Opening of the session

1. Adoption of the agenda (document CE/109/1)

   In accordance with Rule 4(1) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council, the provisional agenda for the session was drawn up by the Secretary-General in agreement with the Chair of the Council. It covers all matters referred to the Council in accordance with Article 19 of the Statutes and with decisions adopted by the Council at previous sessions. The Council is invited to adopt the agenda submitted to it.

2. Communication of the Chair (document CE/109/2)

   The Chair of the Council opens the session with a communication to the members, in accordance with decision CE/DEC/3(LVIII) adopted in Lisbon, in June 1998.

3. Report of the Secretary-General

   (a) General Programme of Work (document CE/109/3(a))

       A report is submitted on the activities undertaken by the Secretariat for the implementation of the general programme of work, in line with the priorities approved by the Council at its 108th session. The Secretary-General proposes to initiate the process of drafting the UNWTO Strategic Plan towards 2030.

   (b) UNWTO Financial Report

       i. Report of the Programme and Budget Committee

           The Programme and Budget Committee provides its analysis of the information provided by the Secretariat on programme-related, financial, administrative and statutory matters and issues its recommendations to the Council.

       ii. UNWTO Financial Report for the period ended 30 June 2018 (document CE/109/3(b)ii)

           A report is submitted on the current financial situation of the Organization and the outlook for the next several months. A proposal is put before the Council on how to return to the Working Capital Fund advances made to the Regular Budget in past years.

   (c) Progress on the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) recommendations (document CE/109/3(c))

       The Secretariat reports to the Council on the actions taken regarding recommendations issued by the Joint Inspection Unit. A new reporting format is proposed.
(d) Other administrative and statutory matters

i. Membership (document CE/109/3(d)ii)

The Secretary-General reports to the Council on measures taken to attract non-member States to join or re-join the Organization.

ii. Human resources (document CE/109/3(d)iii)

The Secretary-General informs the Council on the structure and human resources situation of the Secretariat. Council has before it proposed amendments to the Staff Regulations and the Staff Rules for endorsement or approval.

iii. Status of ratification of amendments to the Statutes and of the 1947 Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies (document CE/109/3(d)iii)

The Council is updated on the ratifications of amendments already adopted, in particular, the amendment to Article 33 of the Statutes adopted by the General Assembly at its 22nd session. An update is also provided on the status of ratifications of the 1947 Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies and the application of its Annex XVIII relative to the UNWTO.


The Council is updated on the arrangement being carried out by the Secretariat for the holding of the 23rd session of the General Assembly in St. Petersburg, Russian Federation, in 2019. The Council has before it a proposal regarding the scheduling of other statutory meetings leading up to Assembly session.

5. Affiliate Members

(a) Report of the Chair of the Affiliate Members (document CE109/5(a))

The Council is to consider the report of the Chair of the Affiliate Members, in accordance with Rule 4(2)(g) of its Rules of Procedure.

(b) Report of the Committee for the Review of Applications for Affiliate Membership

The Council is presented with the recommendations the Committee has made regarding applications for affiliate membership reviewed at its meeting held in parallel to the proceedings of the 109th session of the Council.

6. Election of the Vice-Chairs of the Executive Council for 2019 (document CE/109/6)

The Council will consider candidatures and elect its Vice-Chairs for 2019.

Closure of the session