DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

AT ITS FIFTY-SIXTH SESSION

Istanbul, Turkey, 17-18 October 1997

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3. DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL

CE/DEC/1(LVI)

Adoption of the agenda

Agenda item 1
(documents CE/56/1 prov. and CE/56/1 prov.annot.)

The Executive Council

Adopts the agenda of its fifty-sixth session.

CE/DEC/2(LVI)

Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Organization since the fifty-fifth session

Agenda item 2
(documents A/12/7 Rev. and A/12/7 Add.1)

The Executive Council,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Organization since its fifty-fifth session,

Having also noted with appreciation the compilation of Declarations that were adopted under WTO auspices in 1996 and 1997,

Thanks him for these documents.
CE/DEC/3(LVI)

**Applications for membership**

*Agenda item 3*  
(documents A/12/6(a), A/12/6(a) Corr.1 and A/12/6(a) Add.1)

The Executive Council,

*Having regard* to Articles 5, 6 and 7 of the Statutes and rules 49 and 50 of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly,

*Takes note with satisfaction* of the information provided by the Secretary-General concerning applications for full, associate and affiliate membership of the Organization.

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CE/DEC/4(LVI)

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

*Agenda item 4*  
(document A/12/8)

The Executive Council,

*Having considered* its draft report, as prepared by the Secretary-General for submission to the General Assembly pursuant to Articles 19(a) and 20 of the Statutes,

1. **Adopts** said report; and

2. **Requests** its Chairman, H.E. Mr. Slaheddine Maâoui (Tunisia), to include the main decisions taken at the Council's present session in the report and submit it to the forthcoming Assembly session.

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Affiliate Members

(a) Report of the Chairman

Agenda item 5(a)
(document A/12/10)

The Executive Council,

Having heard the report of the Chairman of the Affiliate Members, Mr. Martin Brackenbury, on the activities of the Affiliate Members within the context of their programme of work for 1996-1997,

1. Thanks him for his report; and
2. Expresses its satisfaction at the significant increase in the number of applicants for affiliate membership of the Organization.

Affiliate Members

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

Agenda item 5(b)
(document CE/56/5(b))

The Executive Council,

Having considered the report of its Sub-Committee for the review of applications for affiliate membership, which met on 17 October 1997,

1. Endorses the Sub-Committee's recommendations; and
2. **Decides** to submit to the twelfth session of the General Assembly the following applications for affiliate membership:

1. Egyptian Travel Agents Association (Egypt)
2. Escuela de Turismo Tejera Reyes (Spain)
3. Euro-Mediterranean Tourism Organization (EMTO)
4. Europe Tax-Free Shopping ETS AB
5. Faculty of Hotels and Tourism, Cairo University, El Fayoum Branch (Egypt)
6. FENACTUR - Federación Nacional de Turismo (Brazil)
7. FORZTUR - Turismo de Foz de Iguazú (Brazil)
8. Indian Institute of Tourism and Travel Management (India)
9. Institute of Tourism Open Learning Centre (Poland)
10. Patronato Municipal de Turismo de Peñíscola (Spain)
11. Regione Lazio-Assesorato Politiche per la Promozione della Cultura, del Turismo e dello Sport (Italy)
12. The Tourism Task Force, Ltd. (Australia)
13. Turkish Hotel Association - TUROB (Turkey)
14. Universidad Anahuac (Mexico)

CE/DEC/7(LVI)

**World Tourism Day:**

*proposal of themes to the General Assembly for 1998 and 1999*

Agenda item 6

(documents CE/56/6, CE/56/6 Add.1 and CE/56/6 Add.2)

The Executive Council,

Mindful of the increasing impact of World Tourism Day on international public opinion,

1. **Expresses its satisfaction** at the success of World Tourism Day in 1997 which was marked by events of increasing number and quality;

2. **Agrees** to the suggestions made by the Secretary-General for developing still further the potential of this annual celebration; and
3. Decides to propose to the General Assembly the following two themes for World Tourism Day in 1998 and 1999:

1998: Public-private sector partnership: the key to tourism development and promotion

1999: Tourism: preserving world heritage for the new millennium
The Executive Council,

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

Having heard the presentations made by the Secretariat and having considered the report of the Committee on Budget and Finance,

1. Takes note with satisfaction of the level of contributions received for the current year;

2. Expresses its satisfaction that, as a result of the policy of strict expenditure control applied by the Secretary-General in accordance with General Assembly resolution 344(XI), a balance can be achieved between income and expenditure and that the plan of expenditure for 1997 may be implemented fully;

3. Takes note of the new increase in the salary scale for officials of the professional and higher categories as from January 1997, as decided by the General Assembly of the United Nations in resolution 51/216, and of the new salary scale applicable to officials of the general service category at Madrid, retroactive to March 1996, as transmitted by the International Civil Service Commission;

4. Approves these changes, applied provisionally by the Secretary-General in accordance with Staff Rule 33(1);

Having noted the considerable amount of arrears owed to the Organization by certain Members,

5. Requests the Secretary-General to pursue his efforts to collect arrear contributions; and

6. Urges Members in arrears in the payment of their contributions to discharge the outstanding amounts as soon as possible.

Administrative and financial matters

(a) Report of the Secretary-General
(b) Report of the Committee on Budget and Finance

Agenda item 8(a)(b)
(documents CE/56/8(a), CE/56/8(a) Add.1 and CE/56/8(b))
Administrative and financial matters

(c) Suspension of membership in accordance with Article 34 of the Statutes
(d) Requests for suspension of the application of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes

Agenda item 8(c)(d)
(documents CE/56/8(c)(d), CE/56/8(c)(d) Add.1, CE/56/8(c)(d) Add.2, CE/56/8(c)(d) Add.3, CE/56/8(c)(d) Add.4 and CE/56/8(b))

The Executive Council,

Having considered the application of the provisions of Article 34 of the Statutes and of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes to the Members listed in document CE/56/8(c)(d),

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

1. Notes with satisfaction that the Full Members GHANA, NIGERIA and URUGUAY are no longer subject to these provisions, having reduced their arrears to an amount below their assessed contributions for the two previous years;

2. Decides to recommend the General Assembly to renew the period of suspension of paragraph 13 in respect of COSTA RICA, PERU and SENEGAL in view of their compliance with the agreements they entered into and in respect of IRAQ, given the communication received from that Member;

Having taken note of the communications received from the Full Members BURKINA FASO, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO, EL SALVADOR, GEORGIA, GUINEA, LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, NICARAGUA, SUDAN and YEMEN and from the Affiliate Member Iraqi Airways, requesting suspension of the application to them of the provisions of paragraph 13,

Having duly examined these requests and the reasons that prompted them,
3. **Decides** to recommend the General Assembly to comply with the requests for temporary suspension of the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules as they apply to the Full Members and Affiliate Member listed below:

- Burkina Faso
- Democratic Republic of the Congo
- El Salvador
- Georgia
- Guinea
- Lao People’s Democratic Republic
- Nicaragua
- Sudan
- Yemen
- Iraqi Airways

4. **Requests** the Secretary-General to inform it at its fifty-eighth session of the fulfilment of the commitments undertaken by these Members and, more specifically, Senegal, so as to be able to decide whether to maintain suspension or to reapply the provisions of paragraph 13;

Having been informed of the requests for exemption from the payment of their arrears from the Full Members Bolivia, Burundi and Haiti,

Considering that there is no statutory provision for exemption from the payment of arrear contributions,

5. **Decides** not to comply with the requests of these Members; and

6. **Requests** the Secretary-General to propose to them the possibility of discharging their debts in instalments;

Having observed the list of Members currently subject to the measure of suspension provided for in Article 34 of the Statutes,

7. **Notes** that the following Members have accumulated arrears equal to or exceeding their contributions for four financial years and that, consequently, the measure of suspension provided for in Article 34 of the Statutes could be applicable to them within a year, in accordance with paragraph 1(b) of General Assembly resolution 217(VII):

**FULL MEMBERS:**

- Guinea-Bissau
- Uganda
AFFILIATE MEMBERS:

Asociación Iberoamericana de Cámaras de Comercio (AICC)
Asociación Interamericana de Hoteles (AIAH)
Centre d'études du tourisme (CET)
Confederación de Cámaras Nacionales de Comercio, Servicios y Turismo
Dutko and Associates
Fundación José María Blanc
Instituto de Capacitación Turística (INCE-TURISMO)
International Tourist Health Association (ITHA)
Somea SpA - La societá per la matematica e l'economia applicate
Tourconsult/International, S.A.
Unión de Ciudades Capitales Iberoamericanas (UCCI)

CE/DEC/11(LVI)

Adjustment to the amount of the budget for the period 1998-1999

Agenda item 9
(documents CE/56/9 and CE/56/8(b))

The Executive Council,

Having considered the above-mentioned document, in which the budgetary rate of exchange for 1998-1999 is adjusted, and the proposal of the Secretary-General to use, in the interest of caution, the average for the past two years of the United Nations operational rate of exchange, i.e. 132 pesetas to the dollar,

Having also taken note of the report of the Committee on Budget and Finance,

1. Approves the Secretary-General's proposal to fix the budgetary rate of exchange for 1998-1999 at 132 pesetas to the dollar and the revision of the appropriations proposed for the next period on the basis of this exchange rate; and

2. Recommends the General Assembly to approve a budget of 18,162,000 dollars for the period 1998-1999, i.e. 8,883,000 dollars for 1998 and 9,279,000 dollars for 1999.
Assessment of Members' contributions to the Organization's budget for 1998-1999

Agenda item 10
(documents CE/56/10 and CE/56/8(b))

The Executive Council,

Having considered the Secretary-General’s report on the assessment of Members’ contributions for the next financial period,

Having also taken note of the report of the Committee on Budget and Finance,

Considering resolution 263(VIII) and the foreseeable breakdown for the period 1998-1999 of 45 per cent for expenditure incurred in dollars and 55 per cent for expenditure incurred in pesetas,

1. Decides to recommend to the General Assembly that the amounts of 8,040,000 US dollars for 1996 and 8,093,000 US dollars for 1999 should be financed from the contributions of Full and Associate Members;

2. Also decides to recommend the General Assembly to approve the Secretary-General’s proposal to use the latest statistical data available from the United Nations, in particular those relating to National and per Capita Income, when establishing the scale of contributions for 1998;

Having observed that the General Assembly of the United Nations has not yet decided on the changes to be made in its method of determining the scale of contributions nor on the period to be used for the data on National and per Capita Income,

3. Reiterates the decision taken at its forty-ninth and fiftieth sessions to the effect that, once the decisions adopted by the United Nations on its formula for fixing the contributions of its Members are known, the review of the formula for assessing the amount of Members’ contributions applied by WTO should be resumed so as to avoid the problems arising from its application and to take into account those amendments adopted by the United Nations that could be applied in the Organization;
4. Decides to recommend to the General Assembly that the parameters to be used for establishing the scale of contributions for 1999 should be reconsidered by the Executive Council at its fifty-eighth session in the light of the conclusions of the fifty-second General Assembly of the United Nations;

5. Further decides to recommend the General Assembly to assess the contributions of Full and Associate Members in the ratio of 45 per cent and 55 per cent, respectively for each currency, basing the amount payable in pesetas on the budgetary rate of exchange, i.e., 132 pesetas to the dollar; and

6. Also decides to recommend to the General Assembly that during the period 1998-1999 the formula for the calculation of contributions be applied, limiting to 7.5 per cent the annual upward or downward variations in the contributions of Members changing group, with a view to minimizing fluctuations.

CE/DEC/13(LVI)

Place and date of the fifty-seventh session of the Council

Agenda item 11

The Executive Council

Decides to hold its fifty-seventh session at Istanbul on 24 October 1997 immediately after the closure of the twelfth session of the General Assembly.
4. **LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

The fifty-sixth session of the Executive Council was attended by:

(1) delegates of the following Members of the Council: Chile, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, India, Israel, Jamaica, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Seychelles, South Africa, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, and Spain as a privileged Member;

(2) the representatives of the following member States: Angola, Dominican Republic, Gabon, Guinea-Bissau, Iran and Zimbabwe as observers; and

(3) the Permanent Observer, the Holy See.