Agenda item 5.5

Preparation of the Twenty-seventh Session of the Assembly

The Executive Council,

Taking note of Decision 9.4 of the Twenty-sixth Session of the Assembly (Paris, 21 June–5 July 2011) to hold its Twenty-seventh Session from 26 June to 9 July 2013, at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, France,

Having considered the current financial challenges experienced by UNESCO and IOC and the need to achieve cost-effectiveness and efficiency in the organization of the meetings of the Governing Bodies,

Notes that the present financial situation only allows a reduced duration of the Twenty-seventh Session starting on the 25th of June with the Executive Council at its Forty-sixth Session acting, pursuant to Rule of Procedure 19.2, as the Steering Committee of the Assembly and meeting on 24th of June;

Requests the Executive Secretary and the Officers:

(i) to urgently explore with Member States and the Director-General possibilities for additional funding that would enable the holding of a session with a duration commensurate to the needs of the items on the agenda,

(ii) to prepare the provisional agenda and timetable of the Assembly and to circulate them not less than five months in advance of the date of opening of the Assembly, pursuant to Rules of Procedure 7 and 8.4.