



DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
AT ITS FORTY-FOURTH SESSION

Rome, Italy, 25-27 November 1992

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3. DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL

CE/DEC/1(XLIV)

Adoption of the Agenda

Agenda item 1

(documents CE/44/1 prov., CE/44/1 prov. Add.1, CE/44/1 prov. Add.2 and CE/44/1 prov.annot)

The Executive Council,

Having examined, in accordance with rule 4 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council, the provisional agenda and the supplementary provisional agenda,

Adopts both the provisional agenda and supplementary provisional agenda of its forty-fourth session.

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CE/DEC/2(XLIV)

Report of the Secretary-General

Agenda item 2

(document CE/44/2)

The Executive Council,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,

Noting with interest the reasonably positive trends registered in international tourism as well as its likely growth prospects,

Taking encouragement from the Organization's satisfactory financial situation and the enhanced rhythm of programme execution,

1. Expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General and the Secretariat staff for their continued efforts in pursuit of the Organization's statutory objectives; and
2. Approves the report of the Secretary-General.

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CE/DEC/3(XLIV)

Membership of the Organization

Agenda item 2
(document CE/44/2)

The Executive Council,

Having been informed that Panama has announced its intention to withdraw while El Salvador has indicated its desire to rejoin the Organization,

1. Requests the Secretary-General to communicate with the Panamanian authorities, inviting them to reconsider their decision;
2. Expresses its satisfaction at the prospect of El Salvador renewing its membership in WTO; and
3. Agrees that, pending consideration by the General Assembly of its application, El Salvador should be invited to take part in WTO's activities and receive services from the Organization.

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CE/DEC/4(XLIV)

General programme of work of the Organization
for the period 1992-1993

(a) Technical cooperation

Agenda item 3(a)
(document CE/44/3(a))

The Executive Council,

Having considered the Secretary-General's report on the Organization's technical cooperation activities,

Recalling its decision 3(XLIII) on this subject,

1. Takes note of the preliminary results of sectoral support missions completed, project execution and income credited to the Organization's budget during 1992;

2. Expresses interest in the information provided by the Secretary-General about new orientations for technical cooperation and development assistance, as defined in particular by resolution 44/211 adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1989;
3. Expresses its concern over the consequences for the Organization's cooperation activities and resources of the reform of support cost arrangements, national execution and the "programme approach";
4. Accordingly approves the strategy proposed by the Secretary-General aimed at informing and heightening awareness among governments of developing countries, the United Nations Development Programme and organizations of the United Nations system of tourism's importance for economic and social development and WTO's work in this field;
5. Desires that an ambitious programme of sectoral support missions be conducted and that WTO assist in preparing tourism development projects so as to cushion the effects of UNDP's new policy;
6. Decides that, pursuant to Article 3 of WTO's Statutes, "particular attention" should continue to be paid to the interests of the developing countries and that, consequently, the Organization's programme of work for 1994-1995 should be framed so as to maintain that priority despite foreseeable changes in international arrangements for multilateral development assistance;
7. Requests the Secretary-General to continue and broaden his contacts with bilateral and multilateral sources of development finance;
8. Requests the Secretary-General, when drawing up the 1994-1995 budget, to take account of the uncertain nature of financial resources resulting from technical cooperation activities; and
9. Decides to review developments in this area at its forty-fifth session, on the basis of the report to be submitted to that session by the Secretary-General.

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CE/DEC/5 (XLIV)

General programme of work of the Organization
for the period 1992-1993

(b) Education and training

Agenda item 3(b)
(documents CE/44/3(b)(c)(d)(e), CE/44/3(b)(c)(d)(e) Add.2
and CE/44/3(b)(c)(d)(e) Add.4)

The Executive Council,

Recalling its decision 4(XLIII) concerning the WTO Education and Training Network,

Having considered the reports submitted by the Secretary-General on this subject to the present session,

Convinced that the Network of WTO Education and Training Centres should be a leadership group composed of institutions that fully meet WTO's criteria for excellence,

1. Decides to adopt a two-tiered structure for implementing the Organization's education and training policy, whereby the Network will consist of "WTO Education and Training Centres" and "WTO Cooperating Institutions";
2. Recommends that, for the WTO Centres, the criteria approved by previous sessions of the Council and the Assembly should continue to be applied;
3. Recommends that Cooperating Institutions should at least meet the criteria for inclusion in the WTO World Directory of Tourism Education and Training Institutions;
4. Instructs the Secretary-General to submit applications to become WTO Centres or Cooperating Institutions to the WTO Centres for their opinion;
5. Decides that the corresponding opinions, together with the Secretary-General's recommendation, shall be transmitted, with the applications concerned, to the Council for decision;
6. Agrees that, prior to approval of Agreements with WTO Centres by the General Assembly, the Secretary-General may invite Centres whose applications have been approved by the Executive Council to participate in the activities of WTO Centres;

7. Decides that, in future, (a) only institutions established in member States and that have applied for and been granted the status of Affiliate Member shall be eligible to become WTO Centres, (b) only institutions that have applied for and been granted the status of Affiliate Member shall be eligible to become Cooperating Institutions;
8. Decides that the criteria approved shall serve as the basis for applications on the waiting list;
9. Decides further to expedite consideration of the pending application of T.C. Bogazici Universitesi (Turkey) with a view to a decision being taken on its request to become a WTO Centre at the Council's forty-fifth session; and
10. Agrees to give the same consideration to other pending applications on the waiting list once they have satisfied the relevant criteria.

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CE/DEC/6(XLIV)

General programme of work of the Organization
for the period 1992-1993

(c) Marketing and promotion

Agenda item 3(c)
(document CE/44/3(b)(c)(d)(e))

The Executive Council,

Having considered the information provided by the Secretary-General on the Organization's marketing and promotion activities,

1. Expresses its satisfaction at the report that WTO is to submit to the United Nations concerning the Recommendations of the International Conference on Travel and Tourism Statistics (1991);
2. Invites Members that participate in the United Nations Statistical Commission to support these Recommendations at national level through their National Statistical Offices;
3. Thanks France for the voluntary contribution it has made by placing an associate expert at the Organization's disposal;
4. Thanks the Republic of Korea for the voluntary contribution it has made by placing an expert official of its tourism administration at the Organization's disposal; and

- 5. Notes with interest that reports prepared on the basis of two surveys, concerning promotional budgets and the structure, spheres of competence and activities of NTAs, respectively, will be available in 1993.

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CE/DEC/7(XLIV)

General programme of work of the Organization
for the period 1992-1993

(d) Environment and development

Agenda item 3(d)
(documents CE/44/3(b)(c)(d)(e) and
CE/44/3(b)(c)(d)(e) Add.1)

The Executive Council,

Recalling its decisions 5(XXXIX), 4(XLI) and 4(XLIIII),

Having considered the reports submitted by the Secretary-General concerning environment and development activities and the Organization's participation in the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED),

Noting with satisfaction that the Secretary-General attended the "Earth Summit" (UNCED) at Rio de Janeiro in June so as to deliver a policy statement on tourism during the General Debate of the Conference,

Aware that the institutional arrangements for follow-up to UNCED are still under consideration by the present, forty-seventh, session of the United Nations General Assembly,

- 1. Notes with satisfaction the progress in implementing the Organization's environment and development programme;
- 2. Thanks the Secretary-General for the analysis provided of UNCED issues and their implications for tourism; and
- 3. Requests the Secretary-General to inform its forty-fifth session of decisions taken by the United Nations General Assembly concerning the follow-up to UNCED and, so far as possible, to reflect those decisions in WTO's future work programme in this area.

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CE/DEC/8(XLIV)

General programme of work of the Organization
for the period 1992-1993

(e) Facilitation and liberalization

Agenda item 3(e)
(documents CE/44/3(b)(c)(d)(e) and
CE/44/3(b)(c)(d)(e) Add.3)

The Executive Council,

Having considered the information provided by the Secretary-General concerning implementation of the Organization's programme in the fields of facilitation, liberalization, safety and health,

Having also considered the report of the fourth meeting of the Tourism Safety Committee, held at Antalya, Turkey on 19 October 1992,

1. Notes with satisfaction the Organization's co-sponsorship of a number of meetings related to the important issues of tourist health and safety;
2. Encourages the Secretary-General to give wide circulation to the conclusions of WTO/WHO conferences on food safety and tourism, such as those held at Tunis in 1991 and Cancun in 1992;
3. Approves the Tourism Safety Committee's report of its fourth meeting;
4. Expresses satisfaction at the Organization's continuing cooperation with the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) on liberalization of tourism services; and
5. Encourages the Facilitation Committee to pursue its programme of work and to report on progress to its forty-fifth session.

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CE/DEC/9(XLIV)

Administrative, financial and statutory matters

(a) Report of the Secretary-General

Agenda item 4(a)
(documents CE/44/4(a)(I), CE/44/4(a)(I) Add.1
and CE/44/4(a)(II))

The Executive Council,

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

1. Notes that, although only 60 per cent of the contributions payable by Members had been received by the date of this session, the balance between budgetary income and expenditure has been maintained within the recommended limits;
2. Urges Members of the Organization that have not yet paid their contributions for the current financial year to discharge their financial commitments as soon as possible; and
3. Expresses its satisfaction at the considerable amount of arrear contributions collected and asks the Secretary-General to persist in his efforts in this regard.

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CE/DEC/10(XLIV)

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/44/4(b) and CE/44/4(b) Add.1)

The Executive Council,

Having before it the report of the Secretary-General,

1. Welcomes the information that, in accordance with Assembly resolution 280(IX) and in response to the communications of the Secretary-General, Benin has paid its arrear contributions in full and agreement has been reached with Congo and the Affiliate Member Patronato Provincial de Turismo de Granada on plans for the payment of their arrear contributions and that they are consequently no longer liable to the provisions of Article 34 of the Statutes;
2. Notes that, owing to their failure so far to comply with the provisions of Assembly resolution 280(IX), it has been necessary to suspend the rights and privileges of membership, in accordance with Article 34 of the Statutes, in respect of the following Members:

Full Members: Mali and Sao Tomé and Príncipe

Affiliate Members: Conseil national du tourisme du Liban (Lebanon), Misr Aswan Tourism Company (Egypt), and Organización Nacional de Turismo Estudiantil y Juvenil (ONTEJ) (Venezuela);

Having noted the information provided in respect of Niger, Uganda and Yemen,

3. Decides to reapply to Niger the provisions of Article 34 of the Statutes and to Uganda the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules;
4. Requests the Secretary-General to contact the Yemeni Government authorities with a view to resolving the matter pending;
5. Reminds Members benefiting from suspension of the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules, in accordance with Assembly resolution 281(IX), that they are obliged to pay in 1992 the corresponding instalment in order to comply with the plans for payment of their arrears;
6. 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
7. Entrusts the Secretary-General with steadfastly pursuing his approaches to Members in arrears with a view to concluding agreements with them for the discharge of their outstanding contributions.

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CE/DEC/11(XLIV)

Administrative, financial and statutory matters

(c) Legal and statutory development of the Organization

Agenda item 4(c)
(documents CE/44/4(c) and CE/44/4(c) Add.1)

The Executive Council,

Recalling Assembly resolution 265(VIII),

Having been informed by the Secretary-General of the steps he has taken to implement Council decision 8(XLI) concerning revision of the Organization's statutory texts,

Taking note that the Secretary-General has laid before it at the present session an interim report in which proposals are made for the revision of certain of these texts,

Having held a preliminary exchange of views on the subject,

1. Decides to proceed to examine, at its forty-fifth session, the Secretary-General's conclusions and proposals;
2. Entrusts the Secretary-General with pursuing his consultations on this subject with member States, suitably qualified experts and the representatives of the Secretariat staff;
3. Requests its Members to forward to the Secretary-General their observations and comments on these proposals by 15 January 1993;
4. Confirms its desire, as expressed in decision 13(XLIII), of holding a policy debate at its forty-fifth session on WTO's future, including the implications of becoming a Specialized Agency of the United Nations; and
5. Decides that this debate should serve as a frame of reference for revision of the above-mentioned texts.

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CE/DEC/12(XLIV)

Guidelines for the preparation of the draft programme of work and budget for the period 1994-1995: discussion of approach and choice of procedure

Agenda item 5
(document CE/44/5)

The Executive Council,

Having considered the guidelines submitted by the Secretary-General for the preparation of the draft programme of work and budget for the period 1994-1995,

Having held discussions so as to determine a suitable approach and choice of procedure for the new programme,

1. Notes that not all Members have yet contributed their views on the desirable direction of the new programme;
2. Urges those Members that still wish their views to be taken into account to ensure that they reach the Secretary-General by 31 December 1992 at the latest;
3. Observes that, during the discussions concerning the future programme, the majority of Council members expressed their desire that the programme focus on the following areas: technical cooperation; education and training; environment and development; statistics, market research and documentation; facilitation, trade liberalization, health and safety; and publications;
4. Agrees that the programme budget for 1994-1995 should reflect the same financial principles and cost-containment measures as the programme budget of the present biennium;
5. Commends the Technical Committee for Programme and Coordination (TCPC) on holding a meeting on 27 November 1992 during the Council's present session so as to examine the Council's conclusions concerning the approach to be taken to the future programme of work and to review proposals from Members concerning that programme;
6. Decides to incorporate the TCPC's analysis into the Council's own conclusions on this subject, transmitting the whole to the Secretary-General so as to assist him in drawing up the Organization's draft programme of work for the period 1994-1995;

- 7. Requests the TCPC, pursuant to rule 9(3) of the Council's Rules of Procedure, to meet during the early part of 1993 at the Organization's Headquarters to examine the draft general programme of work for 1994-1995 prepared by the Secretary-General prior to its submission to the Committee on Budget and Finance (CBF) and to the forty-fifth session of the Council; and
- 8. Reaffirms the principle expressed in decisions 17(XXXIV) and 20(XXXV) that, for the preparation of the programme of work, the CBF and the TCPC should work in close cooperation.

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CE/DEC/13(XLIV)

Prospects for the regional strengthening of the Organization

Agenda item 6
(document CE/44/6)

The Executive Council,

Considering the need to strengthen the Organization's presence and activities in the field as part of WTO's regional policy,

Having held a preliminary debate on this subject during its forty-fourth session,

Mindful of the interest expressed in the setting up of support offices in the various WTO regions to strengthen the capacity of the Regional Representatives and reinforce WTO's field operations,

Aware that the financial situation of the Organization, present and foreseeable, necessitates a gradual, step-by-step approach to an enhanced regional presence,

Considering that the main factors determining the location of the first regional support office should be distance from Headquarters, volume of technical cooperation activity, and the prospects of serving more than one Regional Commission and of strengthening relations with existing regional tourism bodies,

Having studied the proposals submitted by the Secretary-General on this subject,

1. Authorizes the Secretary-General to initiate the first stage of the procedure he has proposed, namely to undertake consultations with member States able to host and finance a regional support office in Asia; and
2. Requests the Secretary-General to report to its forty-fifth session on the outcome of his consultations with a view to a decision being taken by the General Assembly at its tenth session.

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CE/DEC/14(XLIV)

Affiliate Members

(a) Report of the Chairman

Agenda item 7(a)
(document CE/44/7(a))

The Executive Council

1. Takes note of the report of the Chairman of the Affiliate Members, as presented by him;
2. Notes with satisfaction the progress made on the activities of the task forces set up to implement the programme of the Affiliate Members;
3. Welcomes the appreciable contribution made by the Affiliate Members to the regional seminars organized by WTO;
4. Encourages the Affiliate Members to persist in their efforts to enhance their role within the Organization; and
5. Thanks the Chairman of the Affiliate Members for his report.

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CE/DEC/15(XLIV)

Report of the Sub-Committee for the review of applications for affiliate membership

Agenda item 7(b)
(document CE/44/7(b))

The Executive Council,

Having considered the report of the Sub-Committee for the review of applications for affiliate membership, which met on 25 November 1992 at Rome under the chairmanship of Jordan and in conjunction with its forty-fourth session,

1. Endorses the recommendations of the Sub-Committee;
2. Decides that, pursuant to Assembly resolution 279(IX), the following applicants are admitted provisionally to affiliate membership of the Organization:
 - Economics Research Associates (ERA) (USA)
 - Frank - Tourism Consultant International (Nigeria)
 - Hong Kong Polytechnic (United Kingdom)
 - Institut de tourisme et d'hotellerie de Quebec (Canada)
 - Regina Tour (Moldova)
 - Russian Association of Social Tourism (Russian Federation)
 - T.C. Bogazici Universitesi (Turkey)
 - Visa International (USA)
3. Decides to submit these applications to the General Assembly for approval at its tenth session.

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CE/DEC/16(XLIV)

Affiliate Members

(c) Permanent Secretariat for the Affiliate Members at WTO Headquarters

Agenda item 7(c)
(document CE/44/7(c))

The Executive Council,

Recalling its decision 11(XLIII),

Recalling the offer by Spain, made at its forty-third session, of assistance in setting up a support office for the Affiliate Members in Madrid,

Having before it the proposal, dated 6 October 1992, submitted by the Government of Spain for the financing of a Permanent Secretariat of Affiliate Members at the Organization's Headquarters,

1. Thanks the Spanish Government for its generous offer which would make possible an increased level of services and cater more effectively for the needs of the Affiliate Members;
2. Accepts the offer in principle;
3. Authorizes the Secretary-General to study with the host country suitable means of implementing the proposal and to report on progress to its forty-fifth session; and
4. Decides to refer the Spanish offer to the tenth session of the General Assembly for approval.

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CE/DEC/17(XLIV)

Audience with His Holiness Pope John Paul II

The Executive Council,

Mindful that the Holy See has participated in the work of the World Tourism Organization since its inception,

Aware of the unique role played by its Permanent Observer in the life of the Organization, notably through emphasizing the spiritual and human aspects of tourism,

Recalling that, in all corners of the world, the first manifestations of tourism invariably took the form of religious pilgrimages,

1. Expresses its appreciation for the Private Audience granted by His Holiness Pope John Paul II to the Members of the Council on the occasion of its forty-fourth session;
2. Recalls with satisfaction that, ten years ago in November 1982, Pope John Paul II honoured the Organization by an official visit to its Madrid Headquarters;

- 3. Notes that, on that occasion as again today, the Holy Father did not fail to emphasize the moral, cultural, educational and social values of tourism, as well as underlining tourism's important contribution to world peace and mutual understanding between peoples;
- 4. Requests the Secretary-General to convey to Monsignor Giovanni Cheli, President of the Pontifical Council for the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Itinerant People, and to the Permanent Observer of the Holy See, Monsignor Pietro Fanto, the Council's deep appreciation for arranging the present Audience;
- 5. Extends a cordial invitation to the Holy Father to visit the Organization's Headquarters again on the occasion of a future pastoral visit to Spain; and
- 6. Decides that the Address of the Holy Father in reply to that the Secretary-General form an integral part of the proceedings of the present session and will be circulated with the compendium of decisions adopted at the session.

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CE/DEC/18(XLIV)

Information on the approaches made, at the Council's request, concerning the status of permanent representatives to the Organization

Agenda item 8
(documents CE/44/8 and CE/44/8 Add.1)

The Executive Council,

Having been informed by the Secretary-General of the approaches he made on this matter to the Spanish authorities,

- 1. Thanks the Spanish delegation for conveying their reply in this matter; and
- 2. Takes note of the information provided.

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CE/DEC/19(XLIV)

Procedure for the election of the Secretary-General of
the Organization for the period 1994-1997

Agenda item 9
(document CE/44/9)

The Executive Council,

Recalling Article 22 of the Statutes,

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

1. Considers that the rules and procedures adopted by the Council at its twenty-third session in May 1984 (decision 17(XXIII)), supplemented by those adopted at its thirty-fourth session in November 1988 (decision 19(XXXIV)), should also be followed at the forty-fifth session of the Council;
2. Invites the member States to propose candidates for the post of Secretary-General for the period 1994-1997, ensuring that their nominations reach the Organization's Headquarters by 18 March 1993 at the latest;
3. Requests candidates to submit, together with biographical and career information, details of the approach they would take to the duties of Secretary-General; and
4. Confirms that it is at its forty-fifth session that the Council will decide on the nominee it should recommend to the tenth session of the General Assembly for the post of Secretary-General for the period 1994-1997.

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CE/DEC/20(XLIV)

Election of the Council's Officers for 1993

Agenda item 10
(document CE/44/10)

The Executive Council

1. Expresses its appreciation to the Officers who served the Council throughout 1992; and,

- 2. Elects Cameroon to serve as Chairman of the Council in 1993 assisted by Uruguay as first Vice-Chairman and Finland as second Vice-Chairman.

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CE/DEC/21(XLIV)

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

Agenda item 12

The Executive Council,

Considering rule 3(2) of its Rules of Procedure,

Bearing in mind that many issues of importance for the Organization's future are to be decided at its forty-fifth session,

Decides to hold its forty-fifth session at the Organization's Headquarters from 18 to 20 May 1993.

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CE/DEC/22(XLIV)

Vote of thanks to the host country

The Executive Council,

Having concluded with success the work of its forty-fourth session held at Rome, Italy,

Requests the Italian delegation to the Council to convey to the Italian Government and to ENIT the Council's most sincere gratitude for the welcome extended to it in Italy.

A N N E X

ADDRESS BY THE HIS HOLINESS POPE JOHN PAUL II
TO THE MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
OF THE WORLD TOURISM ORGANIZATION

(The Vatican, 26 November 1992)

Mr. President,
Mister Secretary-General,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. I am happy to welcome the Executive Council of the World Tourism Organization today, having been so hospitably welcomed ten years ago at its headquarters in Madrid. This meeting gives me the opportunity to reiterate the value I attach to its work - as is witnessed to by the presence of a Permanent Observer of the Holy See with your Organization, and by the relations established between its General Secretariat and the Pontifical Council for the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Itinerant Peoples.

2. The documents published following your Manila and Sofia General Assemblies, and also the recommendations of The Hague Declaration, clearly show your growing attention to the contributions that tourism can make to human development. As is stipulated in the Tourist Code, for the sake of both present and future generations it is necessary to ensure the protection of the tourism environment, since its human, natural, social and cultural elements mean that it is part of the heritage of all the inhabitants of any country. If the growing economic importance of tourism means that it can constitute a driving force in a people's development, then "a true development, in keeping with the specific needs of the human being ... implies ... a lively awareness of the value of all and of each person. It likewise implies a lively awareness of the need to respect the right of every individual to the full use of the benefits offered by science and technology" (Sollicitudo rei socialis, 33). This is particularly important in the case of developing countries, which have become new holiday destinations.

3. Tourism is experiencing a great expansion in our times, but must not lose sight of the fact that its essential goal is the human being - a human being more open to the world and better able to relate to other traditions of wisdom or religious thought. In the encyclical Centesimus annus I spoke of the central place of the human being in economic activity, saying: "It is not only a question of raising all peoples to the level currently enjoyed by the richest countries, but rather of building up a more decent life through united labor, of concretely enhancing every individual's dignity and creativity, as well as his capacity to respond to his personal vocation, and thus to God's call" (Centesimus annus, 29). The opportunity that tourism offers to contemporary men and women is precisely that of creating - through a wise and effective education - the condition in which "a careful and respectful trip by tourists and open hospitality by hosts can turn simple visits into real encounters" (Speech to the Fourth World Congress for the Pastoral Care of Tourism). It is therefore most appropriate that you should have placed the question of training and education on your agenda - training for those who work in the tourism sector, but also education for those who travel.

4. Here I must echo the words of certain Asian bishops, who have expressed their horror over the degrading practice of sex tourism. Young people, both boys and girls, are being drawn into this industry, which treats them simply as objects. With you, I hear the voices of hundreds of thousands of children who are being abused and robbed of their moral and physical dignity: they are asking that they be truly assured the protection that is promised by international agreements and demanded by the human conscience.

5. With you too, I would express the hope that tourism can be rightly guided and directed, and thus serve the harmonious development of nations and lead to the discovery of the gifts that the Creator and Father of all has sown so abundantly in the universe and in the hearts of people of every race, language and culture. For these are the paths of peace.

May the God of peace and harmony bless you and keep you! May He help you in your work and be with you every day!

STATEMENT BY MR. ANTONIO ENRIQUEZ SAVIGNAC,
SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE WORLD TOURISM ORGANIZATION,
ON THE OCCASION OF THE AUDIENCE GRANTED
BY HIS HOLINESS POPE JOHN PAUL II

(The Vatican, 26 November 1992)

Most Holy Father,

You have before you the Members of the Executive Council of the World Tourism Organization, that is the delegates of the twenty-one countries, including Poland, that represent the 109 Member nations of our Organization. The current Chairman of the Council is Italy which is hosting this session.

You know WTO, for you visited us in Madrid just ten years ago in November 1982. You rightly underlined on that occasion the contribution of tourism to the development of poor countries. You stressed tourism's cultural and social dimensions. You insisted, and I quote, that "tourism is therefore in itself a value rather than a commonplace consumer item".

The same message, in substance, was reaffirmed here at Rome two years ago by the Fourth World Congress of the Pastoral of Tourism.

I believe I can say that all our Members constantly have this human and ethical dimension in mind. It guides the work of this session, to which as usual the Holy See, Observer Member of our Organization, represented by Monsignor Cheli, Monsignor Fanto and Monsignor Calime, has made a significant contribution.

Most Holy Father, in the name of all the participants, I extend our heartfelt gratitude for the honour which you have shown to WTO by receiving us today, and as a Mexican I welcome my country's renewal of official relations with the Vatican after a lapse of so many years.

4. LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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

1. Delegates of the following Members of the Council: Algeria, Argentina, Cameroon, Canada, China, Colombia, Egypt, Finland, Gabon, Greece, India, Italy, Jordan, Lesotho, Morocco, Poland, Republic of Korea, United Republic of Tanzania, Turkey, Uruguay and Spain as privileged Member.

2. The Permanent Observer, The Holy See.

3. The representatives of the following member States: Bulgaria, France, Japan, Mexico, Russian Federation, United States of America.

4. The Chairmen of the following Regional Commissions: East Asia and the Pacific (Indonesia), Europe (Switzerland), Middle East (Egypt), South Asia (India).

5. The Representative of the Affiliate Members (Club Méditerranée).

6. The Chairman of the Technical Committee for Programme and Coordination (Venezuela).

7. The representative of the Economic Commission for Africa as observer.