Item 1. Adoption of the agenda (document A/23/1 prov.rev.4)

The provisional agenda of the twenty-third 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 China, President of the twenty-second 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-third 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 it is composed so that it may submit its initial report to the Assembly during the session.

Item 4. Report of the Secretary-General on the current trends of international tourism (document A/23/4)

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.


(a) Implementation of the General Programme of Work (document A/23/5(a))

The Secretary-General reports on the activities carried out by the Secretariat in implementing the programme of work for 2018-2019, focusing on the major achievements (UNWTO Recommendations on urban tourism, UNWTO Innovation Hubs’ Network, UNWTO Academy, projects on the ground, etc.).

Pursuant to paragraphs (h) and (i) of Article 12 of the Statutes, the Organization’s draft general programme of work for the period 2020-2021 is submitted to the General Assembly for approval.
The Secretary-General also reports on the conclusion of agreements with governments, international organizations and private organizations or institutions, which, under Article 12 of the Organization’s Statutes, the General Assembly is required to approve.

Under this agenda item, the General Assembly is informed, in accordance with Article 11 of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee of the Affiliate Members, on the activities of these Members since the twenty-second 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.

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, as well as on the States that have acceded to the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies and apply Annex XVIII relating to UNWTO.

(b) Financial situation of the Organization (document A/23/5(b))

The document submitted to the General Assembly under this item closes the twenty-first financial period of the Organization, after having been examined by the Auditors and approved by the Council.

The Secretary-General reports to the General Assembly on the state of the Organization’s finances during the first semester of 2019 and also submits to the General Assembly the Organization’s draft general programme of budget for the period 2020-2021.

The Secretary-General also 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.

The Secretary-General submits to the Members the candidatures of the Full Members recommended by the Executive Council to the General Assembly for the post of External Auditor of the Organization for the financial period 2020-2021.

(c) Membership of the Organization (document A/23/5(c))

The Secretary-General reports to the General Assembly on changes that have occurred in the membership of the Organization since its twenty-second session.

i) Full Members (document A/23/5(c)(i))

Particular reference is made to admissions to Full membership and all the progress done in this regard, 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.

ii) Affiliate Members (document A/23/5(c)(ii))

The Secretary-General reports on the status of the Affiliate Members.

Item 6. Human resources report (document A/23/6)

The Secretary-General informs the Assembly on the structure and human resources situation of the Organization, as well as on the amendments to the Staff Regulations and
Staff Rules of the Organization, in particular those that are to be considered by the Assembly for approval.

The candidatures of Full Members to serve as members and alternates on the UNWTO Staff Pension Committee for the biennium 2020-2021 are also referred to the General Assembly.

**Item 7. Reform of the Organization: Progress on JIU recommendations** (document A/23/7)

The Secretary-General proposes actions to the Assembly, for approval, regarding 2018 JIU recommendations and informs it on the achievements of the Organization in complying with previous recommendations.

**Item 8. Endorsement of the Executive Council’s decisions and activities** (document A/23/8)

In accordance with Articles 19(a) and 20 of the Statutes, the Executive Council reports to the Assembly, for endorsement, 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.


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 10. Adoption of the UNWTO Framework Convention on Tourism Ethics** (document A/23/10)

The Assembly is called upon to consider the UNWTO Framework Convention on Tourism Ethics in all its authentic languages for adoption.


The World Committee on Tourism Ethics reports on the activities it has carried out. The Assembly is requested to take note of and endorse a set of Recommendations on Sustainable Development of Indigenous Tourism.

The report also includes a special reminder of the 20th Anniversary of the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism (GCET) (1999-2019). Finally, the Private Sector Commitment to the GCET is explained with an overview of the implementation of the Code’s signatories over the last two years.

**Item 12. Election of the Members of the World Committee on Tourism Ethics** (document A/23/12)

Under this item, the General Assembly is invited to consider and decide on the proposals made by the Selection Board concerning the election of four members of the World Committee on Tourism Ethics.

The report submitted under this item informs the Assembly of the various activities marking World Tourism Day in 2018 and 2019, and proposes the themes selected for World Tourism Day 2020 and 2021. The Assembly will also be informed on the host countries designated by the Regional Commissions for the Americas in 2020 and for Africa in 2021.

**Item 14. Election of the Executive Council’s members (document A/23/14)**

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 those States to which the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules apply, those suspended from membership pursuant to Article 34 of the Statutes or those with unjustified contribution arrears (paragraph 12 of the Financing Rules).

**Item 15. Place and dates of the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly (document A/23/15)**

A report is submitted on the procedure and the candidatures to host the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly. Pursuant to Rule 1 of its Rules of Procedure, the Assembly shall meet every two years at the Organization’s Headquarters unless it decides to meet elsewhere, provided that the host country defrays the expenses involved in holding the session away from Headquarters.

The Assembly is invited to decide on the candidatures received to host its 24th session.

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