DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

AT ITS SEVENTY-FIFTH SESSION

Nessebar, Bulgaria, 13-14 June 2005

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3. DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL

CE/DEC/1(LXXV)

Adoption of the agenda

Agenda item 1
(documents CE/75/1 prov., CE/75/1 prov. Add.1, CE/75/1 prov. Add.2, CE/75/1 prov. compl. 2 and CE/75/1 prov. annot.)

The Executive Council,

Adopts the agenda of its seventy-fifth session with the addition of two new items:

- "15 bis. Consequences of amendments to Articles 1, 4 to 7, 9 and 14 of the Statutes"
- "17 Proposal of amendment to Article 22 of the Statutes, presented by Spain".

CE/DEC/2(LXXV)

Report of the Secretary-General

Agenda item 2
(document CE/75/2)

The Executive Council,

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

1. Thanks the Secretary-General for his presentation structured around the themes of security and development;

2. Takes note with interest of the information provided with regard to the analysis of the situation of tourism around the world and its resilience in the face of the new crisis it has had to cope with following the tsunami;
3. **Congratulates** the Secretary-General on having called an emergency session and presenting the "Phuket Action Plan" whose implementation has made it possible to rally international support and to accelerate efforts to put tourism activity back on its feet in the affected countries;

4. **Takes note** of the measures taken at the Secretariat to promote tourism growth in developing countries, through the specific programme in favour of sub-Saharan Africa, the ST-EP initiative and technical cooperation activities;

5. **Approves** the proposal of amendment to Articles 6 and 7 of the Statutes modified at the request of Spain and **entrusts** the Secretary-General with submitting it to the General Assembly for approval;

6. **Welcomes** the strengthening of the Organization through the increase in the number of its Members; and

7. **Notes with satisfaction** the positive accounting results and good financial situation of the Organization.

CE/DEC/3(LXXV)

**Communication of the Chairman**

Agenda item 3
(document CE/75/3 Rev.)

The Executive Council,

**Having heard** the communication of its Chairman, H.E. Mr. Chung Dong-chea, Minister of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Korea,

1. **Thanks** him for it;

2. **Shares** the Chairman's views with regard to the rapid response of the Secretariat following the tsunami catastrophe and the active contribution of its member countries to the recovery of tourism in this region;

3. **Endorses** his views regarding the new status of the WTO as a specialized agency of the United Nations and the challenges it will have to take on in this capacity;

4. **Thanks** the Republic of Korea wholeheartedly for the support that it provides to the Organization; and

5. **Also expresses its gratitude** to the Vice-Chairmen for their valuable contribution to its work.
Implementation of the general programme of work of the Organization for the period 2004-2005

Agenda item 4
(document CE/75/4)

The Executive Council,

Having considered the progress report submitted by the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Organization's general programme of work for the period 2004-2005, since its seventy-fourth session, as approved by the Programme Committee, at its twenty-eighth meeting held on 27 and 28 April 2005,

1. Notes with satisfaction the considerable progress made in executing the programme during the past six months and the positive results achieved to this end;

2. Expresses its appreciation to the Secretariat on these achievements;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that future reports on the implementation of the programme are dispatched to Members sufficiently in advance of the Council’s session;

4. Expresses its conviction that knowledge management activities included in the programme should be increasingly translated into direct assistance to Members through the development of public-private sector partnership and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that, in the future, the reports on the implementation of the programme include additional decision-making elements based on the outcome of the ongoing evaluation of the various projects implemented; and

5. Emphasizes the desirability of seeking to increase the level of voluntary contributions to the Organization's budget and notes with satisfaction the Secretary-General's proposal to consolidate the share of these contributions at one third of WTO's resources by the year 2009.
Implementation of the general programme of work of the Organization for the period 2004-2005

Recommendations on travel advisories

Agenda item 4
(document CE/75/4 Add.1)

The Executive Council,

Having considered the supplementary report of the Secretary-General on this matter,

Having taking note of the contribution on this subject submitted by Australia,

Aware of the importance of this subject, and pending the reception of the contributions that certain of its Members have undertaken to submit,

Decides to constitute a working group to deal in greater depth with the recommendations on travel advisories, with a view to their submission to both the General Assembly of the United Nations when it is briefed by the WTO on the implementation of the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism, and the WTO General Assembly at its sixteenth session.


CE/DEC/6(LXXV)

Administrative, financial and statutory matters

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation and plan of expenditure for 2005

Agenda item 5(a)
(documents CE/75/5(a), CE/75/5(a) Add. 1 and CE/75/5(b))

The Executive Council,

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

Having heard the statements by the Secretariat and having before it the report of the Committee on Budget and Finance,
1. **Takes note** of the report on the plan of expenditure for execution of the programme of work in 2005, in accordance with the expected level of income, and the measures taken by the Secretary-General in financial and personnel matters to maintain prudent management and make expenditures proportional to the income actually received during the year in progress;

2. **Approves** the preparation of an expenditure forecast for the current financial year up to a limit of 85 per cent of approved credits, so as to maintain the necessary budgetary equilibrium, in accordance with the recommendation made by the General Assembly in resolution 463(XV);

3. **Urges** Members that have not yet complied with their financial obligations to take the necessary steps to pay their contributions for 2005, thereby averting delays that could hamper programme execution;

4. **Takes note**, in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Staff Regulations and Rules and the recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission of the adoption effective 1 January 2005 of a new salary scale applicable to staff of the professional and higher categories; and

5. **Thanks** the Chairman of the Committee on Budget and Finance (Argentina) and the Auditors (India and Spain) for the important work carried out.

CE/DEC/7(LXXV)

**Administrative, financial and statutory matters**

(c) **Auditors’ report and administrative accounts of the Organization for the financial year 2004**

Agenda item 5(c)

(documents CE/75/5(c) and CE/75/5(b))

The Executive Council,

**Having before it** the Auditors’ report and administrative accounts of the Organization for the financial year 2004,

**Having heard** the explanations by the Secretariat and **having considered** the report of the Committee on Budget and Finance, presented by its Chairman (Argentina),

1. **Notes** that in the financial year 2004 the level of budgetary expenditure, namely euros 9,771,228.12, was maintained within the limit of approved appropriations;
2. **Notes** that a budget surplus in 2004 (euros 123,819.66) was recorded;

3. **Observes** that the level of budgetary income received in 2004 made it possible to execute 91.79 per cent of the approved budget;

4. **Approves** the transfers of appropriations made with the prior authorization of the Chairman of the Committee on Budget and Finance (Argentina) and the Chairman of the Executive Council (Republic of Korea), in accordance with Financial Regulation 5(3)(a) and Detailed Financial Provision 3.07;

5. **Recommends** the Secretary-General to pursue in 2005 his approaches to Members that owe contributions to the Organization in order to secure their payment; and

6. **Requests** the Secretary-General to transmit to the General Assembly, with the favourable opinion of the Council, the administrative accounts for the financial year 2004.

CE/DEC/8(LXXV)

**Administrative, financial and statutory matters**

*(d) Closing of the audited administrative accounts of the fourteenth financial period (2002-2003)*

Agenda item 5(d)

(documents CE/75/5(d) and CE/75/5(b))

The Executive Council,

**Considering** the report of the Secretary-General on the financial results of the audited accounts of the fourteenth financial period (2002-2003) and taking note of the report of the Committee on Budget and Finance referring thereto,

1. **Observes** that on closing the accounts for the period on 31 December 2003 there was a surplus balance of 653,520.89 euros;

2. **Welcomes** the high level of collection of contribution arrears; and

**Having noted** the proposal of the Secretary-General concerning the use of the available surplus from the financial period 2002-2003,

3. **Requests** the General Assembly to decide on how to use this surplus, with the understanding that resources thus obtained are not to be used to permanently fund normal operating expenses.
Administrative, financial and statutory matters

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

Agenda item 5(e)
(documents CE/75/5(e), CE/75/5(e) Add. 1 and CE/75/5(b))

The Executive Council,

Observing that the provisions of Article 34 of the Statutes and paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes are applied to twenty-five Full Members and forty Affiliate Members,

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

1. **Applauds** the Members that have made the necessary efforts in order to fulfil their financial obligations despite their internal constraints;

2. **Notes** that the Full Member Democratic People's Republic of Korea has paid part of its contribution arrears and is therefore no longer liable to the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules, and **welcomes** the meritorious efforts thus undertaken by this country;

3. **Also notes** that the Full Member Lac People’s Democratic Republic is no longer liable to the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules since it has submitted a plan for the payment of its arrears;

4. **Notes with satisfaction** that the Full Members Costa Rica, El Salvador, Kazakhstan, Mali and Nicaragua have respected their agreed payment plans up to 2005;

5. **Notes** that the Full Members Georgia, Rwanda, Uruguay and Yemen have partially respected their agreed payment plans up to 2005;

6. **Agrees** with the conclusion reached by the Committee on Budget and Finance that, in the absence of any initiative by Iraq and Sierra Leone in the United Nations concerning their contribution arrears, it is not possible to make a recommendation on the proposals formulated by Italy and Nigeria on this subject during its 74th session;

7. **Asks** the Secretary-General to maintain his approaches to these two countries and to do everything possible to facilitate the resolution of these cases;
8. Requests the Secretary-General to remind Members that have not yet fulfilled their agreed plans or have done so only partially that temporary exemption from the aforementioned provisions is subject to their full observance of those plans; and

9. Also requests the Secretary-General to inform it at its seventy-sixth session of Members' compliance with the agreements made with a view, as the case may be, to maintaining the temporary exemption from the provisions of paragraph 13 that they were granted by the General Assembly or reapplying those provisions to them if they have not fulfilled their commitments.

CE/DEC/10(LXXV)

**New members**

Agenda item 6
(documents CE/75/6 and CE/75/6 Add.1)

The Executive Council,

Having taken cognizance of the report of the Secretary-General on this matter,

1. Notes with interest that the announced membership of Latvia took effect on 1 January 2005;

2. Approves with satisfaction, in accordance with the mandate given to it by the General Assembly at its last session, the application for membership submitted by Belarus;

3. Further notes with satisfaction the decision of the Government of the Bahamas to rejoin the institution effective 25 November 2005, in accordance with Article 5.2 of the Statutes;

4. Welcomes the candidatures of Papua New Guinea and of Timor-Leste which will have to be ratified by the General Assembly, in accordance with Article 5.3 of the Statutes;

5. Takes note with great satisfaction of the decision announced by the Government of the United Kingdom to join the Organization as early as the month of November; and

6. Takes note with satisfaction of the approaches made by the Secretary-General to non-member States to encourage them to join the Organization and requests him to actively continue them.
Follow-up of the transformation of the Organization into a specialized agency of the United Nations

(a) Participation in the system's coordination and mechanisms

Agenda item 7(a)
(document CE/75/7(a))

The Executive Council,

Having taken cognizance of document CE/75/7(a),

1. Notes with satisfaction the participation of WTO on a regular basis in the various coordination mechanisms of the United Nations System and, in particular, the Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB), the High Level Committee on Programmes and the High Level Committee on Management;

Recalling also its decision CE/DEC/7(LXXIV),

2. Takes note with satisfaction that the Spring 2006 session of the CEB will be hosted by WTO in Madrid, in liaison with the Spanish Government; and

3. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to report to its sessions concerning participation in the System's coordination mechanisms.

Follow-up of the transformation of the Organization into a specialized agency of the United Nations

(b) Acronym of the World Tourism Organization

Agenda item 7(b)
(document CE/75/7 (b))

The Executive Council,

Having taken cognizance of the supplementary report of the Secretary-General on this matter,

1. Shares the opinion of the Secretary-General that it is advisable to avoid the confusion of the Organization's acronym in English and Russian with that of the World Trade Organization;
2. **Agrees** that a decision in this matter should be taken within the framework of the new status of the WTO as a specialized agency of the United Nations;

3. **Takes note** of the authorization of the Secretary-General of the United Nations allowing the use of a reference to the United Nations in our acronym so far as necessary, and of the consent received from the World Trade Organization regarding the change envisaged;

4. **Decides** to recommend the General Assembly to adopt the acronyms "UNWTO" in English and "IOHBTO" in Russian; and

5. **Suggests** that measures be taken by the Secretary-General to ensure that the WTO's specialized agency status is indicated in the documents of the Organization, whenever it is useful to do so.

CE/DEC/13(LXXV)

**Follow-up of the transformation of the Organization into a specialized agency of the United Nations**

**(c) Joint Headquarters Committee**

*Agenda item 7(c)*

*(document CE/75/7(c))*

The Executive Council,

**Having been informed** of the steps taken by the Secretary-General with the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, as well as with the Secretary-General of Tourism, for the purpose of the establishment of the joint headquarters committee with the aim of facilitating the functioning of the Organization in Madrid in its new capacity as a specialized agency of the United Nations,

**Having heard** the Spanish delegation on this subject,

1. **Welcomes** the Spanish Government's confirmation of its consent; and

2. **Requests** the Secretary-General to keep it informed of the actions taken with regard to this matter.

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Recommendation by the Executive Council to the General Assembly of a nominee for the post of Secretary-General for the period 2006-2009

Agenda item 8
(documents CE/75/8 and CE/75/8 Add. 1)

The Executive Council,

Recalling Article 12(c) of the Statutes and rule 29(1) of its Rules of Procedure,

Having discussed the admissibility of the candidature of Dr. Tanya Abrahamse, whose candidature dossier was completed past the 31 March deadline established by the Council,

1. Decides to accept said candidature in light of the special circumstances in which it was submitted, without thereby setting a precedent with regard to the application of the established rules on the election of the Secretary-General;

Having heard the presentations by the three candidates,

Having arranged a private meeting pursuant to rule 29(2) of its Rules of Procedure and the relevant provisions of decision 11(LIV) taken at its fifty-fourth session,

Having held a secret ballot during this meeting in accordance with the guiding principles for the conduct of elections by secret ballot annexed to the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly,

Noting that the ballot gave 20 votes to Mr. Francesco Frangialli (France), 6 votes to Dr. Tanya Abrahamse (South Africa), and 2 votes to Mr. Dimitar Hadjinikolov (Bulgaria),

Also noting that Mr. Francesco Frangialli received in the first ballot the required majority of Council Members present and voting,

2. Recommends to the General Assembly to appoint Mr. Francesco Frangialli to the post of Secretary-General of the Organization for the period 2006-2009.
Agenda 2010

Agenda item 9
(document CE/75/9)

The Executive Council,

Having taken cognizance of the report of the Secretary-General presenting an initial outline of Agenda 2010 whose principle had been accepted at the seventy-third session,

1. Shares the opinion of the Secretary-General regarding the need to reinforce the structure of the Organization and to fully assume its role as a specialized agency, particularly in pursuit of the Millennium Development Goals;

2. Accepts the recommendation of the Secretary-General and of the Programme Committee to fit the biennial programmes of work and budgets within an activity-planning scheme with a medium-term perspective;

3. Takes note of the list of 50 indicators contained in the document; and

4. Entrusts the Secretary-General with submitting to it, at its seventy-sixth session, the "White Paper" laying out a medium-term vision of world tourism and of the role of the Organization, as well as the revised and completed version of Agenda 2010.

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

(a) Draft programme-budget prepared by the Secretary-General

Agenda items 10(a), 10(b) and 10(c)
(documents CE/75/10(a), CE/75/10(b) and CE/75/10(c))

The Executive Council,

Having considered the draft general programme of work and budget of the Organization for the period 2006-2007, prepared by the Secretary-General in accordance with Article 23(2) of the Statutes and on the basis of the policy guidelines and programming principles adopted by the Council at its seventy-third session in decision CE/DEC/17 (LXXIII),

Having before it the reports of the Programme Committee and of the Committee on Budget and Finance,
1. Notes with satisfaction that the draft programme builds upon the Organization’s achievements by developing major work streams and, takes into account new priorities such as Ethical and Social Dimensions of Tourism and E-Tourism Development;

2. Shares the Programme Committee’s view that the draft programme is well designed, well structured and properly addresses the needs and concerns of the Members within the context of the Organization’s Agenda 2010;

3. Emphasizes the importance of:

   (a) Consolidating major programme work streams such as the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism and the Tourism Satellite Account and factoring them into national development strategies,

   (b) Developing road maps so as to further the implementation of the programme of work at the regional level and to ensure that specific issues of interest or concern to the different regional and sub-regional groupings are effectively addressed,

   (c) Strengthening and institutionalizing coordination with financial institutions and development assistance agencies to maximize the efficiency of WTO’s technical cooperation activities, and

   (d) Reviewing performance measurement criteria, indicators and methods to ensure that the evaluation system designed by the Programme Committee is adequately applied and fulfils its aims,

4. Approves the draft programme of work, bearing in mind the proposal of the Programme Committee to restructure Section 5: Improving Competitiveness: Quality, Investment, Trade, Health, Safety and Security;

5. Recommends the General Assembly to adopt the draft programme and budget for 2006-2007 in the amount of euros 24,165,000;

6. Entrusts the Secretary-General with making provision for the necessary resources for the implementation of the above-mentioned recommendations, within the proposed draft programme-budget for 2006-2007;

7. Commends the Committee on Budget and Finance, the Programme Committee and their Chairpersons for their valuable contribution to the preparation of the Organization’s draft programme of work for 2006-2007; and

8. Approves the proposal submitted to it by the Secretary-General, through the Committee on Budget and Finance, according to which the contributions due from Full and Associate Members will be apportioned progressively between the two years, i.e., euros 10,294,000 in 2006 and euros 10,736,000 in 2007.
ST-EP Initiative

Agenda item 11
(documents CE/75/11 Rev. 2 and CE/75/11 Rev. 2 Add. 1)

The Executive Council,

Having been informed of the progress made by the ST-EP initiative since its last session,

Having recalled its decision CE/74/12 to constitute a Working Group composed of Brazil, Indonesia, Italy, Jordan, Nigeria and the Republic of Korea, to oversee the establishment of a ST-EP Foundation,

Having heard the communication of the Working Group’s Chairman, H.E. Mr. Franklin Nchita Obgwegwu, Minister of Culture and Tourism of Nigeria, about the work undertaken by the Working Group and the agreements it reached,

Having before it the revised draft of the constitution of the ST-EP Foundation,

1. Thanks the Chairman and the entire Working Group for the work undertaken;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to submit the text of the Constitution to the sixteenth meeting of the General Assembly for its approval;

3. Entrusts the Secretary-General with the task of continuing the preparation of provisional operational guidelines to be proposed to the ST-EP Foundation when it is finally established;

4. Expresses its satisfaction with the progress made by the WTO Secretariat in the field of Poverty Alleviation through Tourism by means of new publications and identification missions fielded to developing and least developed countries, as well as in promoting the ST-EP Initiative; and

5. Requests the Secretary-General to inform the United Nations Secretary-General about the activities undertaken by WTO to contribute to the implementation of the Brussels Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries, while requesting increased support from other UN agencies and bilateral development assistance agencies to assist WTO in its efforts in this respect.
CE/DEC/18(LXXV)

**Actions in favour of the tsunami-affected countries**

Agenda item 12  
(document CE/75/12)

The Executive Council,

**Having taken cognizance** of the report of the Secretary-General on this matter,

1. **Welcomes with satisfaction** the support given to the Phuket Action Plan by the governments as well as by the different sectors of the international tourism community;

2. **Takes note** with great interest of the scale and diversity of the activities successfully carried out as part of the implementation of the Phuket Action Plan; and

3. **Entrusts** the Secretary-General with continuing the implementation of the Phuket Plan and reporting on it to the General Assembly, including information on assistance being provided by various countries on a bilateral basis.

CE/DEC/19(LXXV)

**Draft agreement on the protection of hotels and tourism attractions during times of armed conflict**

Agenda item 13  
(document CE/75/13)

The Executive Council,

**Having heard** the presentation of the Legal Adviser on this matter,

**Reaffirming** its interest in the proposal of Colombia,

**Entrusts** the Secretary-General with carrying out, with the assistance of the Legal Adviser and once the responses of the other institutions concerned have been received, a study to be submitted to it at its next session.
World Tourism Day: themes for 2006 and 2007 to be proposed to the General Assembly, and the selection of the host countries

Agenda item 14
(document CE/75/14)

The Executive Council,

Having taken cognizance of the Secretary-General's report regarding the celebration of World Tourism Day 2004 and 2005, and the procedure for the selection of themes for World Tourism Day 2006 and 2007,

Having examined the themes related to current topics suggested by the Secretary-General for 2006 and 2007 and approved by numerous Members in the context of a general consultation,

1. Decides to propose to the General Assembly the following two themes for the celebration of World Tourism Day 2006 and 2007:

2006 Tourism enriches

2007 Tourism opens doors for women

Recalling that, through its resolution 470(XV), the General Assembly decided that the host country of World Tourism Day should be chosen based on the principle of geographic rotation,

2. Notes that the Commission for Europe has designated Portugal to host WTD 2006; and

3. Entrusts the Regional Commission for South Asia with submitting its proposal regarding the Host State for World Tourism Day 2007 at the seventy-sixth session of the Council, which will submit it, along with the previous one, for information to the sixteenth session of the Assembly.

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Affiliate Members

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

Agenda item 15(b)
document CE/75/15 (b))

The Executive Council,

Having taken cognizance of the report of its Sub-Committee for the review of applications for affiliate membership, which met on 13 June 2005, under the chairmanship of Spain,

1. Endorses the recommendations of the Sub-Committee; and

2. Decides to submit to the sixteenth session of the General Assembly the following candidates for affiliate membership:

1. ASSOCIATION OF HOTEL, RESTAURANT & TOURISM INDUSTRY IN DENMARK (HORESTA) (Denmark)
2. CORPORATION DE L'INDUSTRIE TOURISTIQUE DU QUÉBEC (Canada)
3. EUROPEAN CITIES TOURISM (France)
4. EXPO MUNDIAL DE TURISMO (Mexico)
5. FOUNDATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION (FEE) (Denmark)
6. FUNDAÇÃO COMISSÃO DE TURISMO INTEGRADO DO NORDESTE – FUNDAÇÃO CTI-NE (Brazil)
7. GRUPO XCARRET (Mexico)
8. ICEI – ISTITUTO COOPERAZIONE ECONOMICA INTERNAZIONALE (Italy)
9. IZMIR UNIVERSITY OF ECONOMICS (Turkey)
10. KENYA TOURIST BOARD (Kenya)
11. MEETING PROFESSIONALS INTERNATIONAL (*)
12. MIDDLE EAST AUTOMOBILE CLUB (Saudi Arabia)
13. NEVADA TOURISM COMMISSION (United States of America)
14. PAPUA NEW GUINEA NATIONAL CULTURAL CENTRES TRUST (Papua New Guinea)
15. PROEXPORT – COLOMBIA (Colombia)
16. ROUTES – THE ROUTE DEVELOPMENT CENTRE LTD (United Kingdom)
17. SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION TURIBA (Latvia)
18. TABASHEER TRAVEL & TOURISM AGENCY (Sudan)
19. TOURISM PROMOTION SERVICES (France)
20. TRAVEL MEDIA APPLICATIONS (Greece)
21. TTG-ITALIA (Italy)
22. UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DEL MOLISE (Italy)
23. WORLD TOURISM CONSULTANCY, LLP "AKA CELEBRATIONS" (United States of America)
3. **Envisages**, when there is doubt as to the representativity of an international non-governmental organization that is applying for affiliate membership, postponing its admission pending further information, for which the Secretary-General shall be responsible for obtaining and providing to the Council.

(*) international non-governmental organization (article 7.3)

CE/DEC/23(LXXV)

**Consequences of the amendments to Articles 1, 4 to 7, 9 and 14 of the Statutes**

Agenda item 15 bis
(document CE/75/15 bis)

The Executive Council,

Having examined the document on this subject submitted by the Secretary-General,

1. **Considers** that the proposed amendment of the last paragraph of the Financing Rules, which are of statutory nature, must be adopted in accordance with the provisions of Article 33 of the Statutes, and that the procedure established by this provision can be deemed to have been observed with the circulation sufficiently in advance of the draft revision of the articles under consideration;

2. **Takes note** of the proposed modifications of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council and of the General Assembly, which follow from the proposed amendments to Articles 1, 4 to 7, 9 and 14 of the Statutes; and

3. **Recalls** that such modifications cannot, in any case, come into force until the abovementioned amendments to the Statutes have been ratified.

CE/DEC/24(LXXV)

**Report on the preparations for the sixteenth session of the General Assembly**

Agenda item 16
(documents CE/75/16 and CE/76/16 Add.1)

The Executive Council,

Having taken cognizance of the Secretary-General's report on the preparations for the sixteenth session of the General Assembly,
1. Notes with satisfaction that the agreement between the Government of Senegal and the Organization was signed on 6 June 2005;

Having heard the statement by the delegation of Senegal concerning the preparation of the General Assembly,

2. Thanks the Senegalese authorities for the efforts already made to ensure the success of the Dakar session of the General Assembly;

3. Entrusts the Secretary-General with ensuring that all the arrangements are actually made to allow the smooth functioning of the session;

4. Takes due note of the structure of the Assembly and of the eight-day duration of the proceedings and related activities, including two round table meetings, the Seminar organized by the Affiliate Members and the Conference prepared by the Education, Training and Knowledge Management Department, and requests the Secretary-General to finalize the definitive calendar of meetings in collaboration with the authorities of Senegal; and

5. Thanks Colombia, the Czech Republic, and Malaysia, for their generous offers to host the 2007 General Assembly and takes note of the ability of these three countries to host such an event.

CE/DEC/25(LXXV)

Proposal of amendment to Article 22 of the Statutes, presented by Spain

Agenda item 17
(document CE/75/17)

The Executive Council,

Having taken cognizance of Spain's proposal of amendment to Article 22 of the Statutes,

Having noted that a large majority of the Members of the Council have declared themselves in favour of this proposal,

Decides to transmit it to the General Assembly.
CE/DEC/26(LXXV)

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

Agenda item 18

The Executive Council,

Decides to hold its seventy-sixth and seventy-seventh sessions in conjunction with the sixteenth session of the General Assembly at Dakar, on 26 November and 2 December 2005.

CE/DEC/27(LXXV)

Vote of thanks to the host country

The Executive Council,

Having successfully carried out the work of its seventy-fifth session in conditions of outstanding efficiency and comfort, thanks to the facilities generously provided to it by the Bulgarian Government,

1. Expresses its sincerest gratitude to the Government of Bulgaria for this new show of support for the WTO and its Members;

2. Feels honoured by the presence of H.E. Mr. Simeon Saxe-Coburg, Prime Minister of Bulgaria, at its opening;

3. Also appreciates the presence of H.E. Mr. Solomon Passy, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bulgaria at this session; and

4. Extends its warmest thanks to H.E. Mrs. Nina Chilova, Minister of Culture and Tourism, to H.E. Mr. Dimitar Hadjinikolov, Deputy Minister of Culture and Tourism, and to their collaborators for the gracious hospitality they have shown to the delegations attending this Council session, and for giving them the opportunity to appreciate the cultural traditions of Nessebar and attractions of this fast-developing tourism resort on the Black Sea.
4. LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

The seventy-fifth session of the Executive Council was attended by:

(1) delegates of the following Members of the Council: Andorra, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Croatia, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Eritrea, France, India, Indonesia, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Mali, Morocco, Mexico, Nigeria, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Senegal, Seychelles, Spain, Tunisia, and Turkey;

(2) the representative of the Associate Members: Macau (China)

(3) the Chairman of the Regional Commission for Africa (Angola);

(4) the representative of the Affiliate Members (Tourisme Montréal);

(5) the representatives of the following WTO Member States: Colombia, Czech Republic, Egypt, Germany, Guinea, Hungary, Iran, Latvia, Malaysia, Peru, Poland, South Africa, and Ukraine, as observers.