seventh meeting of the Programme Committee, and stressing the importance of adequate and efficient communication of the Programme of Work,

Programme of work 2008-2009:

1. Expresses its appreciation for being equally informed on activities funded through the regular budget and through voluntary contributions, allowing its members to get a wider vision of the work accomplished during the past biennium;
2. Notes with satisfaction the positive results of the evaluation conducted with a number of evaluation mechanisms and indicators of performance referring to technical events, technical missions and development assistance projects, including ST-EP projects;
3. Encourages the Secretariat to follow the recommendations mentioned by the Programme Committee in its report, which aims at improving the performance and productivity of all the Organization's activities;

Programme of work 2010-2011:

4. Welcomes the update on the progress of the Programme of Work 2010-2011 and emphasizes the importance of climate change in relation with tourism, in line with the provisions of resolution 544(XVII) adopted by the UNWTO General Assembly at its seventeenth session;
5. Supports the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General in the restructuring of the Secretariat, and requests him to present, during the 89th Executive Council session, the new operational structure, including the exhaustive list of regional, operational and support programmes;
6. Notes with satisfaction the large number of activities implemented during the first quarter 2010 considering the challenging framework of the above-mentioned Secretariat's restructuring;
7. Shares the opinion of the Programme Committee that many of the technical committees have not been very active in the past years and, therefore, requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Executive Council, at its 89th session, a proposal for renewing those committees, following the preliminary indications given by the Programme Committee;
8. In parallel, approves the common proposal of the Programme Committee and of the Committee on Budget and Finance to merge into one Programme and Budget Committee (PBC) and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Executive Council, at its 89th session, draft preliminary regulations for the future PBC;

Programme of work 2012-2013:

9. Approves the methodology and calendar proposed by the Programme Committee in its report aiming at establishing priorities for the Programme of Work 2012-2013 biennium.

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Administrative, financial and statutory matters

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation and plan of expenditure for 2010

(d) Report of the Committee on Budget and Finance

Agenda items 5(a) and 5(d)
(documents CE/88/5(a), CE/88/5(a) Add. 1 and CE/88/5(d))

The Executive Council,

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

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 execution of the programme of work in 2010, 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. Takes note of the preparation of an expenditure forecast for the current financial year up to a limit of 95 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 572(XVIII) and the Financial Provisions of the Organization;
3. Authorizes the Secretary-General to carry out a new distribution of the budgetary appropriations in accordance with the programme structure set forth in document CE/88/4(b) entitled "Report on the Implementation of the Organization's General Programme of Work for the Period 2010-2011";
4. Takes note of the level of collection of contributions from Members for the financial year 2010 as of 31 May 2010, amounting to 7,951,874.78 euros, which represents 68 per cent of the assessed contributions, which is in line with previous years, and also of the collection of contribution arrears, amounting to 360,289.99 euros;
5. Urges Members that have not yet complied with their financial obligations to take the necessary steps to pay their contributions for 2010, thereby averting delays that could hamper programme execution;
6. Takes note, 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 2010 of a new salary scale applicable to staff of the professional and higher categories;
7. Takes note of the negotiations conducted by the Secretariat and the Government of Iraq and approves the agreement reached regarding the amount owed by this Full Member, and submits to the UNWTO General Assembly for approval the proposed amount of 849,885.19 euros, and likewise approves the mode of payment envisaged by the Government of Iraq in order to settle

these arrears, with such mode of payment requiring ratification by the UNWTO General Assembly;

8. Approves the proposal presented by the Secretary-General to allocate, charged against the surplus of the period 2006-2007, the amount of 700,000 euros to fund the liabilities accrued for medical insurance benefits after separation from service of the staff members of the Organization, and the amount of 130,993.50 euros to augment the Fixed Asset Replacement reserve fund;
9. Takes note of the progress report on the implementation of the IPSAS standards and encourages the Secretary-General to continue to advance in the proposed plan for its application;
10. Takes note of the report presented by the Secretary-General on the description of the nature of work and authority of an internal oversight function and authorizes the Secretary-General to continue developing the terms of reference and the modalities of implementation of this function; and
11. Welcomes the cost-saving measures adopted by the Secretariat, in particular those related to the distribution of documents in electronic format.

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CE/DEC/6(LXXXVIII)

Administrative, financial and statutory matters

**(b) Auditors' report and administrative accounts of the Organization
for the financial year 2009**

(d) Report of the Committee on Budget and Finance

Agenda items 5(b) and 5(d)
(documents CE/88/5(b) and CE/88/5(d))

The Executive Council,

Having before it the Auditors' report and administrative accounts of the Organization for the financial year 2009,

Having considered the explanations by the Secretariat and the report of the Committee on Budget and Finance,

1. Notes that in the financial year 2009 the level of budgetary expenditure, namely, 13,140,244.91 euros, was maintained within the limit of approved appropriations, taking into account the transfer of surplus appropriations from financial year 2008 to financial year 2009 amounting to 178,244.91 euros;
2. Notes that in 2009 a budget surplus of 405,275.82 euros was recorded;

3. Observes that the level of budgetary income received in financial period 2008-2009 made it possible to execute 99.6 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;
5. Authorizes the Secretary-General to utilize the surplus from financial period 2008-2009, amounting to 485,419.96 euros, in accordance with the criteria established in resolution 572(XVIII) and with the terms stipulated in Annex 4 of document A/18/15 Special Contingency Account;
6. Recommends to the Secretary-General to continue in 2010 his approaches to Members that owe contributions to the Organization in order to secure their payment;
7. Endorses 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;
8. Recommends to the General Assembly to approve the administrative accounts for the financial year 2009, as reported by the Auditors;

Having been informed of the joint proposal by the Programme Committee and the Committee on Budget and Finance to merge the two Committees,

9. Approves the merger of the two Committees into a single one;
10. Authorizes the Secretary-General to carry out the necessary formal modifications in the Financial Regulations and its provisions relating to either of the aforementioned Committees and to inform the Executive Council at its next session of the result of such modifications; and
11. Thanks the Chairman of the Committee on Budget and Finance (Argentina) and the Auditors (Spain and India) for the important work carried out.

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CE/DEC/7(LXXXVIII)

Administrative, financial and statutory matters

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

(d) Report of the Committee on Budget and Finance

Agenda items 5(c) and 5(d)
(documents CE/88/5(c), CE/88/5(c) Add. 1 and CE/88/5(d))

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 24 Full Members, one Associate Member and 67 Affiliate Members,

Having been informed of the Members benefiting from temporary exemption from the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes, granted by the eighteenth General Assembly,

1. Thanks the Members that have made the necessary efforts in order to fulfil their financial obligations despite their internal constraints;
2. Notes with satisfaction that El Salvador, Cambodia and Congo have respected their agreed payment plans up to 2010;
3. Notes that Niger and Yemen have partially respected their agreed payment plans up to 2010;
4. 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;
5. Also 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;

Recalling resolutions A/RES/523(XVII) and A/RES/557(XVIII),

Aware that Iraq benefits from an extended 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 until the present session of the Executive Council,

6. Approves the proposal made by the Government of Iraq and the mode of payment envisaged to settle its arrears, with such mode of payment requiring ratification by the General Assembly.

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CE/DEC/8(LXXXVIII)

Use of the UNWTO logo

Agenda item 5(e)
(document CE/88/5(e))

The Executive Council,

Having heard the report on the use of the UNWTO logo,

1. Takes good note of the procedures of the Secretariat for applying to the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) for the protection of the new emblem of the Organization (logo); its flag; acronyms in Arabic, English and Russian; as well as its name in Arabic;
2. Requests the Secretary-General to keep the Executive Council informed on this issue;

3. Supports the Secretary-General's proposal suggesting that the *ad hoc* Working Group be consulted as necessary before the Executive Council's 89th session in order to examine:
 - (a) the document summarizing the UN practices prepared by the office of the Legal Adviser;
 - (b) the results of the official consultations conducted by the Legal Adviser among all UN specialized agencies and with the UN Office of Legal Affairs; and
 - (c) a draft document establishing the regulations on the use of the logo and any other denomination or symbol related to the identity of the Organization; and
4. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Executive Council the revised proposal of the Working Group regarding these regulations.

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CE/DEC/9(LXXXVIII)

United Nations system activities

(a) Coordination mechanisms

Agenda item 6(a)
(document CE/88/6(a))

The Executive Council,

Having taken cognizance of document CE/88/6(a),

1. Takes note with interest 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 UNWTO's resources and of those of other United Nations agencies, by avoiding duplication of efforts, and in this context, welcomes the offer of the Government of Kenya in relation with UNEP;
2. Further notes 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 (HLCP) and the High-Level Committee on Management (HLCM);
3. Commends the Secretariat for the work and initiatives it has undertaken to address environmental issues in tourism, including that of climate change and biodiversity, among others in the framework of the International Year of Biodiversity;

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4. Encourages the Secretariat to continue reinforcing 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; and
5. 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.

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CE/DEC/10(LXXXVIII)

United Nations system activities

(b) New Institutional and Corporate Relations Programme and the inclusion of tourism in the United Nations Global Compact

Agenda item 6(b)
(document CE/88/6(b))

The Executive Council,

Having taken cognizance of document CE/88/6(b),

1. Welcomes the introduction of the new programme on Institutional and Corporate Relations and its overall mission to develop partnerships and alliances, and implement a resource mobilization strategy to strengthen UNWTO's capacity to provide leadership, serve its members and position tourism in the global development agenda;
2. Highlights with particular interest the importance of such a programme and its potential to generate activities and resources that would benefit UNWTO's programme of work and its Members;
3. Encourages the Secretariat to enhance its relations and cooperation with international and regional institutions that would complement the relationships developed with other UN institutions;

Recalling decision 16(LXXXV),

4. Supports the further development of TOURpact.GC, a joint initiative of the UNWTO with the UN Global Compact;
5. Notes with interest the Secretariat's engagement with the development of the UN Business web platform under the UN Global Compact that provides an opportunity for the private sector to interact and cooperate with the UN on various issues;
6. Invites all Member States to actively promote the UN Business Website; and
7. Requests the Secretary-General to inform it about the development of the TOURpact.GC initiative.

CE/DEC/11(LXXXVIII)

UNWTO White Paper

Agenda item 7
(document CE/88/7)

The Executive Council,

Having taken cognizance of the draft White Paper (WP) "A reform process for a more relevant UNWTO" prepared by the Secretary-General,

1. Congratulates the Secretary-General for this substantial and comprehensive work, undertaken in order to examine shortcomings, strengths and changes needed in the Organization and its Secretariat to make it more relevant to its Members and more efficient in addressing the current and future tourism and global development challenges;
2. Shares the Secretary-General's views and analysis regarding the evolution of the tourism sector and the way the Organization has responded and adapted to it in recent years;
3. Supports the views of the Secretary-General that the White Paper should be seen as a dialogue document, giving to the Members of the Organization the opportunity to examine its proposals more carefully, prior to the 89th session of the Executive Council, and thus promoting a stronger sense of ownership;
4. Agrees with the Secretary General's overall strategic vision regarding the changes needed in the Organization and with the priority areas of work for the current 4-year term;
5. Approves with satisfaction the changes already being put in place by the Secretary-General, such as the restructuring of the Secretariat and its management and administrative practices, conducted with transparency;
6. Encourages the Secretary General to continue implementing those changes indicated in Chapters 14 and 15 in the White Paper that do not require further consideration by the Members;
7. Invites its members to submit further comments to the White Paper by 15 July 2010;
8. Entrusts the Secretary-General:
 - (a) to enrich the White Paper in accordance with the valuable comments and suggestions made during the debate and those received in due time by the Executive Council;
 - (b) to submit a second draft of the White Paper to the 89th session of the Executive Council for its consideration;
 - (c) to inform the Executive Council on the progress achieved in this process; and

- (d) to continue work towards merging the Programme Committee and the Committee on Budget and Finance as well as to continue consultations with regard to the formation of the proposed Management Committee.

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CE/DEC/12(LXXXVIII)

Affiliate Members
(a) Report of the Chairman

Agenda item 8(a)
(document CE/88/8(a))

The Executive Council,

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

1. Thanks the Chairman for his presentation;
2. Expresses its satisfaction over the Work Plan 2010 of the Secretariat of the Affiliate Members, geared towards greater integration of the Affiliate Members within the UNWTO, through initiatives in line with the principal concerns expressed by the non-governmental sector of the Organization, and increasing its progressive regionalization;
3. Takes note with satisfaction of the results of the "Study on the Characteristics and Profile of the UNWTO Affiliate Members", and of its usefulness for taking on future projects and initiatives in the field of public-private cooperation;
4. Observes with satisfaction the advances of the PLATMA project, an online tool for exchanging knowledge, ideas and good practices, which will strengthen the integration of the Affiliate Members and open up new prospects for its participation and collaboration in the Programme of Work of the Organization;
5. Takes note of the activities carried out and welcomes the active participation of the Affiliate Members in the meetings of the Organization, in particular the Regional Commissions and Executive Council sessions;
6. Takes note of the suggestions presented by the Chairman to enhance public-private partnerships; and
7. Requests the Secretariat of the Affiliate Members to inform it about the progress made at its next session.

Affiliate Members

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

Agenda item 8(b)
(document CE/88/8(b))

The Executive Council,

Having taken cognizance of the report of the Committee for the Review of Applications for Affiliate Membership, which met on 8 June 2010, with the attendance of Brazil, China, France, Islamic Republic of Iran, and South Africa, and the participation of the organization *THR – Asesores en Turismo, Hotelería y Recreación, S.A.* in representation of the Affiliate Members,

1. Takes note that the Committee has elected Brazil to its chairmanship;
2. Endorses the recommendations made by the Committee upon the conclusion of its meeting;
3. Decides to admit provisionally to affiliate membership, pending ratification by the nineteenth session of the General Assembly, the following organizations which submitted complete sets of supporting documents for their candidatures:
 1. ABTA (UNITED KINGDOM/ROYAUME-UNI/REINO UNIDO)
 2. AVIAREPS (GERMANY/ALEMANIA/ALLEMAGNE)
 3. CENTRO DE INVESTIGACIÓN Y ESTUDIOS TURÍSTICOS DEL TECNOLÓGICO DE MONTERREY (CIETEC) (MEXICO/MÉXIQUE/MÉXICO)
 4. CYPRUS UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY – DEPARTMENT OF HOTEL AND TOURISM MANAGEMENT (CYPRUS/CHYPRE/CHIPRE)
 5. INSTITUTO POLO INTERNACIONAL IGUASSU – “POLOIGUASSU” (BRAZIL/BRÉSIL/BRASIL)
 6. KENYA TOURISM FEDERATION
 7. LEISURE QUEST INTERNATIONAL. LLC (UNITED STATES OF AMERICA/ÉTATS-UNIS D’AMÉRIQUE/ESTADOS UNIDOS DE AMÉRICA)
 8. OBSERVATORIO REGIONAL DO TURISMO (AÇORES) (PORTUGAL)
 9. REGIONAL TOURISM ORGANIZATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA (RETOSA) (SOUTH AFRICA/AFRIQUE DU SUD/ AFRICA DEL SUR)
 10. THE BUZZ BUSINESS (SPAIN/ESPAÑA/ESPAGNE)
 11. VICTORIA TOURISM INDUSTRY COUNCIL (AUSTRALIA/AUSTRALIE)
 12. CENGIZ (NIGERIA)
 13. MARCOPOLO TOURISM DEVELOPMENT COMPANY (PJS) (IRAN)
4. Decides to provisionally admit the candidature of LAN Airlines, provided that, within the period of one month, it corrects the error detected in the letter of governmental support submitted by it; and
5. Decides not to admit the candidatures of the entities MARTA CONSULTING and PORTO E NORTE, due to failure to provide the accredited letter of governmental support required.

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

Agenda item 9
(document CE/88/9)

The Executive Council,

Considering its decision 6(LXXXVII), adopted at its eighty-seventh session in Astana, Kazakhstan,

1. Thanks the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran for its kind invitation to host the Executive Council session; and
2. Decides to hold its eighty-ninth session in October 2010 in Kish Island, Iran, on a date to be set by the Secretary-General in consultation with the host Government.

Vote of thanks to the host country

The Executive Council,

Having carried out the work of its eighty-eighth session under the excellent conditions placed at its disposal by the host country,

1. Expresses its most sincere gratitude to the Government and people of the Argentine Republic for this new token of support to the UNWTO and to its Members in hosting this session of the Council in the prestigious tourism destination of Puerto Iguazú;
2. Deeply thanks Mr. Carlos Enrique Meyer, Secretary of Tourism, Mr. Maurice Fabián Closs, Governor of Misiones Province, Ms. Maya González Bender, Director of International and Institutional Relations of the Secretariat of Tourism, and all their collaborators for their extraordinary hospitality towards the delegations present at this session of the Council, as well as for the opportunity they have provided to the delegates to enjoy the tourism attractions of Puerto Iguazú;
3. Likewise thanks the Government of the Federative Republic of Brazil, especially in the person of its Minister of Tourism Mr. Luiz Eduardo Barretto Filho, Mr. Mario Augusto Lopes Moyses, Vice-Minister of Tourism of Brazil, Mr. Patric Krahl, Director of the Department of International Relations and all their staff for their generous contribution to the holding of this session of the Council and for their hospitality in hosting the closing dinner in Foz do Iguacu;

4. Equally thanks the Government of the Republic of Paraguay, and most particularly Ms. Liz Cramer, Minister of Tourism, Mr. Benjamín Chamorro, Director-General of the National Secretariat for Tourism, Ms. Doris Penoni, Director of Tourism Marketing, and all their collaborators, for their dedication to the success of the session and the generous welcome offered to the delegates at the technical visit to Itaipu and the reception in Hernandarias; and
5. Salutes this laudable renewed example of cooperation among three neighbouring countries, which has made it possible for the delegates of this session of the Council to enjoy the tourism attractions of the Iguazu area in Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay, and at the same time to hold their meetings in a climate of hospitality and understanding, which undoubtedly contributed to the success of their deliberations.