

Executive Council

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Toledo, Spain

10 -11 June 2026

Agenda item 6**Reports of the subsidiary bodies of the Council**

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**Conclusions of the meetings of the subsidiary bodies
of the Executive Council since its 124th session****Executive summary**

The following subsidiary bodies of the Executive Council have held meetings since the 124th session of the Executive Council that was held in the framework of the 26th session of the General Assembly (8 November 2025, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia): Committee on Tourism and Competitiveness, Committee on Statistics, Committee on Tourism and Sustainability, Interinstitutional Working Group on Tourism and Climate Action and Technical Committee on Tourism Online Education.

In addition, the following committees will hold meetings on 10 June 2026 in Toledo, in the framework of the 126th session of the Executive Council and will report to the Council: Programme and Budget Committee and Committee on Matters Related to Affiliate Membership.

DRAFT DECISION¹

Agenda item 6

Reports of the subsidiary organs of the Council

(documents CE/126/6 rev.2, MPIC/SC/2025, MPIC/SC/2026, CTS/21/SumConcl., CTS/22/SumConcl., IWGCA/1/minutes, IWGCA/2/minutes CE/124/PBC30 and CE/126/CMAM/9)

The Executive Council,

Having examined the reports of the following subsidiary organs of the Council:

- The Committee on Tourism and Competitiveness,
 - The Committee on Statistics,
 - The Committee on Tourism and Sustainability,
 - The Interinstitutional Working Group on Tourism and Climate Action,
 - The Technical Committee on Tourism Online Education,
 - The Programme and Budget Committee, and
 - The Committee on Matters Related to Affiliate Membership,
1. *Thanks* the members of its different subsidiary organs for the valuable results so far achieved;
 2. *Takes note* of the information and recommendations provided by the aforementioned subsidiary organs;
 3. *Encourages* them to carry out their proposed initiatives;
 4. *Invites* the Members to actively participate and support the committees by providing input to their endeavours, and

Having read the Tentative Work Plan 2026-2027 of the Interinstitutional Working Group on Tourism and Climate Action as shown in the minutes of the 2nd meeting of the committee ([IWGCA/2/minutes](#)),

5. *Approves* the Work Plan 2026-2027 of the Interinstitutional Working Group and Climate Action to be implemented on a voluntary basis and in accordance with the Programme of Work and Budget of the Organization.

¹ This is a draft decision. For the final decision adopted by the Executive Council, please refer to the Decisions document issued at the end of the session.

I. Introduction

1. As per Rule 14 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council, any resolutions, recommendations or other formal decisions of the Council and its subsidiary organs shall be transmitted by the Secretary-General to the Members of the Organization.
2. This document reports on conclusions drawn by the subsidiary organs of the Council since the twenty-sixth session of the General Assembly held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, on 7 to 11 November 2025.
3. Since the 124th session of the Council, held on 8 November 2025 in the framework of the Assembly, the following subsidiary organs of the Council have met:
 - (a) Committee on Tourism and Competitiveness
 - (b) Committee on Statistics
 - (c) Committee on Tourism and Sustainability
 - (d) Interinstitutional Working Group on Tourism and Climate Action
 - (e) Technical Committee on Tourism Online Education
4. In addition, the following committees will meet on 10 June 2026 in Toledo, in the framework of the 126th session of the Executive Council and will report to the Council:
 - (a) Programme and Budget Committee
 - (b) Committee on Matters Related to Affiliate Membership

II. Committees

A. Committee on Tourism and Competitiveness

5. The Committee on Tourism and Competitiveness (CTC) has held two meetings since reporting last to the Executive Council.
6. The 17th meeting of the Committee was held on 7 November 2025 in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, on the occasion of the 26th session of the General Assembly. The meeting provided a follow-up of the progress achieved by the Committee, specially focused on three main components of the Organization's Flagship initiative "World Tourism Report" which is expected to be published in 2026: policy benchmarking, performance indicators as well as foresight and thematic chapters.
7. A briefing paper was also presented on [50 Years of Tourism: Global Trends and Future Scenarios](#) at the 26th session of the General Assembly, a review of how tourism has evolved in the past five decades, including a forecast for 2030 and possible scenarios for the future of the sector.
8. The 18th meeting of the Committee, held on 20 January 2026 in Madrid, Spain, focused on the latest developments related to the World Tourism Report, combining analysis of tourism policies and national planning with data-based assessment of sector performance across economic, social, environmental, and governance dimensions as well as on the priorities of the CTC Programme of Work for 2026-2027.
9. The CTC members agreed to move forward with the programme of work for 2026-2027, as approved by the 26th General Assembly (resolution 780(XXVI)) emphasizing tourism carrying capacity and domestic tourism as areas requiring further work and attention.

B. Committee on Statistics

10. The Committee on Statistics has held one meeting since reporting last to the Executive Council.
11. The 21st meeting of the Committee was held from 7 to 8 November 2025 in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, in the framework of the 26th session of the General Assembly.

12. The meeting reviewed the draft programme of work for 2026-2027 related to tourism statistics and called for strengthened resources in this area to ensure its implementation. It also discussed about the progress in the worldwide implementation of the Statistical Framework for Measuring the Sustainability of Tourism (SF-MST), noted advancements in countries, and supported the development of a core set of MST-based indicators for international comparability, in close coordination with OECD and Eurostat.
13. Furthermore, the members of the Committee welcomed the development of a model questionnaire as a practical tool for countries to measure host community perceptions toward tourism in a harmonized way, recognizing it as a highly solicited aspect of the SF-MST.
14. The Committee also supported the continued development of a harmonized Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) Framework for Tourism Businesses, welcoming the planned creation of an Expert Group and a draft framework expected in 2026.

C. Committee on Tourism and Sustainability

15. The Committee on Tourism and Sustainability held two meetings since reporting last to the Executive Council.
16. The Committee on Tourism and Sustainability held its 21st meeting on 7 November 2025 in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, on the occasion of the 26th session of the General Assembly.
17. In the meeting, the members of the Committee noted the Secretariat's overview of the progress achieve in a number of key areas of work, namely: the significance of engagement with the United Nations General Assembly for elevating tourism within the wider UN system; the key findings on biodiversity and nature-positive tourism; the ongoing support to the signature of the Glasgow Declaration on Climate Action in Tourism; the role of the observatories in advancing sustainable transformation at sub-national level and the progress report on the Global Tourism Plastics Initiative.
18. The 22nd meeting of the Committee on Tourism and Sustainability (CTS) was held in Madrid, Spain, on 22 January 2026. The meeting marked the beginning of a structured process through which Member States, acting through the Committee on Tourism and Sustainability, will guide the Road Map for the International Year of Sustainable and Resilient Tourism 2027 (IYSRT27).
19. Recognizing the importance of strong Member State leadership and regional ownership, the Committee also agreed to establish a IYSRT27 Steering Committee composed of CTS members, the Chairs of UN Tourism's Regional Commissions, and selected partners, as appropriate (see CE/126/5).

D. Technical Committee on Tourism Online Education

20. The 7th meeting of the Technical Committee on Tourism Online Education was held online on 10 December 2025. The meeting marked the beginning of a new mandate cycle for 2025-2029 and the election of Portugal as Chair and Uruguay as Vice-Chair.
21. During the session, the Education 2025 Report was presented highlighting the UN Tourism 360° Education Framework that covers six pillars: secondary education, higher education, executive education, online learning, international academies and quality assurance via TedQual certification.
22. The Committee also endorsed the scholarship distribution proposal for 2026 with the following geographical allocation: 50% for Africa, 30% for Asia and the Pacific and 20% for the Americas. The members also approved prioritizing countries that redeemed more than 50% of their scholarships in 2025.

III. Working Groups

A. Interinstitutional Working Group on Tourism and Climate Action

23. The Interinstitutional Working Group on Tourism and Climate Action held its first meeting on 7 November 2025 before the 124th session of the Executive Council held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, on 8 November. The Council took note of the terms of reference for the operation of the Interinstitutional Working Group on Tourism and Climate Action (decision 2(CXXIV)).
24. During its first meeting, the Working Group elected Brazil as Chair and Maldives and Antigua and Barbuda as Vice-Chairs among its 29 members. The Working Group requested the Secretariat to support the development of a two-year work plan, aligned with the priorities identified and operating in accordance with the Programme of Work and Budget of the Organization, particularly building on the work of the One Planet Sustainable Tourism Programme. Members were invited to contribute to the work plan and designate a technical focal point to liaise with the Secretariat. Additional Member States can join the Working Group on a continuous basis.
25. At its 2nd Meeting, held in two online sessions on 23 and 30 April 2026 to accommodate different time zones, the Working Group reviewed progress made since its first meeting and advanced the preparation of its Work Plan for 2026–2027. The Secretariat presented a framework structured around four strategic pathways: Policy, to strengthen tourism climate action policies in support of national climate goals; Finance, to improve access to finance for tourism climate action; Solutions, to scale replicable approaches for decarbonization and adaptation; and Engagement, to build capacities and mobilize stakeholders for implementation.
26. The Chair of the Committee requested that the Secretariat circulate the final draft of the work plan to members by 4 May. Members would then be invited to provide comments and validation of the draft by 15 May, after which, in the absence of comments, the work plan would be considered validated for submission to the Executive Council.
27. Working Group Members welcomed the proposed strategic pathways and tentative Work Plan, emphasizing the need for a pragmatic, flexible and action-oriented approach, combining Secretariat support and member-led action. The proposed activities include Working Group meetings, technical exchanges, peer-learning sessions, dissemination of online courses, support to COP31 and COP32 Tourism Days, and the development of practical outputs such as guidance on adaptation and a compilation of decarbonization and adaptation solutions. Members were invited to provide comments and validated the draft Work Plan for submission to the Executive Council.

IV. Committee meetings in the framework of the 126th session of the Council

28. The 31st meeting of the Programme and Budget Committee (PBC) will be held on 10 June 2026 before the 126th session of the Executive Council. Under the chairmanship of Peru and vice-chairmanship of Switzerland, the Committee will review all documents related to the budget and the programme of work of the Organization, before consideration by the Council.
29. The 9th meeting of the Committee on Matters Related to Affiliate Membership (CMAM) will be also held on 10 June 2026, before the Council's session. Under the chairmanship of Argentina, the Committee will review, validate and recommend to the Council to provisionally admit entities, in accordance with the provisions of Article 6(g) of the Charter of Affiliate Membership, pending ratification by the General Assembly at its 27th session.
