Executive Council
101st session
Medellín, Colombia, 13 September 2015

DEcisions Taken by the Executive Council
At its 101st session
Medellín, Colombia, 13 September 2015

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Adoption of the agenda

Agenda item 1
(document CE/101/1 prov.)

The Executive Council,

Having considered the provisional agenda prepared by the Secretariat,

Decides to adopt the agenda of its 101st session as proposed.

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Administrative and statutory matters

(b) Financial situation of the Organization

(a) Report of the Programme and Budget Committee

Agenda item 2(a) and 2(b)
(documents A/21/8(II)(b), A/21/8(II)(b) Add.1 and CE/101/2(a))

The Executive Council,

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

Having heard the report of the Programme and Budget Committee,

1. Takes note of the level of collection of contributions from Members for the financial year 2015 as of 30 June 2015 amounting to EUR 9,624,451, and also of the collection of contributions in arrears, amounting to EUR 854,232;

2. Takes note of the adjustments made to the staff appropriations of programmes for 2015;

3. Further takes note with appreciation of the Management Letter issued by the Joint Inspection Unit on “UNWTO efforts towards IPSAS compliance” and congratulates the Secretary-General and the IPSAS team for the successful implementation of the IPSAS project;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to continue with the post-implementation phases of the IPSAS project including the necessary technological upgrades to the financial tools available at the Secretariat;

5. Further requests the Secretary-General to urge Members that have not yet complied with their financial obligations to take the necessary steps to pay their contributions for 2015 thereby averting delays that could hamper programme execution; and

6. Notes that an updated salary scale for staff in the General Service category will be applied by the Secretary-General when the relevant scale is formally notified by the ICSC and that staff expenses at 31 December 2015 may be slightly higher than budgeted costs due to the impact of the USD/EUR UNORE exchange rate.

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Administrative and statutory matters

(c) Suspension of membership in accordance with Article 34 of the Statutes and requests for temporary exemption from the application of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules

Agenda items 2(a) and 2(c)
documents A/21/4(b), A/21/4(b) Add.1 and CE/101/2(a))

The Executive Council,

Having considered the application to the Members mentioned in the above documents of the provisions of Article 34 of the Statutes and paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes,

Having been informed of the Members granted temporary exemption from the provisions of Article 34 and/or paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes,

Having heard the report of the Programme and Budget Committee,

1. Notes with satisfaction that Full Members Cape Verde, Ghana and Senegal as well as the Associate Member Aruba are no longer subject to the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules and/or Article 34 of the Statutes, since they have reduced their contribution arrears partially or in full and that Côte d’Ivoire accomplished its payment plan in full;

2. Decides in view of their compliance with the agreed payment plans, to propose to the General Assembly to renew the temporary exemption from provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules of Full Members Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Nicaragua and Uruguay and of the Affiliate Member International Hotel & Restaurant Association (IH&RA);

3. Also decides to submit to the General Assembly the payment plans approved by the Executive Council at its ninety-eighth session submitted by the Full Members Burundi, Madagascar and the Affiliate Member Instituto de Turismo Responsible as well as the payment plans submitted to the present session of the Executive Council by the Full Member Sao Tome and Principe and the Affiliate Member Camara de Turismo de Cabo Verde;
4. Further decides to recommend to the General Assembly to maintain the temporary exemption of Bolivia, Iraq, Guinea, Niger, Togo, Uganda, and Yemen, as well as that of Affiliate Members Fundação CTI Nordeste, and Fédération Inter-États des Syndicats des Agences de Voyages et de Tourisme de l’Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre (FISAVET) from the provisions of paragraph 13, albeit making it clear that these provisions will be reapplied to these Members if they are not up to date with their payment plans by 1 April 2016;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to inform Yemen that it must submit a new payment plan for its debt corresponding to the years 1979 to 1989, given that the regulations in force do not contain any provision for exemption from the payment of contributions;

6. Notes that the following Members continue to be subject to the provisions Article 34 of the Statutes and/or of paragraph 13 of the financing rules

FULL MEMBERS

AFGHANISTAN
BAHRAIN
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
CHAD
DJIBOUTI
GAMBIA
GUINEA BISSAU
KYRGYZSTAN
LIBERIA
MALAWI
MALI
MAURITANIA
PAKISTAN
PAPUA NEW GUINEA
SIERRA LEONE
SUDAN
SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC
THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA
TURKMENISTAN
VANUATU

AFFILIATE MEMBERS

AL-TAYYAR TRAVEL GROUP (Saudi Arabia)
ALTERNATIVE BUSINESS SOLUTIONS (Palestine)
ASOCIACIÓN BRASILEIRA DE BARES E RESTAURANTES – ABRASEL
ASSOCIATION OF TOUR OPERATORS OF RUSSIA (ATOR)
ASOCIACION DE EMPRESAS DE CONSULTORIA TURÍSTICA DE ESPAÑA – AECTE
AUSTRALIAN TOURISM EXPORT COUNCIL
BUSAN TOURISM ORGANIZATION (Republic of Korea)
CENTRO DE INVESTIGACION Y ESTUDIOS TURÍSTICOS DEL TECNOLÓGICO DE MONTERREY (CIETECT) (Mexico)
CENTRO DE ESTUDIOS E INVESTIGACIONES (CETUR) UNIV. SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA
CHAMALEON STRATEGIES INC. (Canada)
DESTINATION MARKETING ASSOCIATION INT. (DMAI) – USA
ÉCOLE D’HÔTELIERIE ET DE TOURISME DE LA CEMAC (EHT-CEMAC) (Cameroon)
EGYPTIAN TOURIST AUTHORITY (ETA)
ESCUELA UNIVERSITARIA DE TURISMO DE ASTURIAS
Having taken note of the list of Members currently subject to the measure of suspension provided for in Article 34 of the Statutes,

7. Observes that the measure of suspension provided for in Article 34 of the Statutes could be applicable to them in 2016 in accordance with paragraph 1(b) of General Assembly resolution 217(VII), if they have not reached an agreement with the Secretary-General on a plan for the payment of their arrears,

FULL MEMBERS

CHAD
LIBERIA
SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

AFFILIATE MEMBERS

AL-TAYYAR TRAVEL GROUP
ALTERNATIVE BUSINESS SOLUTIONS
AECTE – ASOCIACIÓN EMPRESAS CONSULTORÍA TURÍSTICA ESPAÑA
CIETEC – CENTRO DE INVESTIGACIÓN Y ESTUDIOS TURÍSTICOS
CHAMALEON STRATEGIES INC.
ÉCOLE D’HÔTELLERIE ET DE TOURISME DE LA CEMAC (EHT-CEMAC)
EXPOGAYS (Sbr Producciones S.L.U)
FEDERACION DE TURISMO DEL ESTADO BOLIVAR
FIJET – FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DES JOURNALISTES ET ÉCRIVAINS DU TOURISME
FUNDACION UNIVERSITARIA LOS LIBERTADORES
IKEJA HOTEL PLC.
INSTITUTO MARCAR BRASIL
POLOIGUASSU – INSTITUTO POLO INTERNATIONAL IGUASSU
ISTRIA TOURIST BOARD
JORDAN SOCIETY OF TOURIST AND TRAVEL AGENTS
KENYA TOURIST BOARD
LAN AIRLINES
MHRA – MALTA HOTELS & RESTAURANTS ASSOCIATION
MTA INTERNATIONAL MASTER TOUR ALLIANCE
MENARATOURS COMPANY
PAKISTAN TOURISM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
PALESTINIAN NATIONAL TOURISM AUTHORITY
RCM GLOBAL TRADE SA
SALO INTERNACIONAL DEL TURISME A CATALUNYA
THE SUN CHANNEL TOURISM TELEVISION S.A.
UNITED NATIONS FOUNDATION

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Administrative and statutory matters

(d) Election of the Auditors for 2016-2017

Agenda item 2(d)
(document A/21/8(II)(e))

The Executive Council

1. *Expresses its satisfaction* for the competent work of the Auditors elected for the current biennium, Spain (Ms. Sofia Viñayo), Germany (Mr. Thomas Kertess) and India (Mr. Jetha Ram Rinwa);

2. *Thanks* them for their contribution; and

3. *Decides* to recommend to the General Assembly to designate one External Auditor for the period 2016-2017: Spain.

* * *

World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) - A Specialized Agency of the United Nations
Capitán Haya 42, 28020 Madrid, Spain. Tel: (34) 91 567 81 00 / Fax: (34) 91 571 37 33 – omt@unwto.org / unwto.org
Administrative and statutory matters

(e) Report of the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) in 2014 in the context of the White Paper

Agenda item 2(e)
(document CE/101/2(e))

The Executive Council,

Having examined document CE/101/2(e) on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) in the context of the White Paper,

1. Takes note of the reports and notes issued by the Joint Inspection Unit in 2014 referenced in this document and thanks the Unit for its insights;

2. Reconfirms decision CE/DEC/7(XCIV) approving the White Paper Implementation Plan as the main instrument to drive the reform process at the UNWTO;

3. Welcomes the constructive approach started by the JIU in 2013 in relation to their differentiating recommendations addressed to smaller agencies into recommendations for information and recommendations for action according to their relevance to these agencies;

4. Takes note of the 29 relevant recommendations presented by the JIU reports and notes in 2014; and

5. Approves the actions to be taken on each one of them, as proposed in the annex and requests the Secretary-General to report accordingly to the JIU on them.

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Administrative and statutory matters

(f) Report of the Programme and Budget Committee Working Group assessing the implementation of recommendations provided by the Joint Inspection Unit and the External Auditors

Agenda item 2(f)
(document CE/101/2(f))

The Executive Council,

Having examined the report of the Programme and Budget Committee Working Group on the implementation of the recommendations provided by the Joint Inspection Unit and the External Auditors,

1. Expresses its gratitude to the JIU and the EA for their invaluable insight and the review processes undertaken on the management and administration of the Organization and reaffirms the need for having a modern, responsive and transparent Organization;

2. Recommends the General Assembly to request the Secretary-General to prepare an amendment to Article 26 of the Statutes in order to reduce to one the number of external auditors and to submit it to the 22nd session of the General Assembly for approval;

3. Approves the assessment prepared by the Programme and Budget Committee, including the annex to the document as proposed;

4. Entrusts the Secretary-General with the provisional implementation of this assessment until an updated version of the White Paper Implementation Plan could be approved at the 22nd session of the General Assembly; and

5. Requests the Secretary-General to report through the White Paper implementation plan on the status of implementation of these recommendations at the 22nd session of the General Assembly, including that on the modifications needed in the Statutes and the Financial Regulations in relation to the mandate and number of External Auditors.

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Administrative and statutory matters

(g) Information and communication technologies at the Secretariat

Agenda item 2(g)
(documents CE/101/2(g) and CE/101/2(a))

The Executive Council,

Having examined the report presented by the Secretary-General and having heard the report by the Programme and Budget Committee,

1. Takes note of the audit reports on the status of ICT activities; and

2. Notes the progress in the technology infrastructure already implemented by the Organization while acknowledging that a rapidly evolving technology environment and budgetary constraints represent a set of unique challenges in the near future.

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Report of the Staff Association

Agenda item 3
(document CE/101/3)

The Executive Council,

Having reviewed the report from the UNWTO Staff Association,

1. Thanks the Chair of the Staff Association Committee for her presentation and appreciates the report submitted in accordance with decision 3(LXXXIII) adopted at its eighty-third session;

2. Acknowledges and appreciates the spirit of cooperation between the Secretary-General’s office, Administration and the UNWTO Staff Association and its Committee;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to continue supporting and collaborating with the Staff Association in its activities, with particular emphasis on the development of a more diverse training programme for staff as well as the development of a comprehensive policy for flexible working arrangements in line with UN practices and policies and in compliance with the 2014 JIU report;

4. Encourages the Secretary-General to further implement gender equality issues and empowerment of women in the Organization, especially at the senior management level;

5. Also encourages the Secretary-General to continue with the implementation of the Professional Growth Plan; and

6. Suggests the Secretary-General to carry out a review on the growing number of collaborators who perform core activities.

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World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) - A Specialized Agency of the United Nations
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Implementation of the general programme of work for 2014-2015

Agenda item 4
(documents CE/101/4 and CE/101/2(a))

The Executive Council,

Having examined the report on the implementation of the general programme of work for 2014-2015,

Having read the final version of the terms of reference of the Tourism for Development Facility (TDF),

Having heard the report by the Programme and Budget Committee,

1. Takes due note of all the activities implemented during the period of reference;

2. Takes note of the Provisional Rules for the Operation and Management of Observatories;

3. Welcomes the progress achieved in the establishment of the UNWTO Network of Observatories (INSTO) and invites governments and other stakeholders to encourage the establishment of observatories as members of INSTO;

4. Thanks the Chair, South Africa, and the members of the Working Group on ODA (WG-ODA), Egypt, Flanders, France, Jamaica, Kenya, Mauritania, Mexico, Republic of Korea, and Spain for their valuable contributions;

5. Takes note with appreciation of the final version of the terms of reference of the Tourism for Development Facility; and

Considering that the WG-ODA’s initial objectives have been accomplished,

6. Entrusts the WG-ODA with the following tasks:

   (a) Overseeing the implementation of the TDF, and

   (b) Developing guidelines and policy recommendations for governments to set mechanisms to provide loans and loan guarantees to support the tourism sector.
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Report of the Committee for the Review of Applications for Affiliate Membership

Agenda item 5
(document CE/101/5)

The Executive Council,

Having taken cognizance of the report of its Committee for the Review of Applications for Affiliate Membership, which met in Medellín, Colombia, on 13 September 2015, under the chairmanship of Egypt,

1. Endorses the recommendation of the Committee;

2. Decides to admit provisionally to affiliate membership the following candidates, pending ratification by the twenty-first session of the General Assembly:

   1. AGENCIA VALENCIANA DEL TURISME (SPAIN)
   2. ALISADR TOURISM CO. (IRAN, ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF)
   3. ASSOCIAÇÃO DE RESTAURAÇÃO E SIMILARES DE PORTUGAL (PORTUGAL)
   4. ASSOCIATION EUROPEAN NETWORK OF PLACES OF PEACE (ENPP) (PORTUGAL)
   5. CENTRO CONGRESSI AL DUOMO - COMI S.P.A (ITALY)
   6. COCAL - FEDERACIÓN DE ENTIDADES ORGANIZADORAS DE CONGRESOS Y AFINES DE AMERICA LATINA (ARGENTINA)
   7. EUROAMERICA PUBLICIDAD Y RELACIONES PUBLICAS SA DE CV (MEXICO)
   8. FACULTAD DE CIENCIAS ECONOMICAS DE LA UNIVERSIDAD DE BUENOS AIRES (ARGENTINA)
   9. FREIXENET, S.A. (SPAIN)
  10. GHOGHNOS TOUR AND TRAVEL AGENCY (IRAN, ISLAMIC REPUBLIC)
  11. GLOBAL TRAVEL AND TOURISM PARTNERSHIP (GTTP) A PROGRAM OF GLOBAL INITIATIVES INC. (UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
  12. INSTITUTO MADRILEÑO DE FORMACION, S.L. (IMF BUSINESS SCHOOL) (SPAIN)
  13. INTERFACE TOURISM SPAIN SL (SPAIN)
14. JTB CORPORATION (JAPAN)
15. JAPAN TRAVEL AND TOURISM ASSOCIATION (JAPAN)
16. JURAJ DOBRILA UNIVERSITY OF PULA (CROATIA)
17. REGENT EXHIBITIONS LTD. IMEX GROUP (UNITED KINGDOM)
18. REVIEW RANK S.A. D/B/A REVIEW PRO (SPAIN)
19. TEA CEGOS (SPAIN)
20. TOURISM CARES, INC. (UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
21. TOURISM GENERIS (GREECE)
22. TRAVEL IN MED (MONACO)
23. UCC WHALE CENTER (UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
24. UDLA - ESCUELA DE HOSPITALIDAD Y TURISMO (ECUADOR)
25. UNIVERSIDAD DEL CARIBE (MEXICO)
26. UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL DE ENTRE RIOS (ARGENTINA)

3. Also decides to admit provisionally to affiliate membership the following entity, provided that, within the period of thirty days, it includes the date of signature in the application form:

ARAFAT TRAVEL CONSULTANCY (NIGERIA)

4. Endorses the recommendation to the Secretariat to request that the letters of governmental support for affiliate membership include an official seal.

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Designation of the host countries for World Tourism Day 2016 and 2017

Agenda item 6
(document CE/101/6)

The Executive Council

1. Approves for submission to the 21st session of the General Assembly, the following themes for World Tourism Day 2016 and 2017:
   (a) 2016: “Tourism for All - promoting universal accessibility”;
   (b) 2017: “Sustainable Tourism – a tool for development”; and

2. Approves for submission to the 21st session of the General Assembly, the following countries as official hosts of World Tourism Day 2016 and 2017:
   (a) 2016: Thailand (East Asia and the Pacific)
   (b) 2017: Qatar (Middle East)

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Report on the activities of the Executive Council to the General Assembly

Agenda item 7
(document A/21/6)

The Executive Council,

Having taken note of the report submitted for information by the Chair of the Executive Council,

1. Thanks the chairmanship of the Executive Council for its leadership in advancing the issues in the Council’s agenda; and

2. Submits the report to the General Assembly for approval.

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Place and date of the 102nd session of the Executive Council
Agenda item 8
(document CE/101/8)

The Executive Council,

Following the practice for its sessions of the second semester on odd years,

Decides to hold its 102nd session in the framework of the twenty-first session of the General Assembly, in Medellín, Colombia, on 17 September 2015.

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