Seventy-fifth session
Nessebar, Bulgaria, 13 and 14 June 2005

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Item 1

Adoption of the agenda (document CE/75/1 prov.)

In accordance with rule 4(1) of the Executive Council's Rules of Procedure, the provisional agenda for the session was drawn up by the Secretary-General in agreement with the Chairman of the Council. It covers all matters referred to the Council in accordance with Article 19 of the Statutes and with decisions taken by the Council at previous sessions.

The Council is invited to adopt the agenda submitted to it.

Item 2

Report of the Secretary-General (document CE/75/2)

The Secretary-General reports to the Council in this document on the situation of tourism in the world following the shock of the tsunami, on the strengthening of the Institution and the activities carried out, in progress, or planned, as well on prospective action by the Secretariat. He also reports on the evolution of the Organization's relations, as a new specialized agency, with the other organizations of the system.

Item 3

Communication of the Chairman (document CE/75/3)

Under this item of the provisional agenda, the Chairman presents his communication to the Executive Council, in accordance with decision 3(LVIII).
Item 4

Implementation of the general programme of work of the Organization for the period 2004-2005 (document CE/75/5)

In this document the Secretary-General reports on the activities carried out by the Secretariat in implementation of the programme of work for 2004-2005, focusing on the following seven main areas:

(a) Cooperation for development

This section describes and analyses the regional activities carried out by the Regional Representatives and the action taken by the Organization in recent months under its development assistance policy and assistance projects within the framework of ST-EP. The special programme for sub-Saharan Africa is also mentioned.

(b) Education, Training and Knowledge Management

The Secretary-General reports on the implementation of the programme in this area, the aim of which is to increase quality and efficiency in tourism education and training. The activities are carried out by several means, ranging from the development of programmes for WTO Members to direct support to Members through the practicum programme at the Secretariat, and to the management of information on and to promote human resource development activities. He also reports to the Council on the operation of the WTO Themis Foundation in the Principality of Andorra.

(c) Sustainable development of tourism

This part of the document describes the activities under way or scheduled in this area. It takes stock of the seminars, workshops and meetings organized by WTO. It also informs Members of the actions undertaken to strengthen the Member States’ capacities to achieve a higher level of sustainability in the development and management of tourism and to contribute to poverty alleviation within the framework of the guidelines established by the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg.

It also reports on the activities carried out by the World Committee on Tourism Ethics and the action taken by the to prevent organized sex tourism and the exploitation of children.

(d) Quality and trade in tourism

Under this heading the Secretary-General informs the Council of the implementation of the activities included in the work plan for 2004-2005, covering in particular the liberalization of trade in services, promotion of ethical values in tourism development, tourist safety and quality standards.
(e) Statistics and economic measurement of tourism

In this section the Council Members will find a description of the work carried out to develop general guidelines for the implementation of the second international standard on tourism statistics, to promote international comparability of statistical data and the interagency cooperation. A report is also given on the elaboration of a tourism satellite account and the preparation for the Conference on the Tourism Satellite Account: "Understanding tourism and designing strategies".

(f) Market intelligence and promotion

This part of the document describes the Organization's work in market research and promotion. It focuses in particular on the following four fields: monitoring tourism market trends, preparing reports on generating markets and certain tourism products, defining ways of and strategies for maximizing the effectiveness of promotional activities, as well as the work of the Tourism Recovery Committee.

(g) Communications and Documentation Resources

This part of the document takes stock of the work carried out or planned, the main purpose of which is to enhance the Organization's image, in particular by the dissemination of and electronic access to information, the improvement of publications, participation in international tourism fairs and the preparation of the various Tourcom Regional Conferences. The twofold function of the Documentation Centre as an internal resource and as a referral service and clearinghouse for outside users is also described.

Item 5

Administrative, financial and statutory matters

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation and plan of expenditure for 2005 (document CE/75/5(a))

The Secretary-General reports to the Council in this document on the present state of the Organization's finances and the financial outlook for the coming months. He also presents the plan of activities and expenditure for the financial year 2005.

(b) Report of the Committee on Budget and Finance (document CE/75/5(b))

Under this item of the provisional agenda, the Chairman of the Committee on Budget and Finance (Argentina) submits the report, prepared by the Committee on conclusion of its forty-fourth meeting, on financial matters within the Council's remit, in particular, that of the arrears of former Members rejoining WTO.
(c) Auditors' report and administrative accounts of the Organization for the financial year 2004 (document CE/75/5(c))

In this document, the Members will take cognizance of the report on the administrative accounts for 2004, prepared by Auditors, (India and Spain, Members elected to these posts by the General Assembly - A/RES/473(XV)). This document will also contain the administrative accounts for the past financial year, together with the corresponding financial statements.

(d) Closing of the audited administrative accounts of the fourteenth financial period (2002-2003) (document CE/75/5(d))

The document submitted to the Council under this item closes the fourteenth financial period of the Organization, the accounts of both financial years having already been examined by the Auditors and submitted to the Council.

(e) Application of Article 34 of the Statutes and paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes (document CE/75/5(e))

Under this item of the provisional agenda, the Secretary-General reports on the application of General Assembly resolution 451(XV) concerning the provisions of Article 34 of the Statutes. He also provides the Council with a list of Members subject to the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes and, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 452(XV), reports on compliance with the conditions of payment by Members benefiting from suspension of the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules.

Item 6

New Members (document CE/75/6)

In his report on the subject, the Secretary-General informs the Council of applications for membership submitted since the last session of the Council and reviews the changes that have occurred in the Organization’s membership since the last session of the Assembly.

Item 7

Follow-up of the transformation of the Organization into a specialized agency of the United Nations (document CE/75/7)

(a) Participation in the system’s coordination mechanisms (document CE/75/7 (a))

In this document, the Secretary-General reports on the participation of WTO in the different coordination meetings of the United Nations system.
(b) Acronym of the World Tourism Organization (document CE/75/7 (b))

In accordance with decision 8(LXXIV), the Secretary-General informs the Council Members on the steps taken vis-à-vis the Secretary-General of the United Nations to use a reference to the United Nations in the Organization's acronym, to the extent it may be deemed necessary.

(c) Joint Headquarters Committee (document CE/75/7 (c))

Under this item of the provisional agenda, the Secretary-General reports to the Council on the developments regarding this matter.

Item 8

Recommendation by the Executive Council to the General Assembly of a nominee for the post of Secretary-General for the period 2002-2005 (document CE/75/8)

This document contains details of the candidatures that reached the Secretariat by the date specified by the Council, together with the curricula vitae and statements of intent of the candidates, in accordance with decision 20 (LXXXIV) taken by the Council at its previous session.

Item 9

Agenda 2010 (document CE/75/9)

Pursuant to decision 3(LXXIII), the Secretary-General submits to the Council his report on this matter, in which he sets out medium-term actions for the Organization up to 2009 in the form of an "Agenda 2010".

Item 10

Draft programme of work and budget for the period 2006-2007

(a) Draft programme budget prepared by the Secretary-General (document CE/75/10 (a))

At its previous session the Executive Council adopted decision 11(LXXIV) establishing guidelines for the preparation of the draft programme of work and budget for 2006-2007. The draft programme accordingly focuses on the following ten areas: statistics and economic measurement of tourism, market intelligence and promotion, sustainable development of tourism, ethical, social and cultural aspects of tourism, quality and trade in tourism activities, education, training and knowledge management, the development of e-tourism, regional activities, cooperation for development and poverty alleviation, activities for the Affiliate Members (trade, education and destinations), communications, publications and documentation and archives.
Under this item of the provisional agenda, the Secretary-General also submits a draft budget for the years 2006 and 2007 for the Council's consideration and recommendation to the General Assembly, in accordance with paragraphs (d) and (e) of Article 19 of the Statutes.

The Chairman of the Programme Committee will present her report to the Council (cf. 10(b) below).

(b) Report of the Programme Committee (document CE/75/10 (b))

The twenty-eighth meeting of the Programme Committee was held at Headquarters on 27 and 28 April 2005, under the chairmanship of Mrs Angelika Liedler (Austria), to consider the draft programme of work for 2006-2007 and methods of evaluating its implementation. In the document submitted under this item, the Chairman reports on the matters addressed by the Committee at that meeting, in accordance with rule 9(3) of the Executive Council's Rules of Procedure.

(c) Report of the Committee on Budget and Finance (document CE/75/10 (c))

Under this item, the Chairman of the Committee on Budget and Finance (Argentina) will submit his report on the Committee's review of the draft budget for 2005-2006, carried out at its forty-fourth meeting held at Headquarters on 29 April 2005.

Item 11

ST-EP Initiative (document CE/75/11)

The Secretary-General submits to the Council a report on the actions undertaken to implement this strategy, in particular, the results of the first meeting of the Working Group created for this purpose (decision 16(LXXXIV)) and of the third ST-EP Forum, which were held in Berlin in the context of the ITB. He also reports on the contribution of the Organization to the implementation of the Brussels Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries.

Item 12

Actions in favour of the tsunami-affected countries (document CE/75/12)

In this document, the Secretary-General reports on the two meetings of the Emergency Task Force on the consequences of the tsunami for the tourism sector, which were held respectively in Phuket on 31 January in the context of the emergency session of the Council, and in Berlin on 10 March. He gives an account of the activities already undertaken, in accordance with the Phuket Action Plan, to provide WTO assistance to the countries and destinations affected by the tsunami.
Item 13

Draft Agreement on the protection of hotels and tourism attractions during times of armed conflict (document CE/75/13)

In accordance with decision 17(LXXIV), the Secretary-General informs the Council Members of the steps taken by the Secretariat vis-à-vis other institutions with a view to enabling the WTO to act in this area.

Item 14

World Tourism Day: themes for 2006 and 2007 to be proposed to the General Assembly, and the selection of the host countries (document CE/75/14)

The report under this item contains suggestions of themes for World Tourism Day in 2006 and 2007, of which the Council is invited to choose two for recommendation to the Assembly. Members will also find in this document the list of candidates to host these editions of World Tourism Day, which in accordance with resolution 470(XV) are to be held in Europe in 2006 and in South Asia in 2007.

Item 15

Affiliate Members

(a) Report of the Chairman (document CE/75/15 (a))

Under this item of the provisional agenda, the Chairman informs the Council of the courses of action and decisions adopted with a view to further developing the Affiliate Members and their activities, in particular, through the Business Council, the Education Council and the Task Force on Destination Management.

(b) Report of the Sub-Committee for the Review of applications for affiliate membership (document CE/75/15 (b))

In its report the Sub-Committee makes recommendations to the Executive Council on the applications for affiliate membership reviewed at its meeting during the proceedings of the seventieth session of the Council.

Item 16

Report on the preparations for the sixteenth session of the General Assembly (document CE/75/16)

In this document the Secretary-General and the host country inform the Council of the progress of preparations for the sixteenth session of the General Assembly, to be held in Dakar, Senegal, from 25 November to 2 December 2005. He also presents the provisional agenda for the session and the planned structure of the proceedings.
Item 17

Place and dates of the seventy-sixth session of the Executive Council

The seventy-sixth session of the Executive Council is due to be held at Dakar, Senegal, on Saturday, 26 November 2005, immediately before the beginning of the sixteenth session of the General Assembly.

Item 18

Review and adoption of the draft decisions of the seventy-fifth session of the Council

In accordance with the established practice, the draft decisions of the seventy-fifth session are submitted to the Council for adoption at the last working meeting.