

DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

AT ITS FIFTY-FIFTH SESSION

Manila, Philippines, 20-21 May 1997

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3. DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL

CE/DEC/1(LV)

Adoption of the agenda

Agenda item 1
(documents CE/55/1 prov. and CE/55/1 prov.annot.)

The Executive Council,

Having considered a proposal to bring forward consideration of item 8 and to include it in the final agenda as item 5,

Noting that a majority of delegations were in favour of considering all the items on the provisional agenda in conformity with that proposal,

Decides to adopt the agenda of its fifty-fifth session, as amended.

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CE/DEC/2(LV)

Report of the Secretary-General

Agenda item 2
(document CE/55/2)

The Executive Council,

Having considered the report presented by the Secretary-General,

1. Thanks him for the information it contains on the present situation of the Organization;

2. Endorses the main lines of emphasis expressed therein and, on this basis, encourages the Secretary-General to persevere in the process of adapting the Organization;

Noting the interest expressed by its Members in securing prompt ratification of the amendments to the Organization's Statutes adopted by the General Assembly,

3. Requests the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the host State, the depositary of the Statutes, to inform it at its fifty-sixth session of the latest situation of ratification of the various amendments with a view to encouraging States that have not yet done so to ratify them as soon as possible.
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CE/DEC/3(LV)

**Implementation of the general programme of work
of the Organization for the period 1996-1997**

Agenda item 3
(document CE/55/3)

The Executive Council,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made since its fifty-fourth session in implementing the general programme of work of the Organization for the period 1996-1997,

1. Takes cognizance of the results recorded in 1996 and the prospects for 1997 concerning field missions and the execution of technical cooperation projects;
2. Notes with satisfaction that in 1996 the Organization recorded a slight increase in its technical cooperation activities in spite of the unfavourable climate resulting from the changes in UNDP's technical cooperation policies and mechanisms;

3. Invites the Secretary-General to further intensify the Secretariat's efforts to raise governments' awareness of the importance of tourism and expand contacts with multilateral and bilateral financing institutions;
4. Notes with interest the satisfactory outcome of the meetings of the Regional Commissions which were all held, together with technical seminars, before the present Council session, as well as the calendar of technical meetings scheduled for the various regions in the course of this year;
5. Observes the progress made in the development and implementation of the new education and training instruments provided for in the programme;
6. Expresses its satisfaction at the initiative of the WTO Network of Education and Training Centres to provide new courses and scholarships for officials of national tourism administrations, supplementing those already offered in cooperation with the Governments of France and Italy;
7. Notes with interest the various meetings organized by or with the participation of WTO on tourism and the environment, as well as the world conference and exhibition on investment and tourism held in conjunction with the 1997 BIT international tourism fair at Milan;
8. Takes note of the various standard statistical publications disseminated in the first months of 1997;
9. Takes cognizance of the progress made in updating major research projects, such as the global tourism forecasts and the study on the budgets and promotional activities of national tourism administrations, in developing the satellite account for tourism and in preparing for the 1998 International Conference on Statistics and Measurement of the Economic Importance of Tourism;
10. Notes with interest the various operational activities carried out, under way or planned in implementation of the programme of work in the field of quality of tourism development;

Observing that, despite the excellent cooperation in the liberalization of trade in tourism services between WTO and the World Trade Organization, the English acronym employed by the latter, viz. WTO, is creating confusion between the identities of the two Organizations,

Aware that, in spite of the obvious anteriority of the World Tourism Organization in the use of this acronym, approaches to the World Trade Organization Secretariat on this matter have not been fruitful and concerned that this situation will create serious problems in the future,

11. Requests those in charge of tourism in the States Members of the Organization that are also Members of the World Trade Organization to raise the problem posed by this confusion of acronyms at the highest level within their governments and to keep the Secretary-General informed of the outcome of their action;
 12. Invites the Secretary-General to inform the Council of the results of these approaches as soon as he is in a position to summarize them;
 13. Approves the recommendations of the first meeting of the task force "Child prostitution and tourism watch";
 14. Commends the Secretary-General for the initiative of organizing an educational seminar on advanced tourism for diplomats, as part of the Secretariat's awareness-raising activities; and
 15. Notes with satisfaction the broad media coverage given to the Organization's information output, the large number of new publications issued since its previous session and the appreciable increase in sales.
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CE/DEC/4(LV)

Administrative, financial and statutory matters

**(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation
and plan of expenditure for 1997**

Agenda item 4(a)
(documents CE/55/4(a), CE/55/4(a) Add.1, CE/55/4(a) Add.2 and CE/55/4(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 examined the report of the Committee on Budget and Finance,

1. Takes note of the report on the 1997 plan of expenditure for execution of the programme of work, which balances expenditure with expected income;
 2. Observes that the plan of expenditure for the current financial year remains within the limits of the appropriations approved by the General Assembly;
 3. Urges Members that have not yet complied with their financial obligations to take the necessary steps to pay their contributions for 1997 as soon as possible, in order to facilitate the execution of the programme and avert delays;
 4. Approves the revised salary scales for officials of the Professional and Higher Categories, with retroactive effect to 1 January 1997, in accordance with the applicable provisions of the existing Staff Regulations and Rules and the recommendation of the United Nations to incorporate 5.26 per cent of the post adjustment into the base salary following the no-loss, no-gain principle;
 5. Takes note of the information provided by the Secretary-General concerning the issue of the United Arab Emirates' membership of WTO and the arrears due from that country, authorizes him to conclude with that State an agreement on the basis determined and asks to be informed at its next session of the budgetary and accounting consequences of the decisions that will be proposed to the General Assembly in this regard; and
 6. Also approves the winding up of the Fund in Trust for Members of the South Asia region, in accordance with Financial Regulation 10(3)(c) and with the decision taken by the WTO Commission for South Asia at its thirty-fourth meeting.
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CE/DEC/5(LV)

Administrative, financial and statutory matters

(c) Adoption of practical financial and administrative rules

Agenda item 4(c)
(documents CE/55/4(c), CE/55/4(c) Add.1 and CE/55/4(b))

The Executive Council,

Having before it documents CE/55/4(c) and CE/55/4(c) Add.1 concerning the draft Practical Financial and Administrative Rules drawn up to ensure effective financial administration and based on principles of economy,

Having heard the report of the Committee on Budget and Finance on this point,

1. Recognizes the usefulness of these Rules, established in accordance with Financial Regulation 13(1)(a), for better internal control of income and expenditure;
2. Expresses its satisfaction at the form in which the aforementioned provisions are presented;
3. Approves the change in title of this draft to “Detailed Financial Provisions”;
4. Adopts these Provisions, after incorporating the changes proposed by the Committee on Budget and Finance, in accordance with Financial Regulation 13(1)(a); and
5. Urges the Secretary-General to prepare the provisions, still pending, for regulating the publication disbursement procedures.

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CE/DEC/6(LV)

Administrative, financial and statutory matters

**(d) Auditors' report and administrative accounts
of the Organization for the financial year 1996**

Agenda item 4(d)
(documents CE/55/4(d) and CE/55/4(b))

The Executive Council,

Having before it the Auditors' report and administrative accounts of the Organization for the financial year 1996,

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

1. Notes that in the financial year 1996 the level of budgetary expenditure was maintained within the limit of approved appropriations;
 2. Expresses its satisfaction at the high level of arrear contributions collected and of the contributions received for the financial year 1996;
 3. Recommends the Secretary-General to pursue in 1997 his approaches to Members that owe contributions to the Organization in order to secure their payment;
 4. Entrusts the Secretary-General, in respect of former Affiliate Members with debts in excess of five years' contributions, with contacting the member States to which they belong in order to determine whether the Affiliate Members in question are still in business and to recuperate those debts; and
 5. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the General Assembly, with the favourable opinion of the Council, the administrative accounts for the financial year 1996.
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CE/DEC/7(LV)

Administrative, financial and statutory matters

**(e) Closing of the audited administrative accounts
of the tenth financial period (1994-1995)**

Agenda item 4(e)
(documents CE/55/4(e) and CE/55/4(b))

The Executive Council,

Considering document CE/55/4(e) reporting on the financial results of the audited accounts of the tenth financial period (1994-1995) and the report of the Committee on Budget and Finance referring thereto,

1. Notes that the closing of the accounts for the period on 31 December 1996 reveals a surplus balance of 902,616.26 dollars;
2. Expresses its satisfaction at the amount of this surplus, being the result of effective collection of arrear contributions; and
3. Decides to discuss the issue of the allocation of this amount under the agenda item on the draft programme budget prepared by the Secretary-General.

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CE/DEC/8(LV)

Administrative, financial and statutory matters

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

Agenda item 4(f)
(documents CE/55/4(f), CE/55/4(f) Corr.1 and CE/55/4(b))

The Executive Council,

Having been informed of the application of the provisions of Article 34 of the Statutes and paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes to the Members listed in document CE/55/4(f),

1. Notes with satisfaction that the Full Member **Cameroon** has reduced its arrears to less than the amount of its contributions for the two previous years and is therefore no longer liable to the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules;

Having considered the situation of Members benefiting from suspension of the provisions of Article 34 and/or paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes,

2. Also notes with satisfaction that, at the close of the financial year 1996, the Full Members **Costa Rica, Rwanda** and **Senegal** had complied fully with the conditions laid down in their payment plans;
3. Observes that, although the Full Member **Peru** did not comply with the conditions of its payment plan in the financial years 1995 and 1996, it had made a payment of 33,111.38 dollars to cover its contribution for 1997 and part of its arrears;
4. Requests the Secretary-General to inform it at its next session, preceding the General Assembly, of the compliance with their commitments by these Members and, in particular, by Peru, so as to be able to decide whether to maintain the suspension or reapply the provisions of paragraph 13;
5. Expresses concern over the contribution arrears of Members subject to the provisions of Article 34 of the Statutes and/or paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules; and

6. Entrusts the Secretary-General with pursuing his approaches to Members in arrears in order to agree with them on plans for their payment and to urge them to comply with the corresponding commitments.
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CE/DEC/9(LV)

Administrative, financial and statutory matters

(g) Contributions of Full, Associate and Affiliate Members

Agenda item 4(g)
(documents CE/55/4(g), CE/55/4(g) Add.1 and CE/55/4(b))

The Executive Council,

Having before it documents CE/55/4(g) and CE/55/4(g) Add.1 concerning the contributions of the Members of the Organization,

Having heard the report of the Committee on Budget and Finance on this point,

Decides to recommend the General Assembly:

- (1) to approve the Secretary-General's proposal to introduce into the Formula for fixing the contributions of member States a new schedule of deductions of 50, 75 and 87.5 per cent applicable to economic and technical factors, when estimating the capacity to pay of States with a small population, i.e. States with a population equal to or less than 1,000,000, 500,000 and 100,000, respectively;
- (2) to approve the Secretary-General's proposal to apply an additional schedule of direct deductions of 10, 20 and 25 per cent from the contribution of the last group in the scale of contributions for countries with a population equal to or less than 1,000,000, 500,000 and 100,000, respectively, and situated in the last group before applying the schedule of deductions set out in the previous point;

- (3) to approve the proposal of the Secretary-General that, in calculating the contributions for 1998-1999, the place left free by the United States of America in the first group of contributions should not be occupied by another Member so as to preclude any increase in contribution for the other Members of the Organization;
 - (4) to approve the application of the Formula limiting to 12.5 per cent the upward or downward variations in the contributions of Members changing groups in the period 1998-1999,
 - (5) to establish three levels of contributions for the Associate Members:
 - the first level would remain equal to the lowest contribution of Full Members for territories with a population of more than 100,000;
 - the second level would apply a deduction of 25 per cent to the contribution of the first level for territories with a population equal to or less than 100,000;
 - the third level would apply a deduction of 50 per cent to the contribution of the first level for territories with a population equal to or less than 50,000;
 - the variations in the contribution on applying the aforementioned deductions would be subject to the limit of 12.5 per cent;
 - (6) to fix the contributions of the Affiliate Members for 1998-1999 at 1,700 United States dollars a year, of which 1,400 dollars would represent their contribution to the Organization's budget and 300 dollars the allocation to their own programme of work; and
 - (7) to authorize the Secretary-General to take the necessary steps to replace pesetas by Euros at the appropriate time in the budgetary procedure and the assessment of Members' contributions.
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CE/DEC/10(LV)

**Recommendation by the Executive Council to the General Assembly
of a nominee for the post of Secretary-General
for the period 1998-2001**

Agenda item 5
(document CE/55/8)

The Executive Council,

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

Having heard the presentations by the four 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 fourteen votes to Mr. Francesco Frangialli (France), seven votes to Mr. Ignacio Aguirre Borrell (Spain), three votes to Mr. Mustafa El Alaoui (Morocco) and two votes to Mr. David Jacobus de Villiers (South Africa),

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

Decides to recommend the General Assembly to appoint Mr. Francesco Frangialli to the post of Secretary-General of the Organization for the period 1998-2001.

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CE/DEC/11(LV)

Draft programme of work and budget for the period 1998-1999

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

Agenda item 6(a)
(documents CE/55/5(a) rev. and CE/55/5(c))

The Executive Council,

Having considered the draft general programme of work and budget of the Organization for the period 1998-1999, prepared by the Secretary-General in accordance with Article 23(2) of the Statutes,

Having before it the reports of the Technical Committee for Programme and Coordination and of the Committee on Budget and Finance,

1. Notes that the draft budget presented by the Secretary-General surpasses the objective set by the Council in that it represents negative growth in real terms;
2. Approves the draft programme of work for 1998-1999 considering that it was prepared bearing in mind the proposals of Members;
3. Decides to replace the programme headings "Education and Training" and "Statistics and Market Research" by "Human Resource Development" and "Statistics, Economic Analysis and Market Research" as being more in keeping with the activities they denote;
4. Agrees especially with the proposal of the Technical Committee for Programme and Coordination to review its terms of reference, composition and activities in the light of the White Paper to be prepared on the future of the Organization, bearing in mind its implications for the programme of work;
5. Recommends the General Assembly to authorize the Secretary-General, exceptionally, to co-finance a Regional Commission meeting when this is held in a country classified by the United Nations among the Least Developed Countries;

Having noted the proposal of the Secretary-General concerning the use of the available surplus from the financial period 1994-1995,

6. Recommends the General Assembly to authorize the use of this surplus for strengthening activities of the Organization's programme of work in the biennium 1998-1999; and
 7. Further recommends the General Assembly to adopt the draft programme budget for 1998-1999 and urges the Secretary-General to execute the programme of work and budget in accordance with income actually received.
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CE/DEC/12(LV)

Affiliate Members

(a) Report of the Chairman

Agenda item 7(a)
(document CE/55/6(a))

The Executive Council,

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

1. Thanks him for it;
 2. Expresses its satisfaction at the activities carried out by the Committee of Affiliate Members since the previous session of the Executive Council in Tunisia;
 3. Welcomes the constitution of the new Advisory Council of the Affiliate Members and takes cognizance of its proposed activities;
 4. Takes note with satisfaction of the signature of an agreement between the Spanish Government and the Organization concerning the support provided to the Affiliate Members' Secretariat at Headquarters; and
 5. Notes with gratification the constant growth in the number of Affiliate Members.
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CE/DEC/13(LV)

Affiliate Members

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

Agenda item 7(b)
(document CE/55/6(b))

The Executive Council,

Having considered the report of its Sub-Committee for the Review of applications for affiliate membership, which met at Manila on 21 May 1997 in conjunction with its fifty-fifth session,

1. Endorses the recommendations of the Sub-Committee;
2. Decides to submit to the twelfth session of the General Assembly the following applications for affiliate membership:
 1. Asesores Turísticos Internacionales (ATI) (Spain)
 2. Asociación Ecuatoriana de Agencias de Viajes, Operadores de Turismo y Mayoristas (ASECUT) (Ecuador)
 3. Bechtel Corporation (United States of America)
 4. Câmara de Turismo do Estado do Rio Grande do Sur (Brazil)
 5. Centre for Leisure & Tourism Studies - North London University (CELTS) (United Kingdom)
 6. Comité régional du tourisme de l'Alsace (France)
 7. CTI - Consultoría Turística Integrada (Brazil)
 8. European Union of Tourist Officers (EUTO)
 9. Federal Association of the German Tourism Industry (Germany)
 10. Fundación Escuela de Negocios - MBA (Spain)

11. Hungarian Tourism Corporation (Hungary)
 12. Institute of Tourism Education and Training (Macau)
 13. Institute of Training, Research and Operational Consultancy (INSTROC) (Iran)
 14. International Institute of Convention Management (United States of America)
 15. International Trade & Exhibitions Group (ITE) (United Kingdom)
 16. ITM- Consultores en Hostelería & Turismo (Spain)
 17. Russian Association of Travel Agencies (Russian Federation)
 18. Russian Hotel Association (Russian Federation)
 19. Swiss Hotel Association - Hotel Management School "Les Roches" (Switzerland)
 20. The Tourism Partnership (United Kingdom)
 21. University of Veszprém (Hungary)
 22. Yassawi - State Joint-Stock Tourism Company (Kazakstan)
4. Notes that the Affiliate Member The Economist Intelligence Unit has been replaced by Travel & Tourism Intelligence (United Kingdom).
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CE/DEC/14(LV)

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

Agenda item 8
(document CE/55/7)

The Executive Council,

Having taken cognizance of the Secretary-General's report on the preparations for the twelfth session of the General Assembly, to be held at Istanbul, Turkey from 17 to 24 October 1997,

Having heard with interest the statement by the representative of Turkey concerning the preparation of the Istanbul General Assembly,

1. Notes with satisfaction that the agreement between the Government of the Republic of Turkey and the Organization was signed in October 1996, in accordance with the procedure adopted at the eleventh session of the General Assembly for the choice of venue of its sessions;
 2. Reiterates its gratitude to the Turkish authorities for the efforts already made to ensure the success of the Istanbul session of the General Assembly; and
 3. Takes due note of the structure of the Assembly and of the eight-day duration of the proceedings and related activities, including three round table meetings and a special programme for the Affiliate Members.
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CE/DEC/15(LV)

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

Agenda item 9
(document CE/55/9)

The Executive Council

1. Decides to hold its fifty-sixth and fifty-seventh sessions in conjunction with the twelfth session of the General Assembly at Istanbul, Turkey on 17, 18 and 24 October 1997; and
 2. Takes note with keen satisfaction of Portugal's offer to host its fifty-eighth session at Lisbon on 5 and 6 June 1998 on the occasion of EXPO 98.
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CE/DEC/16(LV)

Vote of thanks to the host country

The Executive Council,

Having considered the various items on the agenda of its fifty-fifth session in conditions of great efficiency and outstanding comfort, thanks to the facilities generously provided by the Government of the Philippines,

1. Expresses its most sincere gratitude to the Philippine Government;
2. Thanks the Philippine authorities for taking the initiative of organizing the World Tourism Leaders' Meeting so as to address the subject of the Social Impacts of Tourism, whose opening ceremony will be honoured by the presence of H.E. Mr. Fidel V. Ramos, President of the Republic of the Philippines; and
3. Requests the Secretary of Tourism of the Philippines, Mrs. Mina Gabor, to convey to Mr. Ramos the deepest satisfaction of all the Council Members who have been able to appreciate the traditional hospitality of the Philippine people and the quality of the host destination.

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CE/DEC/17(LV)

Vote of thanks to the Chairman

The Executive Council,

Recognizing the human and professional qualities that have made H.E. Mr. Slaheddine Maâoui an exemplary and outstanding Chairman,

Convinced that his serenity and capacity for work have contributed greatly to enhancing the prestige of the Executive Council and, consequently, that of WTO,

1. Expresses its appreciation of the remarkable skill with which he conducted the discussions on the main agenda items of this session, enabling the most sensitive issues to be resolved in the best possible manner; and
2. Adopts the present vote of thanks as a token of its gratitude and esteem to Mr. Slaheddine Maâoui for his services as Chairman of the Executive Council.

4. LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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

1. Delegates of the following Members of the Council: Cameroon, Chile, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, Ghana, Guatemala, India, Israel, Jamaica, Kenya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mexico, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Seychelles, South Africa, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, and Spain as a privileged Member.
2. The representative of the Associate Members (Macau).
3. The Chairmen of the following Regional Commissions: Africa, Americas, East Asia and the Pacific, Europe, Middle East and South Asia.
4. The representatives of the following member States: Armenia, Austria, Burkina Faso, Ecuador, Gabon, Jordan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Poland, Thailand, Uganda, Uruguay and Yemen, as observers.
5. The Holy See as Permanent Observer.
6. The Chairman of the Affiliate Members (International Federation of Tour Operators - IFTO).
7. The Chairman of the Committee on Budget and Finance (Germany).