Annotated provisional agenda

Item 1. Adoption of the agenda (document A/21/1 prov. rev.1)

The provisional agenda of the twenty-first session of the General Assembly was drawn up by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 5(1) of the Assembly's Rules of Procedure.

Item 2. Election of the President and Vice-Presidents of the Assembly

Under the presidency of Zambia and Zimbabwe, Co-Presidents of its twentieth session, the General Assembly will be called upon to elect, in accordance with rule 16(2) of its Rules of Procedure, a new President for its twenty-first session.

In accordance with rule 16(3) of its Rules of Procedure, the General Assembly shall elect eight Vice-Presidents who, together with the President, will be the Assembly's Officers. These nine Officers will be elected on the basis of equitable geographical representation.

Item 3. Appointment of the Credentials Committee

In accordance with rule 13(1) of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly, the President proposes to the Assembly the nine delegates of Full Members who will compose the Credentials Committee, having regard to equitable geographical representation. The Committee is required to meet immediately after the first plenary session so that it may submit its initial report to the Assembly at the start of the third session.

Item 4. Membership of the Organization

(a) Membership status (document A/21/4(a))

The Secretary-General reports to the General Assembly on changes that have occurred in the membership of the Organization since its twentieth session. Particular reference is made to admissions to full and affiliate membership, which the Assembly will be required to
consider in accordance with Articles 5 and 7 of the Statutes and rules 49 and 50 of its Rules of Procedure.

(b) Suspension of membership in accordance with Article 34 of the Statutes and requests for temporary exemption from the application of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules (document A/21/4(b))

Under this item, the Secretary-General transmits to the Assembly, in accordance with resolution 217(VII), a list of the Members subject to the provisions of Article 34 of the Statutes. He informs of any developments in this regard since its previous session. The Assembly will also receive a list of the Members that have accumulated arrears equal to or exceeding four years’ contributions and that could be liable to the provisions of Article 34.

Under the same item, the Secretary-General transmits any requests for suspending the application of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules that may have been submitted in accordance with General Assembly resolution 162(VI), provided the Council has established that the delay in paying contributions is due to circumstances beyond the control of the Members concerned and these Members have agreed with the Council on measures to settle their arrears.

Item 5. Introductory statement by the Secretary-General (document A/21/5)

The Secretary-General introduces his report to the Assembly by addressing the situation of international tourism. Information is provided on growth by region, on the global context and its impact on the tourism sector and on how UNWTO is adapting to a changing world.

Item 6. Report of the Executive Council to the General Assembly (document A/21/6)

In accordance with Articles 19(a) and 20 of the Statutes, the Executive Council reports to the Assembly, for approval, on “all necessary measures” taken “for the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the Assembly” and on the “administrative and technical decisions” considered necessary and consequently taken by it between sessions of the Assembly.

Item 7. Report of the Credentials Committee (document A/21/7)

In accordance with rule 13(4) of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly, the Credentials Committee reports its findings after examining the credentials of the delegates of Full and Associate Members and the identification papers of the Affiliate Members and observers of organizations invited to the session.

Item 8. Report of the Secretary-General

In accordance with rule 5(1) of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General submits his report on the programme of work and on administrative and statutory matters.
Part I: Programme of work

(a) Implementation of the general programme of work for 2014-2015 (document A/21/8(I)(a))

The Secretary-General reports on the activities carried out by the Secretariat in implementing the programme of work for 2014-2015, focusing on the major strategic objectives established.

(b) Draft programme and budget of the Organization for 2016-2017 (document A/21/8(I)(b))

Pursuant to paragraphs (h) and (i) of Article 12 of the Statutes, the Organization's draft general programme of work and budget for the period 2016-2017 is submitted to the General Assembly for approval.

(c) UNWTO in the United Nations system (document A/21/8(I)(c))

The Secretary-General reports on coordination and cooperation activities with the United Nations system since the last session of the General Assembly.

(d) Draft UNWTO Convention on the Protection of Tourists and Tourism Service Providers (document A/21/8(I)(d))

The Secretary-General reports on the activities of the ad hoc Working Group to continue the elaboration of a draft Convention on the protection of tourists and tourism service providers, taking into account the results of consultations made with Member States to define the scope and level of such a legal instrument.

(e) The International ST-EP Organization (document A/21/8(I)(e))

The Secretary-General reports on the process of transforming the ST-EP Foundation into the International ST-EP Organization.


The Secretary-General submits a simplified progress report on the actions taken with a view to continuing the implementation of recommendations to reform the Organization, in the context of the White Paper and in relation to relevant recommendations by the Joint Inspection Unit or the External Auditors of the Organization.

Part II: Administrative and statutory matters

(a) Closing of the audited administrative accounts of the nineteenth financial period (2012-2013) (document A/21/8(II)(a))

The document submitted to the General Assembly under this item closes the nineteenth financial period of the Organization, after having been examined by the Auditors and approved by the Council.
(b) Financial situation of the Organization (documents A/21/8(II)(b) and A/21/8(II)(b) Add.1)

The Secretary-General reports to the General Assembly on the state of the Organization’s finances during the first part of 2015.

(c) Human resources situation of the Organization (document A/21/8(II)(c). rev.1)

The Secretary-General informs the Assembly on the structure and human resources situation of the Organization.

(d) Election of the Members of the UNWTO Staff Pension Committee for 2016-2017 (document A/21/8(II)(d))

The candidatures of Full Members to serve as members or alternates on the UNWTO Staff Pension Committee for the biennium 2016-2017 will be referred to the General Assembly in document A/21/8(II)(d).

(e) Election of the Auditors for 2016-2017 (document A/21/8(II)(e))

The Secretary-General submits to the Members the candidatures of the Full Members recommended by the Executive Council to the General Assembly for the posts of Auditor of the Organization for the financial period 2016-2017.

(f) Status of ratification of amendments to the Statutes and to the 1947 Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies (document A/21/8(II)(f))

The Secretary-General reports on the situation of amendments to the Statutes and the Financing Rules of the Organization which have not yet entered into force.

(g) Headquarters Agreement between Spain and the Organization (document A/21/8(II)(g))

The Secretary-General reports on the signing of a new Headquarters Agreement between the Organization and Spain. He informs about the new features and significant improvements in the new agreement.

(h) Agreements concluded by the Organization (document A/21/8(II)(h))

Under Article 12 of the Organization’s Statutes, the General Assembly is required to approve the conclusion of agreements with governments, international organizations and private organizations or institutions.

(i) Use of the UNWTO logo (document A/21/8(II)(i))

In accordance with resolution 630(XX), the Secretary-General submits a report on the authorizations granted by the Secretariat for the use of the UNWTO logo.
Item 9. Report of the Chair of the Affiliate Members (document A/21/9)

The General Assembly will be informed, in accordance with rule III(11) of the Rules of Procedure of the Affiliate Members, on the activities of these Members since the twentieth session of the General Assembly and on prospects for future action. The Assembly will also be informed on different aspects of the Affiliate Members’ operation within the Organization.

Item 10. Report of the World Committee on Tourism Ethics (documents A/21/10, A/21/10 Add.1, A/21/10 Add.2 and A/21/10 Add.3)

The World Committee on Tourism Ethics reports on the activities it carried out since the last session of the Assembly.

Information is provided on the review of its internal procedures, on the implementation of the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism, on the draft UNWTO Convention on Tourism Ethics and on draft UNWTO Recommendation on Accessible Information in Tourism.

Actions on the above are recommended.


The report submitted under this item informs the Assembly of the various activities marking World Tourism Day in 2014 and 2015, and proposes the themes selected for World Tourism Day 2016 and 2017. The Assembly will also be informed on the host countries designated by the Regional Commissions for East Asia and Pacific in 2016 and for the Middle East in 2017.

Item 12. Election of Council Members (document A/21/12)

The Secretary-General informs the General Assembly of the present membership of the Executive Council, the geographical distribution of its seats among the six regions of the Organization, the number of seats to be allotted to each region for the election of half the Members of the Executive Council and of the candidatures received by the Secretariat.

Pursuant to rules 54 and 55 of its Rules of Procedure, the Assembly is required to elect, by secret ballot, half the Members of the Executive Council, bearing in mind, if it so decides, the recommendation of the Executive Council in its decision 26(XXXV) not to elect as Members of the Executive Council States subject to the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules and Article 34 of the Statutes.

Item 13. Place and dates of the twenty-second session of the General Assembly (document A/21/13)

A report is submitted on the procedure and the candidatures to host the twenty-second session of the General Assembly.
The rules provide that the Assembly shall meet at Headquarters every two years. It may meet elsewhere if the Assembly so decides, provided the host country defrays the expenses involved in holding the session away from Headquarters.

The Assembly is invited to decide on the invitations received to host its 22nd session.

**Item 14. Review and adoption of the draft resolutions of the twenty-first session of the General Assembly**

Under this agenda item, the General Assembly is invited to review and adopt the draft resolutions reflecting the decisions it will have taken during its debates.