

**RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
**AT ITS FIFTEENTH SESSION**

**Beijing, China, 19-24 October 2003**

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## **1. Participation in the fifteenth session**

### **I. Full Members<sup>1</sup>**

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia (*Full Member starting 2005*), Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lithuania, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia and Montenegro, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

### **II. Countries in process of applying for membership in the Organization**

Belarus and Oman.

### **III. Associate Members**

Flemish Community of Belgium; Hong Kong, China; Macao, China; and Madeira.

### **IV. Permanent Observer**

Holy See.

### **V. Special Observer**

Palestine.

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<sup>1</sup> Including the States admitted as Members during the session.

## VI. Affiliate Members<sup>2</sup>

Africa Travel Association (ATA); Annals of Tourism Research (United States of America); Associação Interparlamentar de Turismo - Grupo Brasileiro (AIDT); Association of Greek Tourist Enterprises (Greece); Association of Turkish Travel Agencies (TURSAB) (Turkey); Bogaziçi University (Turkey); Cámara Argentina de Turismo (Argentina); Catering and Tourism Training Institute (Ethiopia); Central Council for Tourism and Excursions, S.A (CCTE) (Russian Federation); Centre for Tourism Policy Studies (CENTOPS) (United Kingdom); China International Travel Service (CITS) (China); Civil Aviation Authority (Uganda); Committee for Tourism and Development of Resorts of St. Petersburg Administration (Russian Federation); Cooperative Research Centre for Sustainable Tourism PTY, Ltd. (CRC) (Australia); Egyptian Tourism Federation (ETF) (Egypt); Egyptian Tourist Authority (ETA) (Egypt); Federação Nacional de Hotéis, Restaurantes, Bares e Similares (Brazil); Federación Española de Hostelería (Spain); Federal Association of the Germany Tourism Industry (BTW) (Germany); George Washington University (United States of America); Indian Airlines Ltd. (India); Institute for Tourism Studies (Macao, China); Instituto de Formação Turística (INFTUR) (Portugal); International Federation of Tour Operators (IFTO); International Hotel and Restaurant Association (IH & RA); International Institute of Hotel Management and Tourism (Russian Federation); International Student Travel Confederation (ISTC); International Trade and Exhibitions Group (ITE); Iran Air (Iran); Japan Airlines Co. Ltd. (Japan); Japan National Tourist Organization (JNTO) (Japan); Jibek Joly Holding Company (Kazakhstan); Jordan Society of Tourists and Travel Agents (JSTTA) (Jordan); Jordan Tourism Board (Jordan); Kenya Tourism Development Corporation (KTDC) (Kenya); Kenya Utalii College (Kenya); Kyiv City State Administration – Central Administrative Board (Ukraine); Kyiv Institute of Tourism, Economics and Law (Ukraine); Maboque – Gestao de Empreendimentos (Angola); Middle East Airlines (MEA) (Lebanon); Nigerian Tourism Development Corporation (NTDC) (Nigeria); Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation (PTDC) (Pakistan); Paradores de Turismo de España, S.A. (Spain); Resort Condominiums International, Llc. (RCI); Shanghai Institute of Tourism (China); Technische Universität Dresden (Germany); The Hong Kong Polytechnic University - Department of Hotel and Tourism Management (Hong Kong, China); THR – Asesores en Turismo, Hostelería y Recreación, S.A. (Spain); Tourisme Montréal (Canada); Townland Consultants Ltd. (Hong Kong, China); TTF Australia (Australia); Turkish Tourism Investors Association (TYD) (Turkey); Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM) (Canada); University of Calgary – World Tourism Education and Research Centre (Canada); University of Hawaii at Manoa (United States of America); University of Queensland - Department of Business Studies (Australia); University of Surrey – School of Management Studies for the Service Sector (United Kingdom); VAO « Intourist » (Russian Federation), and World Association for Professional Training in Tourism (WAPTT).

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<sup>2</sup> Including bodies admitted as Affiliate Members during the session.

**VII. Candidate for affiliate membership**

Università L. Bocconi (Master in Tourism Management) (Italy).

**VIII. Non-member State**

Denmark.

**IX. International organizations****(a) United Nations**

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

**(b) Intergovernmental organizations of the United Nations system**

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO); International Finance Corporation (IFC); International Labour Organisation (ILO); United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); World Meteorological Organization (WMO), and World Trade Organization (WTO/OMC).

**(c) Other intergovernmental organizations and institutions**

Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS); European Commission (EC); Indian Ocean Tourism Organisation (IOTO), and Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU).

**d) Other international organizations**

International Association of Scientific Experts in Tourism (AIEST); World Leisure and Recreation Association (WLRA), and World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC).

**X. Other entities**

Austrian Airlines (Austria); Beijing Tourism Group (China); Canada-China Tourism Training Centre (Canada); Chamber of Tourism, All China Federation of Industry Commerce (China); Clemson University – Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management (United States of America); Cornell Hotel School – Cornell University (United States of America); Guangzhou Ferry Company (China); GZL International Travel Service Co. Ltd. (China); Hangzhou Songcheng Group (China); IMC – University of Applied Sciences (Austria); Pacific Islands Forum Trade Office (China); Shanghai New Sima Business Consulting Co. Ltd. (China); Shen Zhen OCT Holding Company (China); World Chinese Entrepreneurs General Association (China), and Xinjiang Western Region International Travel Services Co. Ltd. (China).

## **2. Agenda of the session**

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Election of the President and Vice-Presidents of the Assembly
3. Appointment of the Credentials Committee
4. Appointment of the Chairman of the Assembly's Committee of the Whole
5. Membership of the Organization
  - (a) Approval of applications for membership
  - (b) Suspension of membership in accordance with Article 34 of the Statutes
  - (c) Requests for temporary exemption from the application of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules
6. Transformation of the Organization into a specialized agency of the United Nations
7. Report of the Secretary-General
8. Report of the Executive Council to the General Assembly
9. Report of the Chairman of the Affiliate Members
10. Report of the Credentials Committee
11. Report on implementation of the Organization's general programme of work for the period 2002-2003
12. Draft programme and budget of the Organization for the period 2004-2005
  - (a) Programme
  - (b) Budget

13. Administrative and financial matters
  - (a) Report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation of the Organization
  - (b) Election of the Members of the WTO Staff Pension Committee for the period 2004-2005
  - (c) Introduction of the Arabic language
14. Assessment of Members' contributions to the Organization's budget for the period 2004-2005
15. Consideration and approval of agreements concluded by the Organization
16. World Committee on Tourism Ethics
17. World Tourism Day: information on the activities of 2002 and 2003, adoption of themes and designation of the host countries for 2004 and 2005
18. ST-EP initiative
19. Election of Council Members
20. Election of the Auditors for the period 2004-2005
21. Place and dates of the sixteenth session of the General Assembly
22. Review and adoption of the draft resolutions of the fifteenth session of the General Assembly

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<sup>3</sup> The General Assembly adopted 444 resolutions at its previous fourteen sessions; the first resolution adopted at the fifteenth session is accordingly numbered 445(XV).

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#### **4. Resolutions adopted by the General Assembly**

A/RES/445(XV)

##### **Adoption of the agenda**

Agenda item 1  
(documents A/15/1 prov. rev. and A/15/1 prov.annot.)

The General Assembly

Adopts the agenda of its fifteenth session as proposed.

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A/RES/446(XV)

##### **Election of the President and Vice-Presidents of the Assembly**

Agenda item 2

The General Assembly

1. Declares elected China as President of its fifteenth session represented by Mr. Gu Zhaoxi, Vice-Chairman of the China National Tourism Administration; and
  2. Declares elected as Vice-Presidents of its fifteenth session Benin (Mr. Frédéric Dohou), Croatia (Mrs. Pave Zupan-Ruskovic), Ecuador (Mr. José Rafael Serrano), Maldives (Mr. Hassan Sobir), Namibia (Mr. Philemon Malima), Panama (Mr. Jaime Basilio Ford Lara), Romania (Mr. Nicu Radulescu), and Yemen (Mr. Khaled Al-Rowaishan).
- .....

A/RES/447(XV)

##### **Appointment of the Credentials Committee**

Agenda item 3

The General Assembly,

Having taken note of the proposals of its President made in accordance with Rule 13(1) of its Rules of Procedure,

1. Appoints the following Full Members to the Credentials Committee:

Canada	Haiti	Lebanon
Fiji	Israel	Lesotho
Guinea	Italy	Nepal

2. Notes that the Credentials Committee appointed as its Chairman Ms. Irenka Farmilo (Canada) and as its Vice-Chairman Mr. Mauro di Pietro (Italy).
- .....

A/RES/448(XV)

### **Appointment of the Chairman of the Assembly's Committee of the Whole**

Agenda item 4

The General Assembly

Declares Argentina, represented by Mr. Alejandro Varela, as Chairman of the Assembly's Committee of the Whole.

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A/RES/449(XV)

### **Membership of the Organization**

#### **(a) Approval of applications for membership**

Agenda item 5(a)  
(documents A/15/5(a)(I), A/15/5(a)(I) Add.1 and A/15/5(a)(I) Add.2)

#### ***Full Members***

The General Assembly,

Having taken cognizance of the changes in membership of the Organization since its fourteenth session, as well as of the applications for full membership received by the Secretary-General or by the Depositary of the Statutes and listed in document A/15/5(a)(I),

1. Welcomes the admission of **Saudi Arabia** as a Member in June 2002, approved by the Council in accordance with the mandate given to it by the Assembly, and the entry of **Qatar** in January 2003 and of **Kuwait** in March 2003, in application of Article 5(2) of the Statutes;

2. Approves with great satisfaction the applications for admission submitted by **Bhutan** and **Lithuania** pursuant to Article 5(3) of the Statutes;
3. Approves with equal satisfaction the admission of **Latvia** in accordance with Article 5(3) of the Statutes, and notes that its entry will take effect on 1 January 2005;

Having taken cognizance of the communications dated 2 April and 22 September 2003 respectively, in which **Oman** and **Belarus** state their intention to join WTO,

4. Empowers the Executive Council to admit these States as Full Members once the admission formalities have been completed; and

### ***Associate Members***

5. Notes the admission of **Puerto Rico**, United States, which regained associate membership in May 2002, in accordance with Article 6(2) of the Statutes.
- .....

A/RES/450(XV)

### **Membership of the Organization**

#### **(a) Approval of applications for membership**

Agenda item 5(a)  
(document A/15/5(a)(II))

#### ***Affiliate Members***

The General Assembly,

Having taken cognizance of the applications for affiliate membership received by the Secretary-General,

1. Approves, on the recommendation of the Executive Council and in accordance with resolution 279(IX), the applications for affiliate membership of the following bodies:
  1. ACCENTURE, S.L. (Spain)
  2. AMIN TOUR AND TRAVEL (Iran)
  3. ARALDI, S.L. (Spain)
  4. ASOCIACIÓN HOTELERA DE COLOMBIA (COTELCO)
  5. ASOCIACIÓN MEXICANA DE AGENCIAS DE VIAJES, A.C. (AMAV) (Mexico)
  6. A.T.S. (Italy)

7. CENTRE FOR TOURISM POLICY STUDIES UNIVERSITY OF BRIGHTON (United Kingdom)
  8. COMITÉ DU TOURISME DE LA RÉUNION (France)
  9. COMITÉ RÉGIONAL DE TOURISME PROVENCE-ALPES-CÔTE D'AZUR (France)
  10. COOPERATIVE RESEARCH CENTRE FOR SUSTAINABLE TOURISM PTY. LTD. (Australia)
  11. COSTA DAURADA (Spain)
  12. DELOITTE & TOUCHE, S.A. (Spain)
  13. DESTINATION 21 (Denmark)
  14. DMC VIAJES, S.A. (Chile)
  15. FEDERAÇÃO NACIONAL DE HOTEIS, RESTAURANTES, BARES E SIMILARES (Brazil)
  16. FEDERAZIONE ALBERGATORI ISOLE MINORI D'EUROPA (FAIME) (Italy)
  17. GLOBAL TOURISM SOLUTIONS (UK) LTD. (United Kingdom)
  18. GLOBALIA CORPORACIÓN EMPRESARIAL, S.A. (Spain)
  19. HOTEL SUPPORT SERVICES LTD. (Nigeria)
  20. HVS ARGENTINA, S.A. (Argentina)
  21. INSTITUTO DE TURISMO RESPONSABLE (Spain)
  22. INTERNATIONAL YOUTH HOSTEL FEDERATION
  23. IONIAN TOURISM CORPORATION (ITC) (Greece)
  24. LE CORDON BLEU (Peru)
  25. MAHARASHTRA TOURISM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD. (India)
  26. MASYARAKAT PARIWISATA INDONESIA (MPI) (Indonesia Tourism Council)
  27. NATIONAL TOURIST BOARD OF SIERRA LEONE
  28. PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS ASESORES DE NEGOCIOS, S.L. (Spain)
  29. PROMOTION HÔTELIÈRE ET TOURISTIQUE (PROMHOT) (ÉCOLE D'HÔTELLERIE ET RESTAURATION) (Algeria)
  30. REED TRAVEL EXHIBITIONS (United Kingdom)
  31. SCHOOLS OF TOURISM EDUCATION (Greece)
  32. SOUTH PACIFIC TOURISM ORGANISATION (Fiji)
  33. STARK COMMUNICATIONS PRIVATE LTD. (India)
  34. TOURISM INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION OF CANADA (TIAC)
  35. TOURISM MARKETING & INTELLIGENCE LTD. (TMI) (United Kingdom)
  36. TOWNLAND CONSULTANTS LIMITED (Hong Kong, China)
  37. TURISMO DO ALGARVE (Portugal)
  38. UNION INTERNATIONALE DES TRAVAILLEURS DE L'ALIMENTATION, DE L'AGRICULTURE, DE L'HÔTELLERIE-RESTAURATION, DU TABAC ET DES BRANCHES CONNEXES (UITA)
  39. UNIVERSITY OF ZAGREB – GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS & BUSINESS (Croatia)
2. Takes note of the withdrawal of the bodies from affiliate membership mentioned in document A/15/5(a)(II).
- .....

A/RES/451(XV)

**Membership of the Organization****(b) Suspension of membership in accordance  
with Article 34 of the Statutes**

Agenda item 5(b)  
(documents A/15/5(b)(c) and A/15/5(b)(c) Add.1)

The General Assembly,

Considering resolution 217(VII) adopted at its seventh session, whereby it recognized that Article 34 of the Statutes, providing for suspension of Members that persist in a policy contrary to the fundamental aim of the Organization as established in Article 3 of the Statutes, is applicable in the case of prolonged non-payment of obligatory contributions to the budget of the Organization,

Also considering the report submitted to it by the Secretary-General in pursuance of the aforementioned resolution,

1. Notes that the following Members are subject to Article 34 of the Statutes and that consequently all their rights and privileges of membership are suspended:

**FULL MEMBERS**

AFGHANISTAN  
CHAD  
CONGO  
GAMBIA  
GUINEA-BISSAU  
KYRGYZSTAN  
LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC  
MAURITANIA  
MONGOLIA  
NICARAGUA  
NIGER  
SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE  
TOGO  
TURKMENISTAN  
UGANDA

2. Further notes that Article 34 of the Statutes will be applicable to the following Members if, within a period of one year, they have not agreed with the Secretary-General on a plan for the payment of their arrears:

**FULL MEMBERS**

DJIBOUTI  
GABON  
VENEZUELA

AFFILIATE MEMBERS

BEPONG TOURISM CONSULTANTS (Nigeria)  
 CENTRO FEDERAL DE EDUCAÇÃO TECNOLÓGICA DO CEARÁ (CEFET)  
 (Brazil)  
 ESCUELA SUPERIOR DE TURISMO - INSTITUTO POLITÉCNICO NACIONAL  
 (Mexico)  
 FUNDACIÓN CAVANILLES DE ALTOS ESTUDIOS TURÍSTICOS (Spain)  
 INTER-CONTINENTAL HOTELS AND RESORTS (United Kingdom)  
 ISTITUTO SUPERIORE EUROPEO DI STUDI TURISTICI (ISEST) (Italy)  
 KODOLANYI JANOS COLLEGE, TOURISM DEPARTMENT (Hungary)  
 MAJESTIC AGENCIA DE VIAJES Y TURISMO S.R.L. (Peru)  
 PHILIPPINE TOURISM AUTHORITY (Philippines)  
 PROMARGARITA (Venezuela)  
 UNION OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES (Israel)

3. Decides to continue applying the measure of suspension of rights and privileges provided for in Article 34 of the Statutes under the following conditions:
- (a) when a Member of the Organization is in arrears in the payment of contributions for four financial years, whether consecutive or not, it being understood that part payment of contributions does not preclude application of the measure of suspension; and
  - (b) when that Member has not agreed with the Secretary-General on a plan for the payment of its arrear contributions within a period of one year from the date of the General Assembly resolution stating that suspension is applicable to that Member in accordance with Article 34 of the Statutes; and
4. Requests the Secretary-General to apply this resolution and to report on its application to each session of the Executive Council.

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A/RES/452(XV)

**Membership of the Organization****(c) Requests for temporary exemption from the application of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules**

Agenda item 5(c)  
 (documents A/15/5(b)(c) and A/15/5(b)(c) Add.1)

The General Assembly,

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary-General concerning the communications of the Full Members: Georgia and Sudan, regarding the contribution arrears accumulated by these Members,

Considering the recommendation formulated by the seventy-first session of the Executive Council,

1. Approves the Executive Council's decision;
2. Decides to renew the temporary exemption from the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules as they apply to Bolivia, El Salvador, Guinea, Kazakhstan and Mali which are complying with the agreed plans for the settlement of their contribution arrears;
3. Decides to renew the temporary exemption from the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules to the Full Members Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Ghana, Peru, Sierra Leone and Yemen, albeit making it clear that these provisions will once again be applied to these Members if they are not up to date in their payment plans by 1 January 2004;
4. Entrusts the Secretary-General with informing Yemen that it should submit a new payment plan for the debt corresponding to the years 1979 to 1989, there being no provision in the existing regulations for exemption from contributions;
5. Decides to grant temporary exemption from the provisions of paragraph 13 to the Full Members Georgia and Sudan, which submitted payment plans approved by the Council; Burundi until a legal position is adopted concerning that Member's request for a temporary suspension of its full membership; Republic of Moldova while a legal study is undertaken to ascertain the true date of that country's admission to WTO, and Democratic Republic of the Congo and Rwanda, whose payment plans were submitted to the present session;

Noting that Iraq is no longer subject to United Nations sanctions,

6. Decides that it is now up to that country to present a payment plan for its contribution arrears to the Executive Council session preceding its sixteenth session, at the latest;
7. Adopts the recommendations of the Executive Council and establishes the following conditions for the Members requesting temporary exemption from the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules and which propose payment plans to settle their arrears in instalments:
  - (a) to discharge the contribution corresponding to the present year before the General Assembly session at which their case is reviewed;
  - (b) strict observance of the plan agreed for the settlement of arrears;
8. Requests the Secretary-General to inform the Full Members concerned, that the decision just taken in their regard remains subject to strict compliance with the aforementioned conditions; and
9. Notes that the Members listed below continue to be subject to the provisions of paragraph 13:



FULL MEMBERS

AFGHANISTAN  
 CHAD  
 CONGO  
 DJIBOUTI  
 GABON  
 GAMBIA  
 GUINEA-BISSAU  
 KYRGYZSTAN  
 MAURITANIA  
 MONGOLIA  
 NICARAGUA  
 NIGER  
 LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC  
 SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE  
 TOGO  
 TURKMENISTAN  
 UGANDA  
 URUGUAY  
 VENEZUELA

AFFILIATE MEMBERS

ASOCIACIÓN ESPAÑOLA DE COMPAÑÍAS AÉREAS (AECA) (Spain)  
 BARRINGTON INTERNATIONAL HOSPITALITY, INC. (United States of America)  
 BEPONG TOURISM CONSULTANTS (Nigeria)  
 CENTRO FEDERAL DE EDUCAÇÃO TECNOLÓGICA DO CEARÁ (Brazil)  
 EMPRESA MINEIRA DE TURISMO (TURMINAS) (Brazil)  
 ESCUELA SUPERIOR DE TURISMO – INSTITUTO POLITÉCNICO NACIONAL (Mexico)  
 EUROPEAN TOURISM TRADE FAIRS ASSOCIATION  
 FUNDACIÓN CAVANILLES DE ALTOS ESTUDIOS TURÍSTICOS (Spain)  
 INSTITUT PANAFRICAIN DES ARTS ET MÉTIERS (IPAAM) (Côte d'Ivoire)  
 INTER-CONTINENTAL HOTELS AND RESORTS (United Kingdom)  
 ISTITUTO SUPERIORE EUROPEO DI STUDI TURISTICI (ISEST) (Italy)  
 ITC HOTELS LIMITED (India)  
 KODOLANYI JANOS COLLEGE, TOURISM DEPARTMENT (Hungary)  
 MAJESTIC AGENCIA DE VIAJES Y TURISMO S.R.L (Peru)  
 NICARAO LAKE RESORT (Nicaragua)  
 OFFICE FOR STUDIES AND FINANCE (OSAF) (Egypt)  
 OFICINA DE TURISMO - MUNICIPIO DE SAN JUAN DE PUERTO RICO  
 ORGANISATION DU TOURISME EURO-MÉDITERRANÉEN (OTEM)  
 PHILIPPINE TOURISM AUTHORITY (Philippines)  
 PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS (United States of America)  
 PROMARGARITA (Venezuela)  
 RPM INTERNATIONAL (United Kingdom)  
 SOUTH AFRICAN TOURISM (South Africa)  
 TOURISM FINANCE CORPORATION OF INDIA LIMITED (India)  
 UNION OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES (Israel)  
 UNIVERSIDAD CENTRAL DEL ESTE (UCE) (Dominican Republic)

A/RES/453(XV)

**Transformation of the Organization  
into a specialized agency of the United Nations**

Agenda item 6  
(documents A/15/6 and A/15/6 Doc. S.)

The General Assembly,

Having taken cognizance of the report presented by the Secretary-General on this agenda item,

Having examined the draft agreement meant to take the place of the one that has existed since 1977 between the United Nations and the WTO,

1. Commends the work accomplished all throughout the process undertaken with the United Nations to convert the Organization into a specialized agency of the United Nations System;
2. Thanks the Committees on Negotiations of ECOSOC and of WTO, respectively chaired by Peru and Jordan, and the Legal Counsel of the United Nations, for the efforts undertaken in the preparation of this draft agreement;
3. Notes with satisfaction that ECOSOC endorsed by consensus, in July 2003, the draft text submitted to it, which it recommended for final approval by the United Nations General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session (September-December 2003);
4. Gives special thanks to Ms. Louise Fréchette, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, for her presence at this session and for her support, on behalf of the entire United Nations system, at this significant event in the history of international tourism;
5. Expects that this transformation will increase the visibility and the recognition of the Organization and of the tourism sector in general, without entailing significant extra costs for WTO or consequences for the contributions paid by its Members;
6. Notes with satisfaction the text of the draft agreement as submitted to it, and decides to approve it without modifications;
7. Notes that the conversion will take effect with no further formalities upon the approval of the agreement in the same terms by the United Nations General Assembly to which it is also submitted;
8. Authorizes the Executive Council, nevertheless, to approve on its behalf any modifications that the United Nations General Assembly may make to the draft agreement; and

9. Also authorizes the Secretary-General to issue, once the instrument has come into force, the letters of agreement corresponding to the acceptance of the Statute of the International Civil Service Commission, the recognition of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal, and the acceptance of the Statute of the Joint Inspection Unit.
- .....

A/RES/454(XV)

### **Report of the Secretary-General**

Agenda item 7  
(document A/15/7)

The General Assembly,

Having heard the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Organization, presented in application of Rule 5(1) of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly, and the debate which has followed,

1. Shares the opinion of the Secretary-General regarding the four major successes realized by the Organization over the past few years: its perceptive analysis of the changes in world tourism and of the resulting consequences for the Organization, the capacity shown by WTO to position itself in the most relevant issues of our sector, the battle, which has already been won in large part, for the tourism sector to be recognized by the international community, and lastly, the progress made in building a World Tourism Organization that is strong, full of life, and attractive;
  2. Congratulates the Secretary-General on the remarkable progress made in these four areas, crowned by the transformation of WTO into a specialized agency of the United Nations; and
  3. Takes note of the fact that the Secretary-General considers it a personal setback to have failed to persuade the Members to see through to the extent necessary the Organization's openness to all of the actors of the international tourism community while respecting WTO's intergovernmental nature.
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A/RES/455(XV)

**Report of the Secretary-General**

***Liberalization of trade in tourism services***

Agenda item 7  
(document A/15/7 Add.1)

The General Assembly,

Whereas WTO has engaged with the World Trade Organization and other organizations to ensure that Tourism is properly reflected in the trade negotiations framework, especially in the Doha Development Round,

Noting the growing importance of Tourism in trade generally and in the export trade of the world's poorest states specifically,

Bearing in mind that WTO collaborates with UNCTAD, ITC and others to improve the position of developing states in tourism exports and is undertaking joint studies with ICAO to ensure that essential air service is available to developing states for their tourism growth,

Taking note of the current state of trade negotiations following the Cancún Ministerial Conference,

Basing itself on the understanding between the World Tourism Organization and the World Trade Organization for even closer collaboration,

Recommends that actions be undertaken to better reflect the full impact of Tourism in Trade in Services, to pursue a strategy of "Liberalization with a Human Face" and to engage in joint activities with the World Trade Organization and other bodies to advance these goals.

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A/RES/456(XV)

**Report of the Secretary-General**

***International Year of Tourism***

Agenda item 7

The General Assembly,

Having heard the proposal of Japan,

Considering that WTO is about to enter into a new stage through its transformation into a specialized agency of the United Nations,

Aware that, in addition to its growing contribution to the world economy, tourism can play a decisive part in resolving conflicts, settling differences and promoting lasting peace among peoples,

1. Requests the Secretariat to propose that the United Nations establish in the near future an “International Year of Tourism” in order to contribute, through various events held during such an occasion around the world, to the alleviation of international conflicts and confrontations between States, and to the realization of world peace; and
  2. Urges all of its Members to support this initiative in the United Nations General Assembly.
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A/RES/457(XV)

**Report of the Executive Council to the General Assembly**

Agenda item 8  
(document A/15/8)

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Executive Council, submitted by its current Chairman pursuant to Articles 19(a) and 20 of the Statutes,

1. Takes note with interest of the information presented concerning the Council’s activities, and in particular the results of its sixty-seventh, sixty-eighth, sixty-ninth, seventieth and seventy-first ordinary sessions;
2. Thanks the Council for the work it has diligently carried out since the last Assembly session;

3. Approves the report of the Council; and
  4. Pays tribute to the energy, dedication and wisdom displayed by its Chairman H.E. Dr. Taleb Rifai, Minister of Tourism and Antiquities of Jordan, in 2002, and by his successor H.E. Mr. Vladimir Strzhalkovskiy, Vice Minister at the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of the Russian Federation, in 2003.
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A/RES/458(XV)

### **Report of the Executive Council to the General Assembly**

Agenda item 8  
(document A/15/5(a)(I) Add.2)

The General Assembly,

Having received from the Executive Council a draft resolution submitted at the invitation of Spain, and having also taken cognizance of a statement submitted by a group of countries,

1. Adopts the attached draft resolution presented by the Executive Council at the proposal of the Government of Spain and also adopts the attached statement presented by France, Morocco and Portugal, and endorsed by Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Italy, Russian Federation and Spain;
2. Decides that the admission of the territory of Bermuda (United Kingdom), a non-self-governing territory, could only take place once the admission procedure has been clarified, after all the conditions imposed by the WTO Statutes have been met and subject to the agreement of the Executive Council; and
3. Notes that the status of the existing Associate Members within the Organization is confirmed, pending a future modification of the Statutes.

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### **DRAFT RESOLUTION PRESENTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AT THE PROPOSAL OF THE GOVERNMENT OF SPAIN**

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the International Union of Official Travel Organisations (IUOTO) was created as a private law association governed by the Swiss Civil Code and that in 1975 it became the World Tourism Organization, thus acquiring intergovernmental status in order to effectively fulfil its new tasks, especially that of tourism cooperation with developing countries,

Emphasizing that, since the WTO is an intergovernmental organization, only States are Full Members thereof, although so-called Associate and Affiliate Members may participate in some of its activities in a limited way,

Considering that the procedure for the amendment of the Statutes is regulated in Art. 33:

1. *Any suggested amendment to the present Statutes and its Annex shall be transmitted to the Secretary-General who shall circulate it to the Full Members at least six months before being submitted to the consideration of the Assembly,*
2. *An amendment shall be adopted by the Assembly by a two-thirds majority of Full Members present and voting,*
3. *An amendment shall come into force for all Members when two-thirds of the Member States have notified the Depositary Government of their approval of such amendments,*

Reaffirming that the proper interpretation of “territories or groups of territories not responsible for their external relations” mentioned in Article 6 of the Statutes refers to non-self-governing territories, that the different membership conditions stipulated in the same Article must be respected, and that any interpretation of the Statutes implying the consideration of regions or territories of States on an equal footing with the States themselves is unacceptable,

Bearing in mind that the intergovernmental nature of the WTO has made it possible to consider its conversion into a specialized agency of the United Nations,

1. Reaffirms the intergovernmental nature of the Organization as an indispensable condition for its future membership in the United Nations system pursuant to its Statutes and as set out in the Draft Agreement between the UN and the WTO and congratulates the Secretary-General for his efforts in achieving this goal;
  2. Reiterates that compliance with its Statutes is an essential condition for its proper functioning, and specifically for the consideration of candidatures for WTO membership, and that any amendment of the Statutes must adhere to the procedure set out in Article 33 mentioned above;
  3. Decides that, in relation to non-self-governing territories in the sense understood by the United Nations, it would be advisable to study forms of collaboration that respect the Statutes and are in keeping with the spirit of collaboration contained in Article 11 of the Agreement between the United Nations and the WTO once it comes into force; and
  4. Urges the States to respond to the challenge that comes with the conversion of the WTO into a specialized agency of the United Nations, which represents an opportunity to reinvigorate it, harmonize it with similar organizations, and transform it into a useful tool of development cooperation, and in so doing, to promote the return of States that have left the Organization.
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**Statement**  
**by France, the Kingdom of Morocco, and Portugal**

In view of the transformation of the World Tourism Organization into a specialized agency of the United Nations,

In accordance with the decision taken by the Executive Council at its seventy-first session held on 18 October 2003 in Beijing,

The aforementioned Member States ask the Secretary-General for the constitution as soon as possible of a working group under the responsibility of the Executive Council and in collaboration with the Committee on Modernization of the WTO, in close communication with the Secretary-General, in charge of proposing, in particular, a reform of Articles 6 and 7 of the Statutes of the Organization.

The signatory Member States of this Statement consider that these two articles of the Statutes have, for too long, given rise to constant difficulties in interpretation, which have been a source of differences injurious to the smooth functioning of the Organization.

The signatory Member States of this Statement request the Secretary-General to propose to the General Assembly the adoption of this Statement as a resolution of the General Assembly at its 15<sup>th</sup> session, meeting in Beijing, People's Republic of China, from 17 to 24 October 2003.

[signature]  
Portugal

[signature]  
France

[signature]  
Morocco

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A/RES/459(XV)

**Report of the Chairman of the Affiliate Members**

Agenda item 9  
(document A/15/9)

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Chairman of the Affiliate Members on the activities of these members within the context of its programme of work for 2002-2003,

1. Appreciates the valuable contribution of the Affiliate Members to the work of the WTO Recovery Committee and the related initiatives undertaken by the Business Council;
2. Congratulates the Affiliate Members on an increased level of activity and their determination to hold meetings like the important Leadership Forum of Advisers in a period of difficulty for tourism;
3. Notes with satisfaction the successful partnership with the Canadian Tourism Commission on the publication: "Cooperation and Partnerships in Tourism – A Global Perspective" providing the needed leading-edge research in the important area of cooperation and partnerships while at the same time doing so in partnership;
4. Expresses its satisfaction with the high level of activities carried out by the Affiliate Members consistent with their strategy, particularly with a view to disseminate the ongoing application of the new information and communication technologies and cooperation and partnerships in tourism through research and seminars, both areas being of fundamental importance to the competitiveness of the tourism sector as well as the sustainable development of tourism;
5. Appreciates the initiative of the Education Council of holding a joint meeting with the Executive Council allowing government officials and academics to meet and encourages the further development of the dialogue between governments, academics and the tourism industry as well as the work on the Tourism Labour Market Observatory;
6. Notes with interest the initiative to establish Business Tourism as a new area of activity within the programme of work of the Affiliate Members;
7. Notes with satisfaction the active involvement and contribution of the Affiliate Members to the Destination Management Task Force;
8. Takes note with satisfaction that the general programme of work for 2004-2005 meets the interest of diversified membership including private sector companies as well as universities while at the same time being based on improving synergies between the work of the WTO sections and the various categories of Affiliate Members;

9. Looks forward to the implementation of the new projects of the Affiliate Members including the Handbook on Congestion at Cultural and Natural Sites done in cooperation with the WTO Sustainable Tourism Development Section, the Benchmarking Scheme for Destination Websites and the Handbook on Innovation in Tourism as well to the results of the reinforced programme to attract new members; and
10. Takes note of the composition of the Board of the Affiliate Members decided on at the General Meeting of the Affiliate Members:

Chairman:                      Tourisme Montréal (Canada)

Vice Chairmen:

- Asociación Hotelera de Colombia (COTELCO) (Colombia)
- Association of Greek Tourist Enterprises (Greece)
- Bogaziçi University – Tourism Administration Dept. (Turkey)
- Cámara Argentina de Turismo (Argentina)
- Confederación de Organizaciones Turísticas de la América Latina (COTAL)
- Egyptian Tourism Federation (ETF) (Egypt)
- Federação Nacional de Hoteis, Restaurantes, Bares e Similares (FNHBRS) (Brazil)
- Federación Española de Hostelería (FEHR) (Spain)
- Federal Association of the German Tourism Industry (BTW) (Germany)
- FITUR – Feria Internacional de Turismo (Spain)
- George Washington University (United States of America)
- Iberia, Líneas Aéreas de España (Spain)
- International Bureau of Social Tourism (BITS)
- International Federation of Tour Operators (IFTO)
- International Hotel and Restaurant Association (IH&RA)
- Japan Airlines (Japan)
- Jordan Tourism Board (Jordan)
- Resort Condominiums International
- Technische Universität Dresden (Germany)
- The Hong Kong Polytechnic University – School of Hotel and Tourism Management (HTM) (Hong Kong, China)
- THR - Asesores en Turismo, Hotelería Y Recreación, S.A. (Spain)
- Travel Industry Association of America (TIA) (United States of America)
- TTF Australia (Australia)
- Turkish Tourism Investors Association (TYD) (Turkey)
- Université du Québec à Montréal (Canada)
- University of Calgary (Canada)

- University of Hawaii at Manoa – School of Travel Industry Management (United States of America)
- University of Surrey – School of Management Studies for the Service Sector (United Kingdom)

Special Adviser: Maboque - Gestao de Empreendimentos (Angola)

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A/RES/460(XV)

**Report of the Credentials Committee**

Agenda item 10  
(documents A/15/10 Doc.Trav., A/15/10 and A/15/10 Add.1)

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report submitted by the Credentials Committee, chaired by Ms. Irenka Farmilo (Canada),

Approves the said report.

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A/RES/461(XV)

**Report on implementation of the Organization's general programme of work for the period 2002-2003**

Agenda item 11  
(documents A/15/11 and A/15/11 Add.1)

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Organization's general programme of work for the period 2002-2003,

1. Takes note of the development of technical cooperation activities globally and by region, and of the positive results recorded concerning field missions and project execution;
2. Records with satisfaction that the Organization continues to increase the volume of its technical cooperation activities in comparison to previous years despite the limited financial resources available for that purpose;

3. Takes note of the positive results achieved in the implementation of the Silk Road project, the special programme for the promotion of tourism in sub-Saharan Africa, the technical support programme for the recovery of tourism in the Middle East and North Africa and by the capacity-building seminars on crisis management held in South and East Asia and the Pacific;
4. Entrusts the Secretary-General with taking the appropriate measures to ensure the necessary follow-up on these projects;
5. Expresses its satisfaction at the presence in the field by the Regional Representatives and at the development of regional approaches to strategic issues of common interest or concern to the various regional groupings, through special research programmes and regional seminars and workshops;
6. Notes with satisfaction the outcome of the Fourth International Forum for Parliamentarians and Local Authorities, held in Panama in November 2002, as well as that of the various conferences and seminars concerning cooperation between the public and private sectors;
7. Accepts with gratitude the offer of Ukraine to host the Fifth International Forum for Parliamentarians and Local Authorities in 2004;
8. Commends the Business Council on the quality of the new research programme it has conducted on the important issue of public-private sector partnerships;
9. Welcomes the development of a broad range of new capacity building activities under the Human Resource Development programme, particularly as part of the S.Best initiative, the GTAT and SIS courses, the WTO and TedQual Practicums and the WTO scholars programme;
10. Expresses its appreciation to the Education Council for its strong commitment to the Organization's Human Resource Development programme and for its valuable contribution to the expansion and implementation of the said programme;
11. Notes with satisfaction the successful celebration in 2002 of the International Year of Ecotourism, as well as the positive outcome of WTO's participation in the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, as reflected by the inclusion of tourism issues in the programme of action agreed upon at the Summit and by the development of the Sustainable Tourism – Eliminating Poverty (ST-EP) initiative jointly with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD);
12. Appraises positively the significant progress made by the Organization in enhancing standards, setting benchmarks and encouraging voluntary certification processes for sustainable tourism;

13. Takes note with satisfaction of the outcome of the First International Conference on Climate Change and Tourism, held at Djerba, Tunisia, in April 2003, and entrusts the Secretary-General with taking the necessary measures with a view to promoting the implementation of the Djerba Declaration and to report thereon to the Programme Committee and the Executive Council;
14. Appraises positively the broad spectrum of activities carried out by the Organization with a view to promoting the participation of national tourism administrations in ongoing multilateral negotiations on trade in services held under the auspices of the World Trade Organization and more particularly in educating negotiators, tourism officials and professionals on the specificity of tourism services that are subject to trade liberalization and in supporting initiatives aiming at introducing rules and disciplines that seek economic, social and environmental sustainability of tourism development in the open marketplace;
15. Notes with satisfaction the progress made in the implementation of the special programme for the prevention of the sexual exploitation of children in tourism, thanks to the renewal of the cooperation agreement with the European Commission;
16. Welcomes the development of a WTO safety and security network for tourism worldwide, as well as plans for its extension in the future and commends the Secretary-General for the participation of the Organization in international efforts to provide advice on health safety issues related to international travel and more particularly on SARS management;
17. Appraises positively the progress made in implementing the ambitious capacity-building programme to promote the development of the System of Tourism Statistics and of the Tourism Satellite Account;
18. Notes with satisfaction the outcome of the extensive research programme carried out under the heading Market Intelligence and Promotion and the broad variety of topical publications on market trends, tourism products and marketing activities issued under this programme section;
19. Expresses its appreciation of the valuable reports, analyses and guidance provided by the Recovery Committee since its creation in 2001 and commends the Secretary-General on the leadership provided by the Organization in managing the string of crises in which the world tourism industry was mired during the last two years;
20. Expresses its satisfaction at the results of the communication campaign carried out by the Secretariat on the significance of tourism, its contribution to poverty alleviation and its resilience in the face of adversity;
21. Appraises positively the broad media coverage engendered by the Organization's information output, the development of WTO's website on the Internet as well as the development of the Secretariat's technical support capabilities in the fields of communication, crisis management and media relations; and notes with interest the preparations for the organization of the first World Conference on Tourism Communications in January 2004;

22. Notes with satisfaction the expansion of the publications programme and the increase in sales through the infoshop and the network of depository libraries;
  23. Welcomes the development of the Documentation Centre's role as a referral service and clearing house of information for Members, particularly through the completion of the tourism legislation database and the strengthening of the Centre's networking and technical support capabilities;
  24. Appraises positively the progress made in implementing the priority projects selected under the special programme for destinations and commends the Destination Task Force on its guidance and support in the implementation of this programme; and
  25. Expresses its appreciation to the Secretariat for these numerous achievements.
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A/RES/462(XV)

**Draft programme and budget of the Organization  
for the period 2004-2005**

**(a) Programme**

Agenda item 12(a)  
(document A/15/12)

The General Assembly,

Having considered the draft general programme of work and budget of the Organization for the period 2004-2005, prepared by the Secretary-General in accordance with Article 23(2) of the Statutes, and previously examined by the Executive Council and its subsidiary bodies, the Programme Committee and the Committee on Budget and Finance,

Recalling its resolution 432(XIV) by which it approved the specific programme in favour of sub-Saharan Africa,

Aware of the support expressed by the Governments of the G8 and other donors for the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) initiative,

Having been informed of the proposal by the WTO Commission for the Americas concerning the development in Colombia of a network of schools aimed at achieving the widest possible dissemination and awareness of tourism's importance for countries,

1. Approves the Organization's programme of work for the period 2004-2005;
  2. Notes with satisfaction that the programme builds upon the Organization's achievements by developing major work streams, takes into account new priorities such as tourism's contribution to sustainable development and to the fight against poverty and further develops activities in favour of destinations;
  3. Welcomes the Secretary-General's proposals to carry out a revision of the Organization's mission statement, in the light of the agreement concluded with the United Nations for the transformation of the Organization into a Specialized Agency and to develop a six-year rolling strategic plan in the light of an update of the Organization's 2020 vision forecasts;
  4. Notes with satisfaction decision CAF/DEC/5(XXXIX) of the WTO Commission for Africa, by which it invited the African countries, the regional economic communities of the African Union and the NEPAD Secretariat, to work together with it in the elaboration of an action plan for the development of tourism within the framework of NEPAD;
  5. Welcomes the creation under the auspices of the NEPAD Secretariat of a Special Group in charge of preparing the above-mentioned plan of action;
  6. Endorses the idea of holding an international forum on investment in the tourism sector in Africa, to be organized jointly by the Secretariats of the WTO and NEPAD, to which the Governments of the G8 and other donors would be invited with a view to promoting NEPAD's tourism action plan;
  7. Welcomes the above-mentioned proposal of the WTO Commission for the Americas and decides to incorporate it in the general programme of work for 2004-2005, subject to the provision by Colombia of the necessary background information on the scope and financial implications of this project and of the consideration of this information by the Programme Committee; and
  8. Entrusts the Secretary-General with taking the appropriate measures, in consultation with the Programme Committee and the Committee on Budget and Finance, to ensure the necessary coordination of the programme's implementation.
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A/RES/463(XV)

**Draft programme and budget of the Organization  
for the period 2004-2005**

**(b) Budget**

Agenda item 12(b)  
(document A/15/12)

The General Assembly,

Having considered the draft general programme of work and budget of the Organization for the period 2004-2005, examined beforehand by the Executive Council and its subsidiary bodies the Programme Committee and the Committee on Budget and Finance,

Having before it the recommendations made by the Executive Council,

Having approved the general programme of work of the Organization for the period 2004-2005,

1. Approves the Secretary-General's proposals to strengthen programme activities with extra-budgetary resources;
2. Authorizes the Secretary-General to execute the general programme of work according to income received;
3. Approves the rate of exchange of 1.00 euro to the US dollar used when preparing the budget;

Having taken note of the recommendation of the Executive Council [decision 8(LXX)] concerning the use of the surplus from the financial period 2000-2001,

4. Decides to authorize the allocation of the surplus to strengthen the activities of the Organization's programme of work for the next biennium;
5. Approves a budget of 10,645,000 euros for 2004;

Having taken note of the Executive Council's proposal to establish the budget for 2005 at 11,499,000 euros,

6. Entrusts the Executive Council at its seventy-third session, through the Committee on Budget and Finance, with considering whether the 2005 budget could not be stabilized at the 2004 budgetary level, or at least reduced from the level proposed in Assembly document A/15/12, taking into account the rate of increase of the consumer price index at the Organization's Madrid Headquarters during 2003 and possible incorporations of new Full Members; and



7. Authorizes the Executive Council to establish the final level of the 2005 budget and the associated contribution scale for Full and Associate Members for that year as submitted in documents A/15/14 and A/15/14 Corr.1.
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A/RES/464(XV)

**Administrative and financial matters**

**(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation of the Organization**

Agenda item 13(a)  
(documents A/15/13(a) and A/15/13(a) Add.1)

The General Assembly,

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

1. Notes with satisfaction that, by the date of the present session, 79 per cent of the total contributions receivable from Members for the current year and 97 per cent of the estimated income from contributions had been received;
2. Takes cognizance that, in fulfilment of the recommendation of its fourteenth session, a balance between expenditure and income has been maintained;
3. Observes that income from arrear contributions to date amounts to 1,044,665 euros, representing 149 per cent of the amount estimated for 2003;

Observing nevertheless that persistent delays in paying contributions hamper the smooth operation of the Organization,

4. Urges the Members of the Organization to observe with the utmost rigour the statutory and regulatory provisions governing the Organization's financial affairs, with particular regard to the due date of contributions specified in paragraph 12 of the Financing Rules, so as to ensure, in the interest of all the Members, that the execution of the programme and other activities of the Secretariat is in no way hampered by shortage of funds; and
  5. Also urges the member States and Affiliate Members in arrears with their contributions to work out the most appropriate formulas for discharging their financial commitments and to reach the necessary agreement with the Secretary-General to ensure that they can readily meet the payments on their arrears.
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A/RES/465(XV)

**Administrative and financial matters****(b) Election of the Members of the WTO Staff Pension Committee  
for the period 2004-2005**Agenda item 13(b)  
(document A/15/13(b))

The General Assembly,

Having taken cognizance of the Secretary-General's report on this subject,Having taken note of the willingness of the present Members and Alternate Members of the Committee to continue their term of office,

1. Thanks them for their contribution; and
2. Decides to re-elect them for the biennium 2004-2005 as follows:
  - Spain, Member
  - India, Member
  - Argentina, Alternate Member
  - Côte d'Ivoire, Alternate Member

A/RES/466(XV)

**Administrative and financial matters****(c) Introduction of the Arabic language**Agenda item 13(c)  
(documents A/15/13(c) and A/15/13(c) Add.1)

The General Assembly,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General on this matter,

1. Welcomes the measures taken by the Secretary-General to act on resolution 361(XII) in order to expedite the process of introducing the Arabic language as a working language of the Organization;
2. Notes with satisfaction that this introduction accompanies the rise in the number of Arabic-speaking countries in WTO;

3. Notes that the programme budget for the period 2004-2005 provides for the appropriations necessary for this language to be widely used in the activities of the next programme of work, and to be fully implemented by the General Assembly session of 2005;
4. Issues a renewed call for Member States that have not yet done so, to ratify the amendment of Article 38 of the WTO Statutes providing for the establishment of Arabic as an official language of WTO, adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 61(III);
5. Requests the Secretary-General, in this regard, to circulate periodically to Member States information provided by the Spanish Government concerning the situation of ratification of Amendments to the Statutes, and where instruments of ratification should be deposited;

Considering the policy of expanding the number of working languages that WTO has been following,

Aware that this policy allows a better outreach of WTO's work among potential users, both in public and private sectors,

Recalling that Portuguese is the official language of eight countries (Angola, Brazil, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Portugal, Sao Tome and Principe, and Timor-Leste), and is spoken by more than two hundred million people,

6. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the seventy-third session of the Executive Council concerning the financial and other implications of a gradual and pragmatic adoption of Portuguese as a working language of WTO;
7. Welcomes also the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General to enhance linguistic diversity in the Organization's activities, especially with regard to the translation of publications and communication activities;

Having been informed of a request by China for the introduction of the Chinese language in the World Tourism Organization, given the Organization's transformation into a specialized agency of the United Nations and the fact that Chinese is an official language of the United Nations,

8. Asks the Secretary-General to study such request, to assess its implications and benefits, and to report back to it at its next session.
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A/RES/467(XV)

**Assessment of Members' contributions to the Organization's budget  
for the period 2004-2005**

Agenda item 14  
(documents A/15/14 and A/15/14 Corr.1)

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the assessment of Members' contributions for the period 2004-2005,

Having before it the recommendations of the Executive Council in this regard,

1. Decides to accept the Council's recommendations and approves the proposed scale of contributions as modified to reflect the increase in the number of member States, as foreseen in resolution 404(XIII);
2. Observes that, in accordance with the formula used for calculating the contributions of member States [resolution 404(XIII)], WTO has used the same economic and population statistical average adopted by the United Nations to determine the contributions of its own Members;

Considering that the approved budget for the next financial period amounts to 22,144,000 euros, of which 10,645,000 euros correspond to 2004 and 11,499,000 euros to 2005, subject to the provisions of the resolution adopted under agenda item 12(b),

3. Decides that the budgetary income approved for the next period should be provided by the contributions of the Full and Associate Members in the amounts of 9,166,000 euros for 2004 and 9,450,000 euros for 2005 and that the balance to be financed should be covered by the contributions of the Affiliate Members and the other sources of funding referred to in document A/15/14; and
  4. Also decides to maintain the contribution of the Affiliate Members for the period 2004-2005 at the same level as in the period 2002-2003, i.e. at 2,000 euros per year, of which 1,500 euros will be allocated as a contribution to the Organization's budget and 500 euros assigned to their own activities.
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A/RES/468(XV)

**Consideration and approval of agreements  
concluded by the Organization**

Agenda item 15  
(documents A/15/15 and A/15/15 Add.1)

The General Assembly,

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary-General on the agreements and working arrangements concluded, in accordance with Article 12 of the Statutes, with governments and intergovernmental organizations, on the one hand, and with non-governmental organizations, on the other,

Decides to approve the following agreements:

- (a) Administrative Agreement between the World Tourism Organization and the Secretariat of State for Trade and Tourism of the Spanish Ministry of Economy for the support of the Permanent Secretariat of the Affiliate Members at WTO Headquarters in 2003;
- (b) Agreement between the World Tourism Organization and the Principality of Andorra regarding the legal status of the World Tourism Organization office specializing in human resources development;
- (c) Cooperation Agreement on statistics between the World Tourism Organization and the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC);
- (d) Grant Agreement between the World Tourism Organization and the European Community for the operation "International campaign against the sexual exploitation of children in tourism";
- (e) Memorandum of understanding between the World Tourism Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD);
- (f) Memorandum of understanding between the World Tourism Organization and the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC);
- (g) Framework cooperation agreement between the World Tourism Organization and the Central American Parliament;
- (h) Working Agreement between the World Tourism Organization and the Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces (FEMP), through the Themis Foundation;
- (i) Strategic Alliance Agreement between the World Tourism Organization and the International Federation for Information Technology and Travel & Tourism (IFITT);

- (j) Working Agreement between the World Tourism Organization and the Travel Industry Association of America (TIA); and
  - (k) Cooperation Agreement between the World Tourism Organization and National Distance Education University (UNED – Spain).
- .....

A/RES/469(XV)

### **World Committee on Tourism Ethics**

Agenda item 16  
(document A/15/16)

The General Assembly,

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

1. Notes the composition of the Committee finalized by the Executive Council in accordance with its resolution 438(XIV):

#### Representatives of the Full Members

- *Africa*                      Mr. Mohamed Mounir Ben Miled (Tunisia) (member)  
Mr. John Ngata Kariuki (Kenya) (alternate)
- *Americas*                      Mr. Edmundo Pérez de Cobos (Mexico) (member)  
Mr. Mario Carlos Beni (Brazil) (alternate)
- *East Asia and  
the Pacific*                      Mr. Emil Salim (Indonesia) (member)  
Ms. Evelyn Pantig (Philippines) (alternate)
- *Europe*                          Mr. Erich Musyl (Austria) (member)  
Mr. Mauro di Pietro (Italy) (alternate)
- *Middle East*                      Ms. Laurice Hlass (Jordan) (member)  
Ms. Laila Bassiouni (Egypt) (alternate)
- *South Asia*                      Mr. Krishnan Nair (India) (member in 2004-2005 and  
alternate in 2006-2007)  
Mr. Iqbal Walji (Pakistan) (member in 2006-2007 and  
alternate in 2004-2005)

#### Representatives of the Associate Members

- Mr. Carlos Alberto Silva (Madeira) (member)
- Mr. Urbain Claeys (Flemish Community of Belgium) (alternate)

Representatives of the Affiliate Members

- *Employers:*
    - Mr. Alain-Philippe Feutr  (France) (International Hotel and Restaurant Association, IH & RA) (member)
    - Mr. Ahmed El Khadem (Egypt) (Egyptian Tourist Federation) (alternate)
  - *Employees:*
    - Mr. Patrick Dalban-Moreynas (Switzerland) (Union internationale des travailleurs de l'alimentation, de l'agriculture, de l'h tellerie-restauration, du tabac et des branches connexes, IUF/UITA) (member)
    - Mr. Nicos Epistithiou (Cyprus) (Cyprus Hotel Employees Federation, OXEV-SEK) (alternate)
  - *Educational institutions:*
    - Ms. Perran Akan (Turkey), Bogazi  University (member)
    - Mr. Fran ois B dard (Canada), Universit  du Qu bec   Montr al (alternate)
  - *Non-governmental organizations:*
    - Mr. Norberto Tonini (Italy) (International Bureau of Social Tourism, BITS) (member)
    - Mr. Heiko Crost (Germany) (Destination 21/FEE) (alternate)
2. Welcomes the Secretary-General's intention to convey to the Members of the Committee the candidature of Mr. Diego Cordovez for the position of Chairman of the Committee;
  3. Decides that the first meeting of the World Committee on Tourism Ethics will be held in Italy, and agrees in principle for this country to host the permanent headquarters of this Committee, subject to the finalization of the administrative and financial arrangements;
  4. Requests the Secretary-General to study this matter with the Italian Government and to report to the Executive Council at its next session;
  5. Entrusts the Committee to consider the draft conciliation mechanism for the settlement of disputes, as set out in Part II of the Protocol of Implementation and report to its sixteenth session on this subject;
  6. Adopts the supplement to the draft Protocol of Implementation relative to the application and interpretation of the Code, introducing amendments proposed by the Member States and the Secretary-General;
  7. Endorses the Secretary-General's proposal for the temporary suspension of the application of provision (c) of Part I of the Protocol of Implementation; and
  8. Notes the modification of the wording of Part I of the Protocol, consisting of the replacement of "twelve" alternates by "eleven" alternates.
- .....

A/RES/470(XV)

**World Tourism Day:**  
**information on the activities of 2002 and 2003,**  
**adoption of themes and designation of the host countries**  
**for 2004 and 2005**

Agenda item 17  
(documents A/15/17 and A/15/17 Add.1)

The General Assembly,

Having taken cognizance of the report submitted by the Secretary-General on the observance of World Tourism Day in 2002 and 2003 and on the candidatures submitted by various States for hosting World Tourism Day in 2004 and 2005,

Having considered with interest the proposals formulated by the Executive Council in the light of the themes suggested by the Members for 2004 and 2005,

1. Conveys its deep gratitude to the Government of Costa Rica for having celebrated World Tourism Day with distinction in 2002 in its capacity as host country;
2. Reiterates its solidarity with the people and Government of Algeria, who have suffered devastating earthquakes and have had to forgo the celebration of the 2003 edition in consultation with the Secretary-General of WTO, for which the country had been designated;
3. Decides to select the following themes for the next two editions of World Tourism Day:  
  
**2004     Sport and tourism: two living forces for mutual understanding, culture and the development of societies**  
  
**2005     Travel and transport: from the imaginary of Jules Verne to the reality of the 21<sup>st</sup> century**

Having undertaken various consultations with a view to designating the host countries for the official celebration of World Tourism Day in 2004 and 2005,

4. Designates by consensus Malaysia as the host country for World Tourism Day in 2004 and Qatar as the host country in 2005;
5. Decides the following as the geographic order to be followed beginning in 2006 for the World Tourism Day celebrations: 2006 in Europe; 2007 in South Asia; 2008 in the Americas, and 2009 in Africa, and



6. Decides further that the Organization, as a new specialized agency, should in future take into account as far as possible, when choosing the World Tourism Day themes, those adopted for the international years and days declared under the aegis of the United Nations.
- .....

A/RES/471(XV)

**ST-EP initiative**

Agenda item 18  
(document A/15/18)

The General Assembly,

Referring to the plan of action adopted by the World Summit on Sustainable Development held in 2002 in Johannesburg and to the contribution, underlined in this plan, that tourism can bring to the alleviation of poverty, especially but not exclusively, in the least developed countries,

Having considered the report on the ST-EP initiative (Sustainable Tourism – Eliminating Poverty) submitted by the Secretary-General under the proposal formulated by his Special Advisor, and the plan proposed for the implementation of the initiative,

1. Notes with appreciation the efforts devoted and the actions taken to ensure completion of the ST-EP framework in time for its fifteenth session;
  2. Welcomes the partnership established with UNCTAD;
  3. Approves the plan submitted to it for the completion of the initiative and its subsequent implementation from 2004 onwards;
  4. Concurs with the proposal for a ST-EP Forum to exchange views and coordinate activities between participants in the initiative;
  5. Agrees to the continuation of actions aimed at establishing a ST-EP Foundation whose board of directors should be composed of eminent persons who are qualified with regard to its purpose;
  6. Entrusts the Secretary-General with taking the necessary measures to secure the necessary funding and to implement the initiative, and
  7. Requests the Secretary-General to report on the progress of the ST-EP initiative at its sixteenth session.
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A/RES/472(XV)

**Election of Council Members**

Agenda item 19  
(documents A/15/19 and A/15/19 Add.1)

The General Assembly,

Having regard to Articles 14 and 15 of the Statutes, Rules 54 and 55 of its Rules of Procedure and Rule 1 of the Executive Council's Rules of Procedure,

Having received the proposals of its Regional Commissions,

1. Declares the following fifteen Full Members elected as Members of the Executive Council for the period 2003-2007:

Botswana	Nigeria
Brazil (2003-2005) / Peru (2005-2007)	Philippines
Bulgaria	Republic of Korea
Croatia	Senegal
Indonesia	Seychelles
Italy	Tunisia
Mali	Turkey
Mexico (2003-2005) / Canada (2005-2007)	

2. Notes that Macao, China, will represent the Associate Members on the Council until 2005; and
3. Further notes that the Affiliate Members will be represented on the Council by their Chairman (Tourisme Montréal) until 2005.

A/RES/473(XV)

**Election of the Auditors for the period 2004-2005**

Agenda item 20  
(document A/15/20)

The General Assembly,

Having regard to Article 12(g) of the Statutes of the Organization and the recommendations of the Executive Council concerning the member States that have submitted their candidatures,

Expressing its appreciation of the competent work of the Auditors elected for the current biennium, Mr. D.J. Bhadra and Mr. Sunil Chander (India) and Mrs. María Jesús Piñón Gorricho (Spain),

1. Thanks them for their contribution; and
2. Renews the term of office of India and Spain as Auditors of the Organization for the biennium 2004-2005.

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A/RES/474(XV)

### **Place and dates of the sixteenth session of the General Assembly**

Agenda item 21  
(documents A/15/21 and A/15/21 Add.1)

The General Assembly,

Having regard to Article 20 of the Statutes and paragraphs 2 and 3 of Rule 1 of its Rules of Procedure, as well as resolution 351(XI) adopted at its eleventh session,

Having considered the offers submitted by the Governments of Mali, Nigeria and Senegal,

1. Thanks these Governments warmly for their invitations;
2. Thanks the delegations of Mali and Nigeria for withdrawing their candidature in the interest of reaching a consensus;
3. Welcomes the unanimity of the members of the Commission for Africa in favour of one candidature from a country belonging to that continent;
4. Decides to hold its sixteenth session in Senegal in 2005 on the dates to be agreed upon with the Government of that country;
5. Notes that the invitation of Senegal is in accordance with the terms of resolution 351(XI) relative to the procedure for choosing the place of the General Assembly; and
6. Underlines the historic nature of the first-ever World Tourism Organization General Assembly session to take place in Africa, at a time when the institution is firmly committed to the path to sustainable development and poverty alleviation.

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A/RES/475(XV)

**Vote of thanks to the host country**

The General Assembly,

Noting with particular satisfaction the successful conclusion of its proceedings, made possible by the excellent working conditions provided to the Organization by the Government of the People's Republic of China,

1. Expresses its keen appreciation to the Government and people of China for the warm welcome they extended to the fifteenth session of the General Assembly and for the favourable conditions and efficient services made available to it;
2. Conveys its profound gratitude to His Excellency Mr. Wen Jiabao, Premier of the People's Republic of China, who honoured the opening ceremony of its fifteenth session with his presence;
3. Welcomes the opportunity offered to delegations to become acquainted with the rich and varied culture and traditions of the host country and its provinces; and
4. Conveys its sincerest congratulations to His Excellency Mr. He Guangwei, Chairman of the China National Tourism Administration, and His Excellency Mr. Gu Zhaoxi, President of the Assembly, for the remarkable efficiency with which they contributed to the work of its fifteenth session.