

Agenda Item III(a): Summary of the 42nd to 44th EXCOM Meetings

Executive Summary

i. Introduction

1. This document reports on matters covered in reports and decisions already made by the Executive Committee (EXCOM) since the 11th TPO General Assembly held in Jeonju, Korea, from September 12 to 15, 2023.
2. Since the 11th General Assembly, the Executive Committee has held three ordinary EXCOM Meetings and one Inter-sessional Meeting in writing, whose dates and venues were as follows:
 - 42nd EXCOM Meeting (May 22, 2024, Busan)
 - 43rd EXCOM Meeting (October 24, 2024, Taiping)
 - Inter-sessional Meeting in writing (December, 2024)
 - 44th EXCOM Meeting (May 14, 2025, Guangzhou)

ii. TPO Organizational Matters

1. TPO Bureau (44th)

The benefit package for future TPO Bureau members, proposed by the Secretariat, was approved at the 44th Meeting, in accordance with Article 10, Paragraph 8 of the TPO Statute. The Committee authorized the Secretariat to announce the official call for candidates for the 2026-2027 term, reflecting the approved benefits.

2. Composition of the TPO Executive Committee (44th)

The procedure for appointing the EXCOM for the 2026-2027 term was approved at the 44th Meeting. The Secretariat was requested to proceed with the process.

3. TPO Secretary General (43rd)

Ms. Kang Da-eun was recommended by Busan Metropolitan City as the 5th TPO Secretary General candidate at the 43rd Meeting. The Committee decided by consensus to recommend the candidate to the TPO President for appointment, in accordance with Article 11, Paragraphs 2 and 3 of the TPO Statute.

Ms. Kang was appointed, and took office as the 5th TPO Secretary General on December 1, 2024.

4. Statutory and Administrative Reforms (44th, 45th)

At the 44th Meeting, the Secretariat highlighted the need for institutional recognition of TPO Regional Meetings in the TPO Statute. The Committee

welcomed the suggestion, and the Secretariat is expected to present a draft for review at the 45th Meeting, and submit it for approval at the Plenary Session of the 12th General Assembly.

5. Globalization of the TPO (42nd, 43rd)

At the 42nd Meeting, the Committee reviewed the Secretariat’s proposal to strengthen TPO’s global outreach through Sister and Friendship Cities. At the 43rd Meeting, members expressed support and proposed using networks, while the Secretariat reported ongoing collaboration with UN Tourism and other partners. The Secretariat has been actively pursuing globalization efforts, including participation in Member cities’ tourism initiatives, international tourism fairs, and outreach in new regions such as Europe and Central Asia.

iii. TPO Activities

1. Global Tourism Summit (Inter-sessional)

At the Inter-sessional EXCOM Meeting in writing in December 2024, the Committee approved the new initiative, “Global Tourism Summit”, proposed by the TPO President, Busan Metropolitan City. With financial support from the President City, the Secretariat is working closely on preparations for the event. The Summit is scheduled to take place from October 27 to 29, 2025.

2. Global Campaign and Establishment of Innovation Lab (44th)

The Secretariat presented a proposal for a new initiative, which includes the establishment of an Innovation Lab and the launch of a Global Campaign to strengthen inter-city cooperation through research, joint promotion, and policy support. To lay the groundwork for the project, the Secretariat is taking steps to address the statutory gap on research functions by proposing amendments, while seeking potential partners for the project.

3. Draft Program of Work for 2025, 2026 (43rd, 44th)

The draft Program of Work for 2025 was reviewed and approved at the 43rd Meeting. The draft Program of Work for 2026 was shared well ahead of time, at the 44th Meeting, to allow member cities sufficient time to incorporate the proposed activities into their internal planning and budgeting processes. The draft was reviewed and approved at the meeting.

iv. Financial Matters of the Organization

1. Appointment of Auditor for the Fiscal Year 2023, 2024 (42nd, 44th)

Ipoh City was appointed as the auditor for the Fiscal Year 2023 and 2024, respectively, at the 42nd and 44th Meetings.

2. Approval of Audit Reports for the Fiscal Year 2022, 2023 (42nd, 44th)

The Audit Report for the Fiscal Year 2022, produced by officials from Ho Chi Minh City, was approved at the 42nd Meeting. The Audit Report for the Fiscal Year 2023, produced by officials from Ipoh City, was approved at the 44th Meeting.

3. Approval of Financial Statements, Budget Plan and Adjustments (42nd, 43rd, 44th)

The Financial Statement for the Fiscal Year 2023 was approved at the 42nd Meeting, and the Financial Statement for the Fiscal Year 2024 was approved at the 44th Meeting.

At the 42nd Meeting, adjustment of the Budget Plan for the Fiscal Year 2024 was approved. The 43rd Meeting approved the Budget Plan for the Fiscal Year 2025, which was later adjusted and reapproved at the 44th Meeting.

v. TPO Membership Management

1. Approval of New Membership (42nd, 43rd, 44th)

New members were approved at the following Executive Committee sessions in accordance with Article 6 of the TPO Statute.

- 42nd Meeting: SCS Tour (Korea), Al Muneer Travels and Tour Sdn Bhd (Malaysia) – Category 3
- 43rd Meeting: Almaty (Kazakhstan) – Category 1
- 44th Meeting: Ulaanbaatar (Mongolia) – Category 1

2. Membership Termination of Existing Members (42nd, 43rd, 44th)

In accordance with Article 7 of the TPO Statute, the Secretariat reported the termination of membership of members who submitted a termination request in writing.

- 42nd Meeting: Batam (Indonesia), Kuala Kangsar (Malaysia) – Category 1
- 43rd Meeting: EATOF (East Asia Inter-Regional Tourism Federation, Korea) – Category 2
- 44th Meeting: Daegu Jung-gu (Korea) – Category 1, JTB Corp. Fukuoka Branch (Japan) – Category 3

vi. Future TPO Meetings

1. Guidelines for General Assembly and Forum Host Cities (44th)

The 44th Meeting approved the guidelines proposed to established a formalized and transparent selection process for host cities of future TPO General Assemblies and Forums. The guidelines were applied during the Call for Expression of Interest (Eoi) to Host the 13th General Assembly (2027) and 11th Forum (2028), circulated on June 18, 2025.

2. Venue for Executive Committee Meetings (42nd, 43rd)

At the 42nd Meeting, Taiping (Malaysia) was welcomed as the host of the 43rd Meeting, which was held on October 24, 2024.

At the 43rd Meeting, the hosts for the upcoming Meetings were concluded as follows:

- 44th Meeting: Guangzhou, China (First half of 2025)
 - 45th Meeting: Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam (On the margin of the 12th General Assembly)
 - 46th Meeting: Gyeongju, Korea (First half of 2026)
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