DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
AT ITS SEVENTH SESSION

(Madrid, 7-10 November 1977)

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CE/DEC/1(VII)

Progress report of the Secretary-General

Agenda item 2 (document CE/7/2)

The Executive Council,

Takes note of the progress report of the Secretary-General.

CE/DEC/2(VII)

Headquarters building of the Organization

Agenda item 2 (document CE/7/2)

The Executive Council,

Having taken note of the information supplied by the Secretary-General in his progress report on the supplemental agreement concerning the building which the Spanish Government undertook to construct, when Madrid was designated as Headquarters of the Organization, for the offices of the WTO Secretariat,

Having heard the comments of some delegations concerning the position at present which would indicate that construction of the building has not yet begun,

Recalls the difficulties created by the provisional nature of the Headquarters installations;

Entrusts the Secretary-General with bringing this decision to the attention of the Spanish authorities; and

Trusts that all appropriate action will be taken in this connection so that the Organization can occupy the building as soon as possible.
CE/DEC/3 (VII)

Membership of the Organization

Agenda item 3 (document CE/7/3)

The Executive Council,

Having taken note of the report on membership of the Organization,

Entrusts the Secretary-General with continuing the action taken to encourage States which are not yet Members of WTO to accede to the Organization and to bring States which have stated their intention of withdrawing from WTO to reconsider their decision; and

Invites Members prepared to contribute to such action to use their good offices to encourage the accession of certain States to WTO and, in the case of Trinidad and Tobago, Bahamas, Jamaica and Singapore, reconsideration of their decision to withdraw from the Organization and, for that purpose, to coordinate their action with the steps taken by the Secretary-General, obtaining from him any information they may require.

CE/DEC/4 (VII)

Candidates for membership of the Organization

Agenda item 3 (document CE/7/3)

The Executive Council,

Having taken note of the Secretary-General's report on membership of the Organization,

Considering that the General Assembly, which alone is empowered to approve candidatures for membership of the Organization, meets every two years and candidates accordingly may have to wait more than twenty months before being able to take part in certain activities of the Organization,
Recommends to the General Assembly that candidates whose applications have been notified to the Council receive certain WTO services, inter alia information documents with the exception of publications, and be invited to technical meetings and, subject to the agreement of the Members concerned, the meetings of the Regional Commissions.

CE/DEC/5(VII)

Communication of the delegation of the United States of America on errors and omissions committed by the Council and the Assembly during their meetings at Torremolinos from 23 May to 2 June 1977

Agenda item 4 (document CE/7/20(a))

The Executive Council,

Takes note of the remarks formulated by the delegation of the United States of America concerning certain aspects of the conduct of business at the second session of the General Assembly;

Notes that some of these remarks had already been formulated by other delegations;

Endorses these remarks insofar as they relate to deviations between the provisions of the Statutes and rules and regulations of the Organization and the manner in which these were applied;

Requests the Secretary-General to inform the General Assembly of the remarks formulated by said delegations so that any deviation between said provisions and their application can be avoided in future;

Directs the Secretary-General to ensure that the Statutes and rules and regulations of the Organization are strictly applied in the proceedings of all its organs, having recourse as and where necessary to the opinion of legal advisers; and

Recommends the General Assembly to invite the Members to ensure that the Statutes and rules and regulations are strictly applied in the organs of WTO.
Legal advice

Agenda item 4

The Executive Council,

Decides that, within the limits of the financial resources of the Organization, the Secretary-General should give priority to securing the opinion of legal advisers, in particular for meetings of the deliberative bodies of WTO; and

Further decides that all legal matters arising in relation to decisions taken by said bodies shall first be submitted by the Secretary-General to the legal advisers and, where applicable, referred to the Legal Working Party in order that the deliberative bodies of the Organization may have an authoritative legal opinion when subsequently considering such matters.

CE/DEC/7 (VII)

Request for a contribution adjustment by Lebanon

Agenda item 5 (document CE/7/20(b))

The Executive Council,

Having taken note of the request by Lebanon for a contribution adjustment,

Aware that the tragic events in Lebanon in 1976 and 1977 have weighed heavily upon the life of that nation and gravely affected the country's economy and tourism activity,

Recommends to the General Assembly:

(1) that Lebanon be exempted from the contributions payable in respect of the financial years 1976 and 1977;

(2) that Lebanon's contribution to the Organization's budget for the financial year 1978 be set at the level of the lowest contribution of Full Members of WTO; and

(3) that Lebanon's contribution for the financial year 1979 be examined in the light of this decision.
CE/DEC/6 (VII)

Interim administrative accounts
for the financial year 1977
Agenda item 6 (document CE/7/4)

The Executive Council,

Having taken note of the Secretary-General's report on the interim administrative accounts for the financial year 1977,

Observes with concern the delays in the payment of contributions by certain Full and Affiliate Members of the Organization, and

Anxiously to avoid any situation that might hamper the normal running of the Organization,

Entrusts the Secretary-General with sending telegrams to all Members that have not paid their contributions to the Organization's budget, inviting them to discharge their financial obligations to WTO as quickly as possible and drawing the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes to the attention of those Members to which said provisions will apply beginning on 1 January 1978.

CE/DEC/9 (VII)

Contributions in arrears due to differences in budgetary systems and financial years
Agenda item 7 (document CE/7/5)

The Executive Council,

Having taken note of the Secretary-General's report on contributions in arrears due to differences in budgetary systems and financial years,

Accepts the cases of justified arrears of Malawi and Tanzania, it being understood that said Members will respect the dates which they have notified to the Council for payment of their contributions.
CE/DEC/10 (VII)

**Distribution of WTO publications to Affiliate Members**

Agenda item 5 (document CE/7/6)

The Executive Council,

Having taken note of the Secretary-General's report on the financial implications of distributing WTO publications to Affiliate Members,

Considering that wider distribution of WTO publications to Affiliate Members would enable them to profit more from their membership of the Organization,

Entrusts the Secretary-General with carrying out a survey among Affiliate Members to determine which of the following four publications are of interest to said Members:

- World Travel Statistics,
- Travel Abroad - Frontier Formalities,
- Economic Review of World Tourism,
- Tourism Compendium;

Decides to grant Affiliate Members an appreciable reduction in the price of those of the above publications which they wish to receive.

CE/DEC/11 (VII)

**Convention on the privileges and immunities of WTO in the territories of its member States**

Agenda item 9 (document CE/7/7)

The Executive Council,

Takes note of the Secretary-General's report on preparatory measures concerning the Convention on the privileges and immunities of WTO in the territories of its member States and the meeting of the Legal Working Party in the final week of February 1978 (20-24 February); and
Entrust the Secretary-General with drawing up a synoptic table of the draft Convention and the observations made by Members and submitting the synoptic table to the Members of the Working Party at least fifteen days before its meeting.

CE/DEC/12(VII)

Terms of office of Members of the Council

Agenda item 10 (document CE/7/3)

The Executive Council,

Anxious to ensure strict and coherent application of the regulations governing the Organization;

Decides not to introduce in its Rules of Procedure the provision referred to in its decision 2(VI) whereby the date on which the beginning of its Members' terms of office would be modified, and accordingly not to recommend to the General Assembly amendment of rule 55(4) of the latter's Rules of Procedure;

Considers that this decision renders aforesaid decision 2(VI) null and void;

Decides however that the member States elected to the Council by the General Assembly at its second session may participate in the proceedings of the present session of the Council as observers with the right to speak but without the right to vote; and

Recommends the General Assembly to see that its session are regularly held towards the end of the year in order to avoid difficulties in applying the Organization's Statutes and rules and regulations.
CE/DEC/13(VII)

**Negotiations with the Governments of the Philippines and Sri Lanka concerning the conclusion of agreements for the establishment of the Regional Secretariats at Manila and Colombo**

Agenda item 11 (document CE/7/9)

The Executive Council,

*Takes note* of the Secretary-General's report on negotiations with the Governments of the Philippines and Sri Lanka concerning the conclusion of agreements for the establishment of the Regional Secretariats at Manila and Colombo; and

*Trusts* that the negotiations in progress will be concluded as soon as possible.

CE/DEC/14(VII)

**Report of the Working Party on regionalization**

Agenda item 12 (document CE/7/10)

The Executive Council,

*Takes note* of the report of the Working Party on the regionalization of WTO's activities (document CE/7/10) and the recommendations set out in Annex 1 thereto;

*Approves* said recommendations, with the exception of the footnotes to the Annex;

*Decides* to supplement paragraph 2 of said Annex as follows:

(g) to establish due coordination with intergovernmental bodies in the region engaged in tourism development and promotion; and

(h) to invite non-governmental bodies in the region engaged in tourism activities to become Affiliate Members of WTO;

and accordingly to submit the final text as attached to the present decision to the next General Assembly for consideration;
Recommends that the General Assembly decide at that time:

(a) that, on the basis of Article 19(g) of the Statutes, the Executive Council shall be entrusted with coordinating the activities of the various Regional Commissions and with coordinating those activities with the general programme of work of the Organization;

(b) that, on the basis of Article 23(2) of the Statutes, the Secretary-General shall be responsible for informing the Executive Council of the nature and progress of the work of the Regional Commissions;

(c) that, on the basis of General Assembly resolution 1(II) concerning the Regional Commissions, the Commissions shall for the aforesaid purposes forward their progress reports to the Secretary-General of the Organization;

and

Further recommends the General Assembly to examine, at its next session, the matter of membership of the Regional Commissions and the distribution of the Organization's Members within these Commissions.
Annex

1. Regionalization is a principle to which all member States adhere; they believe that regionalization should be so designed as to safeguard the international character of the World Tourism Organization, and indeed strengthen it.

2. The Regional Commissions are organs of the General Assembly of WTO, which the latter has empowered:

(a) to submit to the Secretariat General proposals concerning the preparation of the draft general programme of work of WTO;

(b) to draw up specifically regional programmes;

(c) to contribute fully to the implementation of the Organization's current programme;

(d) to propose candidates for election to the Executive Council of WTO, without prejudice to candidatures that may be proposed by one or more Members of the General Assembly;

(e) to establish working parties to study problems of special interest to the region;

(f) to carry out any other function which may be entrusted to them by the General Assembly;

(g) to establish due coordination with intergovernmental bodies in the region engaged in tourism development and promotion; and

(h) to invite non-governmental bodies in the region engaged in tourism activities to become Affiliate Members of WTO.

It is understood that each Regional Commission will, through its Chairman, report to the General Assembly on the activities it has undertaken since the previous session within the framework of its powers and duties.

3. (a) The Commissions should meet in ordinary session at least once a year. In those years when the General Assembly meets, the Commissions will meet at the same place on the day on which the Assembly opens.
(b) As organs of the General Assembly, the Commissions will apply the Assembly's rules of procedure and working methods, with as much flexibility as possible.

(c) Every two years the Commissions will elect officers, viz. one Chairman and Vice-Chairmen, taking the principle of rotation of office into account.

(d) Each Regional Commission should be assisted by a Regional Secretariat.

(e) The Regional Secretary is appointed by the Secretary-General after consultation with the Commission. He is responsible to the Secretary-General for:

- the management of the Regional Secretariat to which he is assigned;
- the administration of the Regional Secretariat staff;
- the preparation and holding of the Regional Commission's meetings;
- carrying out instructions of the Secretary-General concerning the implementation of the general programme of work in consultation with the Commission's Chairman;
- the execution of the regional programme of work within the limits of the human and material means available to him.

(f) The Regional Secretary is further responsible, to the Regional Commission, for the execution of its programme of work, and will report regularly to the Chairman of the Commission on this subject.

(g) The Regional Secretary should be appointed preferably from among nationals of countries other than that in which the Regional Secretariat is situated.

4. Regional activities carried out by the Commissions under the general programme of work will be financed out of the Organization's budget. Other activities should be financed out of funds in trust that may be established in accordance with paragraph 7 of the Financing Rules attached to the WTO Statutes.

5. The Affiliate Members of the Organization should be invited to all Regional Commission meetings.
CE/DEC/15(VII)

Depositary of the Statutes of the Organization

Agenda item 13 (document CE/7/11)

The Executive Council,

Having taken note of the Secretary-General's report on the measures taken to transfer the deposit of the Statutes of WTO from the Government of the Swiss Confederation as the provisional depositary to the Government of Spain as the permanent depositary,

Requests the Secretary-General to keep it informed of the results of the steps described in the said report.

CE/DEC/16(VII)

Introduction of Arabic

as an official language of the Organization

Agenda item 14 (document CE/7/12)

The Executive Council,

Notes the steps taken by the Secretary-General pursuant to General Assembly resolution 46(II) concerning the introduction of Arabic as an official language of the Organization; and

Invites the Secretary-General to submit to the next session of the Council the results of the study mentioned in paragraph 4 of document CE/7/12.

CE/DEC/17(VII)

Progress report on the general programme of work for the period 1976-1977

Agenda item 15 (document CE/7/13)

The Executive Council,

Takes note of the progress report on the general programme of work for the period 1976-1977 submitted by the Secretary-General.
CE/DEC/18(VII)

Preliminary measures for the execution of the general programme of work for the period 1978-1979
Agenda item 16 (document CE/7/14)

The Executive Council,

Takos note of the Secretary-General's report on preliminary measures for the execution of the general programme of work for the period 1978-1979.

CE/DEC/19(VII)

Basic documents of WTO
Agenda item 16 (document CE/7/14)

The Executive Council,

Entrusts the Secretary-General with publishing in all the official languages of the Organization a collection of basic documents of WTO, inter alia the Statutes, the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly and the Executive Council, the Staff Regulations, the Financial Regulations, the Agreement between UN and WTO, the Agreement between UNDP and WTO, the Agreements with the Governments of the States hosting the Regional Secretariats, the Convention between WTO and Spain, and a list of member States of WTO indicating the dates of adoption of the Statutes; and

Requests the Secretary-General to republish said collection periodically in order to include other basic documents of the Organization, as approved or signed, together with such alterations and additions to the previously published texts as may be adopted.
CE/DEC/20 (VII)

1980 World Tourism Conference
Agenda item 17 (document CE/7/15)

The Executive Council,

Takes note of the Secretary-General's report on the preparatory steps for the 1980 World Tourism Conference;

Entrusts the Secretary-General with implementing the programme of activities outlined in the said report; and

Decides, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 36 (II), to authorize the Secretary-General to draw from the special banking account established under Council decision 5 (III) the funds required for preparing the World Tourism Conference as set forth in the said report, amounting to 78,350 dollars for 1978 and 75,900 dollars for 1979.

CE/DEC/21 (VII)

World Tourism Day
Agenda item 18 (document CE/7/16)

The Executive Council,

Confirming that the possibility should be considered of organizing and celebrating a World Tourism Day each year,

Entrusts the Secretary-General with inquiring into the interest which the introduction of such a Day holds for member States;

Requests the Secretary-General to report to the Council on the financial implications which such an annual Day would have for the Organization's budget; and

Decides to set up an ad hoc working party to continue the study of this matter undertaken by a working party of TUOTO.
CE/DEC/22(VII)

Vocational training activities
Agenda item 19 (document CE/7/17)

The Executive Council,

Takes note of the Secretary-General's report on the vocational training activities of the Organization;

Notes that the installation of CIEST has commenced thanks to the facilities offered by the Mexican Government and that preliminary studies concerning the operation of the Centre have been undertaken, which are to provide for appropriate bodies responsible for its management and administration and the planning of its activities;

Requests the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to accelerate the arrangements for launching CIEST's vocational training activities, and inform the next session of the Council of steps taken in this respect;

Similarly requests the Secretary-General to draw up a draft budget for the launching of CIEST's activities and submit it to the Council for consideration; and

Further requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Council as swiftly as possible the information and report for which General Assembly resolution 40(II) calls.

CE/DEC/23(VII)

Election of the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the Council
Agenda item 20 (document CE/7/18)

The Executive Council,

Elects the following Officers for one year:

Chairman: Poland
Vice-Chairmen: Peru
Morocco;
Notes that the order in which the Vice-Chairmen will be called, as fixed by the Chairman on their election, shall be (1) Peru and (2) Morocco; and

Notes the reservations of various delegations concerning the right of the Members of the Council, as at present constituted, to elect permanently the Officers of the new Council.

CE/DEC/24(VII)

Recruitment of Secretariat staff

Agenda item 21(a)

The Executive Council,

Considering that staff recruitment in WTO should be based on the principle of equitable geographical distribution,

Convinced that to secure a regional balance in the Organization's staff it is necessary to abolish the restriction that candidates should have, besides a main language, a perfect knowledge of a second official language of the Organization, and

Recognizing that recruitment should also be based on such other considerations and standards as the technical knowledge, personal qualities and professional competence of candidates,

Requests the Secretary-General:

(1) to report to the Executive Council at its next session on the rules and procedures concerning language requirements applied by other international organizations in the recruitment of staff;

(2) to consider for future recruitment the possibility of calling upon, if necessary, the services of UNDP field offices or any other bodies in a proper position to make an initial screening of candidates.
CE/DEC/25(VII)

**Proposed amendment to the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes**

Agenda item 21(b) (document CE/7/20(a))

The Executive Council,

**Considering** that the periods laid down in paragraphs 9 and 12 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes compel the Committee on Budget and Finance to examine the budget estimates before it has received the report on the administrative accounts of the Organization for the last financial year,

**Asks** the Secretary-General to transmit to the Full Members at least six months before the third General Assembly, in accordance with Article 33 of the Statutes, a suggested amendment to paragraph 12 of the Financing Rules that would reduce to two months the period of six months now stipulated for notifying Members of the Organization of the amount of their contribution to the Organization; and

**Requests** the third General Assembly to consider the amendment for adoption, in accordance with the same Article of the Statutes.

CE/DEC/26(VII)

**Place and date of the eighth session**

Agenda item 22

The Executive Council,

**Decides** to hold its eighth session at the Headquarters of the Organization in the last week of April 1978.
4. Members represented at the seventh session of the Council

1. Delegates of the following Members of the Council attended the session: Bangladesh, Belgium, Cameroon, France, Indonesia, Jordan, Lebanon, Nigeria, Panama, Peru, Poland, Senegal, Thailand, Tunisia, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United States of America, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zambia.

2. The Chairman of the Technical Committee for Programme and Coordination (Mexico) was present.

3. The Chairman of the Committee on Budget and Finance (France) was present.

4. The Committee of Affiliate Members was represented by its Chairman.

5. Egypt, Greece, Kenya, Morocco, Pakistan and Spain, elected to the Council at the last General Assembly and invited to the seventh session of the Council, were represented.

6. A representative of the Philippines attended the session as an observer.