1. OPENING

The Chairman, Javier Valladares, opened the Forty-fourth Session of the Executive Council at 09.45 h in Room IV on Tuesday 21 June 2011. He welcomed the participants and briefly referred to the documentation prepared for this session of the IOC Executive Council, reminding the Council that all the documents were available on the IOC web site (http://ioc-unesco.org/ioc-26). He informed the Council that, in accordance with Rule of Procedure No. 12(2), it was acting as the Steering Committee for the Twenty-sixth Session of the Assembly.

The Chairman informed the Executive Council that Tuvalu had become the 140th IOC Member State. The Chairman also welcomed the newly appointed IOC Deputy Secretary, Mitrasure Bhikajee (Mauritius), who will oversee programme planning and execution, IOC governing body meetings and decentralization.

2. ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

2.1 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The Executive Council considered the Draft Provisional Agenda (Doc. IOC/EC-XLIV/1 prov.) and adopted the Agenda of its 44th Session (Annex I to the present summary report).

2.2 DESIGNATION OF THE RAPPORTEUR

The Chairman proposed Nikolai Mikhailov (Russian Federation and IOC Vice-Chair) as Rapporteur for the present session. He accepted this invitation.

The Executive Council designated Nikolai Mikhailov rapporteur for the present session.

3. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE 26TH SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY

3.1 DESIGNATION OF STATUTORY COMMITTEES

The Chairman reminded the Executive Council that, in the designation of the three Statutory Committees for the Assembly, it may submit proposals on their composition, but that
the ultimate decision as to that composition, including the Chairpersonship of each Statutory Committee, remained entirely with the Assembly. He then invited Member States to declare their wish to participate in the Statutory Committees, bearing in mind the need to ensure an appropriate linguistic and geographic balance within each Committee.

Pursuant to Rule of Procedure No. 12(2), the Executive Council, acting as the Steering Committee of the Assembly, proposed David Pugh (U.K.) as the Chairperson of the Nominations Committee for the Assembly, with the following Member States having declared their interest in participating in this Committee (provisional list, in alphabetical order): Brazil, Canada, China, Egypt, Japan, Mauritius, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Turkey, Ukraine. Thorkild Aarup was nominated to provide the Secretariat support for the Nominations Committee.

The Executive Council proposed David Palmer (U.K.) as the Chairperson of the Resolutions Committee for the Assembly, with the following Member States having declared their interest in participating in this Committee (provisional list, in alphabetical order): Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, France, India, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Senegal, South Africa, Thailand, U.S.A. Julien Barbière and Aurora Mateos were nominated to provide the Secretariat support for the Resolutions Committee. This Committee will meet in Room VIII.

The Executive Council proposed the composition of the Financial Committee under the Chairpersonship of Savithri Narayanan (Canada), Vice-Chairperson. The Chairman reminded the Executive Council that this Committee is open-ended and that interpretation in English and French will be provided for its meetings. Four meetings of the Committee are scheduled, from Friday 24 to Tuesday 28 June, with an additional meeting on 29 June as an option. The following Member States declared their interest in participating in this Committee (provisional list, in alphabetical order): Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, China, Egypt, France, India, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Senegal, South Africa, U.K., U.S.A. Stefano Belfiore and Ksenia Yvinec were nominated to provide the Secretariat support for the Resolutions Committee. This Committee will meet in Room VII.

3.2 CONSIDERATION OF REQUESTS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS

The Chairman informed the Executive Council that, under Rules of Procedure 8, 9 and 11.2, dealing with the preparation of the Agenda for the Assembly, no request for a supplementary item had been received at the Secretariat by the deadline of 22 April 2011 (two months before the date of the opening of the 26th Session).

A proposal to consider IOC’s role in the preparation for the International Polar Decade was received from WMO. A written statement of justification for this late submission was before the Executive Council and the Assembly (Doc. IOC-XXVI/2 Add. – Addendum to Action Paper for the 26th Session of the Assembly: Preparation for the International Polar Decade). An important reason for the delay was the desirability of ensuring that the WMO Congress had agreed to participate in this Decade. It did so at its 16th Session (Geneva, 16 May–3 June 2011), but on condition that the Decade also be endorsed by “relevant international organizations.” The Decade will begin in 2015.

Under Rule of Procedure 8.3, the Executive Council examined the proposed supplementary item and the relevant documentation. The Executive Council recognized that the late availability of the relevant documentation might present some difficulty to some Member States. It also recognized the importance of close consultation and coordination with other relevant international organizations, notably the Antarctic Treaty Secretariat. Nevertheless, the
The Executive Council recommended the inclusion of this supplementary item in the Revised Provisional Agenda and Timetable that will be tabled at the opening of the Assembly. It will appear as item 6.4.

3.3 SESSIONAL WORKING GROUPS

In order to ensure a smooth running of the Assembly, the Executive Council decided to recommend to the Assembly the establishment of:

- A drafting group on the IOC Statement for Rio+20 (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 4–6 June 2012 (Assembly agenda item 4.9)), under the Chairpersonship of Sang-Kyung Byun (Republic of Korea). The following Member States declared their interest in participating in this drafting group (provisional list, in alphabetical order): Argentina, Brazil, Canada, China, Ecuador, France, India, Japan, Kenya, Malaysia, Mauritius, Portugal, Republic of Korea, U.K., U.S.A. Julian Barbiere and Mitrasen Bhikajee were nominated to provide the Secretariat support for this drafting group. This group will meet in Room VIII.

- A drafting group on two GOOS draft resolutions: (i) Strengthening and Streamlining GOOS; and (ii) Programme of Action for GOOS 2012–2013 (Assembly agenda item 6.1) under the Chairpersonship of Shaohua Lin (China). The following Member States declared their interest in participating in this drafting group (provisional list, in alphabetical order): Australia, Brazil, China, Egypt, Ecuador, France, India, Indonesia, Japan, Mauritius, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Tunisia, Turkey, UK and U.S.A. Keith Alverson was nominated to provide the Secretariat support for this drafting group.

3.4 TIMETABLE

The Executive Council considered the Revised Provisional Timetable (Rev. 4) for the Assembly. The Executive Council decided to include the supplementary item under agenda item 6.4 of the Assembly.


The Executive Secretary introduced this item. The decision was taken at the 43rd Session of the Executive Council to schedule “its 45th Session from Tuesday 19 June 2012 through Wednesday 27 June 2012, at UNESCO headquarters in Paris, France, with the possibility of an extension until Friday 29 June 2012” (Report IOC/EC-XLIII/3, Decision 9.4). In 2013 the Executive Council will act as the Steering Committee of the 27th Session of the Assembly; it will meet the day preceding the opening of the Assembly.

In order to minimize calendar conflicts with important meetings of other bodies, notably the ICP, the UNCSD, WMO and UNESCO, the Executive Council suggested scheduling the 45th Executive Council for the 26th and 27th weeks of 2012.

The Executive Secretary invited Member States to propose memorial lectures for IOC-XXVII. She also asked Member States to propose both female and male lecturers.
5. ADOPTION OF THE SUMMARY REPORT

The Executive Council convened again in plenary at 16:00 (on 21 June 2011) to adopt the Summary Report of the present session.

The Executive Council adopted the summary report of its 44th Session.

6. CLOSURE

The Chairman closed the 44th Session of the Executive Council at 16:30 on 21 June 2011.