DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

AT ITS SEVENTY-FOURTH SESSION

Salvador do Bahia, Brazil, 2-3 December 2004

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This working document will be considered during the Executive Council session. Delegates are requested to bring their copies with them to the meetings.
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3. **DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL**

CE/DEC/1/(LXXIV)

**Adoption of the agenda**

Agenda item 1  
(documents CE/74/1 prov. and CE/74/1 prov annot.)

The Executive Council,

*Adopts* the agenda of its seventy-fourth session as proposed.

CE/DEC/2/(LXXIV)

**Communication of the Chairman**

Agenda item 2  
(document CE/74/2)

The Executive Council,

*Having heard* the communication of its Chairman,

1. *Thanks* him for it;
2. *Shares* the Chairman's views with regard to international tourism's recovery in 2004 following the numerous crises it has faced since 2001;
3. *Subscribes* to his positive assessment regarding the consolidation of the WTO following its conversion into a specialized agency of the United Nations, to which Russia contributed;
4. *Endorses* his positive assessment regarding the implementation of the programme of work; and
5. *Thanks* the Russian Federation for the support that it provides to the Organization.
Report of the Secretary-General

Agenda item 3
(document CE/74/3)

The Executive Council,

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

1. Thanks the Secretary-General for his presentation;

2. Takes note with interest of the information provided with regard to the analysis of the world tourism industry and the lessons that can be learned from it at a time when the industry is experiencing a very strong recovery;

3. Welcomes the success of the main activities and major encounters that have marked the life of the WTO over the past months;

4. Notes with satisfaction the generally satisfactory financial situation of the Organization for 2004;

5. Notes with interest that the preparations for the future needs and obligations of the Organization, which the Council accepted in principle at its last session, have been initiated; and

6. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to it the results of this work in parallel with the draft budget and programme of work for 2006-2007, at its seventy-sixth session for submission to the General Assembly.

Administrative, financial and statutory matters

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

Agenda item 4(a)
(documents CE/74/4(a) and CE/74/4(a) Add.1)

The Executive Council,

Having before it the report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation of the Organization, presented in accordance with Article 14, paragraph 6, of the Financing Rules,
1. **Takes note** of the satisfactory level of contributions received for the current year;

2. **Notes** that, in fulfilment of the recommendation of the Assembly contained in its resolution 464(XV), the expected income and expenditure will be able to ensure financial balance in this financial year, and that such balance is compatible with a moderate deviation from the expenditure plan for 2004, resulting from the increase in staff expenditure deriving from the new salary scale applied to the General Services staff in accordance with the procedures in force within the United Nations system, and the intensive programme of activities carried out this year;

3. **Asks** the Secretary-General that annual “expenditure plans” be progressively brought closer into line, to the extent possible, with the funds and expenditures allocated in the budget;

**Noting** that, pursuant to its decision CE/DEC/15 (LXXIII), various amendments to the Staff Rules will enter into force effective 1 January 2005,

**Recalling** that these amendments were made so as to bring the Organization’s norms and procedures governing staff into harmony with those of the United Nations common system, such harmonization not to represent a significant additional cost for the functioning of the institution,

4. **Notes** that among these measures, the Secretary-General will apply and periodically update the post adjustments applicable to salaries as communicated by the United Nations, as well as a housing rental subsidy for eligible officials;

5. **Notes with satisfaction** that since the date of its last session 17 Full Members have paid all or part of their arrear contributions;

6. **Urges** Members that have not yet complied with their financial obligations to take the necessary steps to pay their contributions for 2004 as soon as possible and in any case before the accounts for the current year are closed;

**Recalling** its decision CE/DEC/4(LXXIII) whereby the Organization’s budget for financial year 2005 was modified and set at 11,438,000 euros,

7. **Notes** that the Secretary-General revised the scale of contributions for 2005 taking this reduction into account, and notified the Full and Associate Members of the new amounts of their contributions.
Administrative, financial and statutory matters

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

Agenda item 4(b)
(documents CE/74/4(b) and CE/74/4(b) Add.1)

The Executive Council,

Observing that the provisions of Article 34 of the Statutes and of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes are currently applied to 24 Full Members,

1. Urges the Members subject to these provisions to comply with their commitments, and if necessary, to propose the payment of their contribution arrears in instalments;

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

2. Notes with satisfaction that, as at the date of this session, Full Member the Islamic Republic of Iran is no longer subject to the provisions of paragraph 13, considering that it has paid the full amount of its debt and is up to date in the payment of its contributions, and that Full Member Djibouti is also no longer subject to the above-mentioned provisions, as it has paid part of its arrears;

Having taken cognizance of the proposals by Italy and Nigeria requesting that account be taken of the particularly difficult situations of Iraq and Sierra Leone,

3. Decides to transmit these concerns to the Committee on Budget and Finance for study and recommendation in the light of the decisions that may be taken within the United Nations with regard to these Members' arrears to various institutions of the system.

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CE/DEC/8(LXXIV)

**New Members**

Agenda item 5
(documents CE/74/5 and CE/74/5 Add.1)

The Executive Council,

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

1. **Notes with immense satisfaction** the return of Australia to the WTO, effective 23 September 2004;

2. **Welcomes** the decision of the Government and Parliament of Timor-Leste to join the Organization, and **awaits** the official communication of that country so that its admission may be submitted to the General Assembly at its next session;

3. **Notes with satisfaction** that the process for the admission of Belarus is expected to be completed shortly;

4. **Takes note** of the United Arab Emirates’ interest in rejoining the Organization;

5. **Takes note with interest** of the steps undertaken by the Secretary-General with regard to non-member states with a view to their joining the Organization; and

6. **Particularly encourages** the Secretary-General to continue his efforts aimed at the return of the United States, carried out pursuant to decision 10(LXX) of the Executive Council.

CE/DEC/7(LXXIV)

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

(a) Participation in the system’s coordination mechanisms

Agenda item 6(a)
(document CE/74/6(a))

The Executive Council,

Having taken cognizance of document CE/74/6(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, the High Level Committee on Programmes and the High Level Committee on Management;
2. **Congratulates** the Secretary-General on his initiative of convening at Headquarters on 22 and 23 November 2004 a "United Nations Coordination Meeting on Tourism Matters" which was attended by a large number of United Nations bodies and agencies and which held wide-ranging and fruitful discussions;

3. **Agrees** that this meeting has served the important function of promoting complementarity between WTO's programmes and those of other institutions and, accordingly, facilitating the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals;

4. **Entrusts** the Secretary-General with drawing the necessary lessons from this meeting and ensuring the necessary follow-up, particularly in the context of the organization's "WTO Agenda 2010";

Recalling also its decision CE/DEC/10(LXXIII),

5. **Takes note** with satisfaction of the constitution of the "Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Tourism Statistics" whose convenor is WTO;

6. **Expresses its conviction** that this mechanism will enable WTO to play its recognized leadership role in the field of tourism statistics; and

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

CE/DEC/8(LXXIV)

**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 6(b)

(document CE/74/6(b))

The Executive Council,

Having taken cognizance of the supplementary report of the Secretary-General on this matter, which it deliberated upon at its seventy-third session;

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 as a specialized agency of the United Nations;

3. **Considers** that any initiative to modify the acronym must be identical in the official languages of the Organization, without necessarily entailing subsequent changes in the practice observed by the Organization and its Members in all the official languages of the Organization; and

4. **Decides** in consequence to request the authorization of 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.

CE/DEC/9(LXXIV)

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

**(c) Joint Headquarters Committee**

Agenda item 6(c)
(document CE/74/6(c))

The Executive Council,

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

**Aware** of the importance of creating a joint headquarters committee to facilitate the functioning of the Organization in Madrid, in its new status as a specialized agency of the United Nations,

1. **Entrusts** the Secretary-General with pursuing this initiative with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Spain;

2. **Hopes** that the contacts already initiated with the Spanish authorities will make it possible to establish, in the very near future, a joint committee for consultations on matters related to the functioning of the Organization’s headquarters in Madrid; and

3. **Requests** the Secretary-General to report to it regarding this subject at its next session.
Report of the Working Group for the preparation of amendments to Articles 6 and 7 of the Statutes

Agenda item 7
(document CE/74/7)

The Executive Council,

Welcoming with satisfaction and gratitude the proposal made by the Working Group for the preparation of amendments to Articles 6 and 7 of the Statutes,

Aiming at

- reaffirming and strengthening the intergovernmental nature of the Organization,
- reaffirming the role of WTO as an instrument of economic and social development,
- limiting decision-making powers exclusively to Member States, to whom the right to speak and vote at the General Assembly and the Executive Council is conferred, and,
- enabling tourism bodies of non-sovereign-state entities, private-sector actors, and private-law international associations to participate in the application of the ideas, projects, and means of the Organization, which presupposes a status limited to a role that precludes any decision-making,

1. **Proposes** to the General Assembly to adopt the following amendments to the Statutes, the text of which is annexed to this decision; and

2. **Requests** the Secretary-General to prepare, with the help of the Legal Adviser, a report explaining the consequences of the amendments envisaged for the statutory texts currently in force and to submit said report to its next session.

ANNEX

**Article 1**

The World Tourism Organization, hereinafter referred to as “the Organization”, is hereby established as an international organization of intergovernmental character. It is a specialized agency of the United Nations.

**Article 4**

Membership of the Organization shall be open to:

(a) Full Members
(b) Associate Members
Article 5

1. Full membership of the Organization shall be open to all sovereign States that are members of the United Nations.

2. Such States may become Full Members of the Organization if their candidatures are approved by the General Assembly by a majority of two-thirds of the Full Members present and voting provided that said majority is a majority of the Full Members of the Organization.

3. States that have withdrawn from the Organization in accordance with the provisions of Article 35 shall have the right to become Full Members of the Organization again, without requirement of vote, on formally declaring that they adopt the Statutes of the Organization and accept the obligations of membership.

Article 6

1. Territories already holding associate membership on 24 October 2003 shall maintain the status, rights and obligations belonging to them as at such date. The list of such territories is annexed to these Statutes.

2. Members enjoying the status of Affiliates, up to at the date of entry into force of the Amendments to the present Statutes adopted on ____________ shall become as of right Associate Members at that date.

3. Associate membership of the Organization shall be open to intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, tourism administration bodies without political power subordinate to territorial entities, professional and labour organizations, academic, educational, vocation training and research institutions and to commercial enterprises and associations whose activities are related to the aims of the Organization or fall within its competence. The participation of Associate Members in the work of the Organization shall be of a technical nature, with decisions and votes being the exclusive prerogative of the Member States.

4. Such entities may become Associate Members of the Organization provided that their requests for membership are presented in writing to the Secretary-General and that the candidature is approved by the General Assembly by a majority of two-thirds of the Full Members present and voting provided that said majority is a majority of the Full Members of the Organization. Except in the cases of international organizations, the candidatures of the entities mentioned in paragraph 3 above shall be introduced by the State on whose territory their headquarters is located.

Article 7

1. A Committee of Associate Members shall be constituted which shall establish its own rules and submit them to the Assembly for approval by a majority of two-thirds of the Full Members present and voting provided that said majority is a majority of the Full Members of the Organization. The Committee may be represented at meetings of the Organization's organs.
2. The Committee of Associate Members shall be composed of three boards:

   (i) a board of destinations, composed of the tourism bodies, without political power subordinate to territorial entities
   (ii) an education board composed of academic, educational, vocational training and research institutions; and
   (iii) a professional board composed of all the other Associate Members.

   Intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations may participate in whichever board or boards correspond to their competences.

   General Assembly

   Article 9

   1. The Assembly is the supreme organ of the Organization and shall be composed of delegates representing Full Members.

   2. At each session of the Assembly each Full Member shall be represented by not more than five delegates, one of whom shall be designated by the Member as Chief Delegate.

   3. Associate Members as of 24 October 2003, the list of which is annexed to the present Statutes, shall be represented by not more than five delegates, one of whom shall be designated as Chief Delegate. These delegates may participate, without the right to vote, in the work of the Assembly. They shall have the right to speak but may not participate in decision-making.

   4. The Committee of Associate Members may designate three spokespersons, one representing the board of destinations, one representing the professional board and the other representing the education board, who shall participate in the work of the Assembly, without the right to vote. Each Associate Member may designate one observer, who may attend the deliberations of the Assembly.

   Executive Council

   Article 14

   1. The Council shall consist of Full Members elected by the Assembly in the ratio of one Member for every five Full Members, in accordance with the Rules of Procedure laid down by the Assembly, with a view to achieving a fair and equitable geographical distribution.

   2. Associate Members as of 24 October 2003 may have a spokesperson who may participate, without the right to vote, in the work of the Council. Such spokesperson may not participate in decision-making.

   3. The three spokespersons of the Associate Members may participate, without the right to vote, in the work of the Council. Such spokespersons may not participate in decision-making.
CE/DEC/11(LXXIV)

General Programme of Work

(a) Report on the Implementation and on the evaluation of the general programme of work for the period 2004-2005

Agenda item 8(a)
(documents CE/74/8(a) and CE/74/8(a) Add.1)

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-third session, as approved by the Programme Committee, at its twenty-seventh meeting held on 16 and 17 November 2004,

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

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

3. Notes with regret that the Organization found itself in a situation in which it was not possible to hold the Forum for Parliamentarians and Local Authorities, which had been scheduled for Kyiv in November, and expressing its desire that a calming of the situation in Ukraine will make it possible to do so, entrusts the Secretary-General with setting, in agreement with the Ukrainian authorities, new dates for this important encounter.

CE/DEC/12(LXXIV)

General Programme of Work

(b) Guidelines for the preparation of the draft programme of work and budget for the period 2006-2007: discussion of approach and choice of procedure

Agenda item 8(b)
(document CE/74/8(b))

The Executive Council,

Having considered the guidelines submitted by the Secretary-General for the preparation of the Organization's general programme of work for 2006-2007, on the basis of the proposals made by Member States and the recommendations of the various organs and advisory bodies that have been consulted to this end, as revised and endorsed by the Programme Committee at its twenty-seventh meeting,
1. **Instructs** the Secretary-General to prepare the detailed draft programme and budget of the Organization for the above-mentioned biennial period, on the basis of document CE/74/8(b);

2. **Invites** the Regional Commissions to continue to play a substantive role in shaping the Organization’s programme of work, as part of the process of modernizing the Organization and making it more responsive to the specific needs of the various regions;

3. **Notes** that in accordance with rule 9(3) of the Council’s Rules of Procedure, the Programme Committee is scheduled to meet on 27 and 28 April 2005 so as to examine the above-mentioned draft programme, before it is submitted to the Committee on Budget and Finance and to the Council at its seventy-fifth session; and

4. **Requests** Members that would still like their suggestions to be taken into consideration to forward them to the Secretary-General by 15 December 2004, at the latest.

CE/DEC/13(LXXIV)

**Recommendations for responsible travel advisories**

Agenda item 9  
(documents CE/74/9 and CE/74/9 Add.1)

The Executive Council,

**Having considered** the documents on Travel Advisories,

1. **Decides** to confirm the principles elaborated in Article 6 of the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism, acknowledging the autonomy of governments, but also call on them to adhere to the guidelines set out in the article;

2. **Welcomes** WTO’s initiative to promote a wide-ranging discussion on the sensitive and often controversial issue of travel advisories and the proposed guidelines as a further elaboration of Article 6 of the Code;

3. **Invites** the French delegation and those of other countries which so desire to submit possible proposals for changes in the text contained in document CE/74/9 to the Secretariat for further consideration; and

4. **Requests** the Secretary-General to continue the discussions with Member States and with the countries likely to join WTO on travel advisories as well as on security and facilitation issues and to report back at the next session of the Executive Council.
World Committee on Tourism Ethics

Agenda item 10
(document CE/74/10)

The Executive Council,

Having taken cognizance of the report of the Secretary-General on the World Committee on Tourism Ethics,

Having examined the document on Procedures for Consultation and Conciliation for the Settlement of Disputes concerning the Application of the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism, approved by the Committee at its second meeting (Madrid, Spain, 4-5 October 2004),

1. Acknowledges with satisfaction the efforts and work undertaken by the Chairman and the Members of the Committee in developing a broadly acceptable mechanism for the settlement of disputes, and decides to give its approval to the Procedures for Consultation and Conciliation for the Settlement of Disputes concerning the Application of the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism, and encourages the Committee to implement them;

2. Takes note of the final text of the Rules of Procedure, as adopted by the Committee;

3. Urges all Members of the Organization to participate in the Survey on the Implementation of the Code of Ethics, and invites the Regional Commissions, the Committee of Affiliate Members and the Business and Education Councils to assist the Committee in promoting and disseminating the Code worldwide;

4. Expresses its gratitude to the Italian Government for its generous offer to host the permanent secretariat of the Committee in Rome, and entrusts the Secretary-General to sign with the Italian authorities a bilateral agreement on this matter; and

5. Thanks the Tunisian Government for the invitation to hold the third meeting of the Committee in Tunis in April/May 2005.

Draft additional Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the protection of children against sex tourism

Agenda item 11
(document CE/74/11)

The Executive Council,

Having taken cognizance of the information given by Brazil,

Decides to postpone the consideration of this agenda item to its next session.
ST-EP Initiative

Agenda item 12
(document CE/74/12)

The Executive Council,

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

1. Thanks the Secretary-General for his presentation;

2. Notes with satisfaction the recent favourable developments in the ST-EP initiative in general;

3. Reiterates that the focus of the ST-EP initiative is firmly on the world's poorest countries or regions;

4. Takes note of the provisional statutes of the new Foundation, which will be submitted for approval to the WTO General Assembly at its next session, and the establishment of its headquarters in Seoul;

5. Welcomes the agreements on this subject signed with the Republic of Korea and the Netherlands, and the financial support of Associate Member Macao, China, and thanks these countries and this territory for the support they provide to the initiative;

6. Calls on all the Member countries to give their political and diplomatic support to the ST-EP initiative, and on those who can, to contribute financially to the initiative;

7. Values the input of the Members of the Executive Council to improve the initiative and hence provide a better final product for consideration at the sixteenth General Assembly;

8. Thanks the Republic of Korea, in the context of the ST-EP initiative, for its professional and human efforts for the development of these programmes;

9. Decides to constitute, prompted by this interest, a Working Group that shall be composed of the following Members:

   Brazil
   Indonesia
   Italy
   Jordan
   Nigeria
   Republic of Korea

10. Entrusts the Secretary-General with making the arrangements for the establishment of collaboration in the technical work of this Working Group.
Draft agreement on the protection of hotels and tourism attractions
during times of armed conflict

Agenda item 13
(document CE/74/13)

The Executive Council,

Having taken cognizance of document CE/74/13 on this matter,

Renewing its interest in Colombia's proposal, supported by the Regional Commission for the Americas, which undoubtedly falls within the competence of the WTO,

Approving of Brazil's proposal to include in the study the matter of the protection of world heritage in times of armed conflict,

1. Agrees to officially consult the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Director-General of UNESCO, and the International Committee of the Red Cross regarding the desirability of such action and regarding the interest of these three institutions in WTO's taking action in this domain; and

2. Entrusts the Secretary-General, in the event that favourable responses are obtained in all three consultations, to prepare with the assistance of the Legal Adviser an in-depth study of the matter to be submitted to it at a forthcoming session.

CE/DEC/18(LXXIV)

Affiliate Members

(a) Report of the Chairman

Agenda item 14(a)
(document CE/74/14(a))

The Executive Council,

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

Thanks him for the information, and encourages him to continue to take steps to strengthen the membership of the Organization.
Affiliate Members

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

Agenda item 14(b)
(document CE/74/14(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 2 December 2004

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:

(a) Complete applications:

1. BUNDESFORUM KINDER-UND JUGENDREISEN e.V. (Germany)
2. DESTINATION MARKETING ORGANIZATION – CAPE TOWN AND WESTERN CAPE (South Africa)
3. ESCUELA OFICIAL DE TURISMO DE LA UNIVERSIDAD DE ALICANTE (Spain)
4. SERVICIO NACIONAL DE APRENDIZAGEM COMERCIAL (Brazil)

(b) Application to be submitted to the Sub-Committee on receipt of the necessary documents:

1. BEYOGLU MUNICIPALITY, ISTANBUL (Turkey)
2. BISCORDINT TRAVEL AGENCY AND TOURS (Nigeria)
3. CORPORATION DE L'INDUSTRIE TOURISTIQUE DU QUÉBEC-CITQ (Canada)
4. EUROPEAN CITIES TOURISM
5. EXPO MUNDIAL DE TURISMO (Mexico)
6. FOUNDATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION (FEE)
7. MEETING PROFESSIONALS INTERNATIONAL

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Procedure and calendar for the election of the Secretary-General of the Organization for the period 2006-2009

Agenda item 15
(document CE/74/15)

The Executive Council,

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

1. Confirms that it is at its seventy-fifth session that it will decide on the candidate to recommend at the sixteenth session of the General Assembly for the post of Secretary-General for the period 2006-2009;

2. Considers that the rules and procedures adopted by the Council at its twenty-third session in May 1984 (Decision 17(XXIII)), as completed at its thirty-fourth session in November 1988 (Decision 19(XXXIV)), at its forty-fourth session in November 1992 (Decision 19(XLIV)), at its fifty-fourth session in November 1996 (Decision 11(LIV)), and at its sixty-third/sixty-fourth combined session in November 2000 (Decision 19(LXIII-LXIV)), must continue to be fully observed at the seventy-fifth session of the Council;

3. Decides to refer to document CE/74/15 for the interpretation of the statutory rules governing the election of the Secretary-General and for the interpretation of the decisions mentioned in paragraph 1;

4. Invites the Members States that so wish, to propose candidates, with their support for the post of Secretary-General for the period 2006-2009, ensuring that the nominations reach the Organizations Headquarters before 1 April 2005; and

5. Requests those governments to submit, together with the biographical and career information of each candidate, a statement of intent and management, expressing their views on the manner in which they would perform the functions of Secretary-General.
CE/DEC/21(LXXIV)

Election of the Executive Council's Officers for 2005

Agenda item 16
(document CE/74/16)

The Executive Council,

Having regard to the provisions of rule 5 of its Rules of Procedure,

Recalling the desirability of a rotation of the post of Chairman of the Executive Council among the regions that comprise the Organization and taking account of the fact that for 2005 this post is, in principle, to be assumed by a country of the Asia-Pacific region,

Having considered the document corresponding to the candidature for the post of Chairman submitted by the Republic of Korea,

1. Decides to elect the Republic of Korea to the post of Chairman for 2005, Ecuador to the post of First Vice-Chairman and France to the post of Second Vice-Chairman;

2. Requests these Full Members, pursuant to the provisions of rule 5(4) of its Rules of Procedure, to communicate to the Secretary-General the name of the persons designated by them to exercise these functions;

3. Specially commends the Russian Federation for the exceptional qualities with which the three Chairmen representing that country carried out their functions; and

4. Commends also the outgoing Vice-Chairmen, Jordan and Nigeria for the quality of the work they have performed for the benefit of the Organization in the exercise of their functions.

CE/DEC/22(LXXIV)

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

Agenda item 17
(document CE/74/17)

The Executive Council,

1. Decides to accept the generous offer of Bulgaria to host its seventy-fifth session on a date to be set by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Government of Bulgaria; and

2. Takes note with satisfaction of the offer extended by Ecuador to host its seventy-eighth session, and decides to consider such offer at its seventy-seventh session.
Vote of thanks to the host country

The Executive Council,

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

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

2. Further thanks it for having taken the initiative of organizing the World Tourism Forum for Peace and Sustainable Development, in the context of which this session of the Council was held, and feels honoured by the presence of H.E. Mr. Luiz Inácio Lula Da Silva, President of the Republic of Brazil, at its opening;

3. Requests H.E. Mr. Walfrido dos Mares Guia Neto, Minister of Tourism of Brazil, to transmit to H.E. Mr. Lula Da Silva the assurances of the great satisfaction of the Council Members, who were able to experience traditional Brazilian hospitality and appreciate the quality of the destination in which they were hosted; and

4. Extends its warmest thanks to H.E. Mr. Walfrido dos Mares Guia Neto, Minister of Tourism of Brazil, to Mr. Marcio Favilla, Executive Secretary of the Ministry of Tourism, and to their collaborators for the gracious hospitality they have shown to the delegations attending this Council session in Salvador de Bahia, and for giving them the opportunity to appreciate the cultural traditions and tourism attractions of this exceptional city.
4. LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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

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

2) the Chairman of the Regional Commission for Asia and the Pacific (Cambodia);

3) the Permanent Observer to WTO (Holy See);

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

5) the representatives of the following WTO Member States: Argentina, Bolivia, Egypt, Germany, Haiti, Hungry, Iran, Jamaica, Malaysia, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Serbia and Montenegro, and Ukraine, as observers.