Candidacy for the post of UNWTO Secretary-General

The World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) is the United Nations specialized agency responsible for the promotion of responsible, sustainable and universally accessible tourism.

In line with the decision taken by the UNWTO Executive Council at its last session, this notice is issued to solicit candidates and to set in motion the process of selecting and appointing the next Secretary-General of the Organization for the period 2022-2025, in accordance with the provisions of document CE/112/6 rev. 1 and decision CE/DEC/14(CXII) taken by UNWTO Executive Council at its last session. The pertinent information and requirements are available on the UNWTO website at https://www.unwto.org/events/executive-council-112th-session

The Secretary-General is the Executive Head of the Organization and most senior manager, accountable directly to the Organization’s Governing Bodies. The position of Secretary-General is one of great importance, requiring the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity, as well as a firm commitment to the values and principles of the Organization. Candidates presented should have proven leadership and managerial abilities, extensive experience in international relations, and strong diplomatic and communication skills.

In order to guarantee equal opportunities for women and men in gaining access to senior decision-making positions, Member States are encouraged to consider presenting qualified women and men as candidates for this position.

Application Procedure

Candidates proposed by the Member States are invited to submit their applications to the Organization’s Headquarters (Calle del Poeta Joan Maragall 42, 28020, Madrid, Spain) by regular mail or by hand. Candidates may also submit their applications electronically to the email address sg.candidacy@unwto.org. In the case of applications sent by both means (i.e. paper application by regular mail or by hand and electronically), the paper application will prevail.

Applications must be received by the Secretariat not later than 18 November 2020 at 24:00 hours at the latest, Madrid local time. Applications should be addressed to the UNWTO Human Resources Department and must be marked with the following reference number: UNWTO/HHRR/VAC/16/OFSG/2020. Candidatures received after the deadline indicated above will not be accepted.

The applications should be formulated in a letter of intent from the candidate, accompanied by the following four required documents:

1. Letter of support issued by the competent authority1 from the Government of the corresponding Member State;

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1 The letters by which Governments of Member States propose a candidate shall be issued and signed by the competent authority, i.e. Head of State, or Prime Minister, or Minister of Foreign Affairs or Minister responsible for Tourism or from plenipotentiary ambassadors.
2. Statement of policy and management intent;
3. Curriculum vitae;
4. Certificate of good health signed by a recognized medical facility.

In accordance with Article 22 of the Statutes of the Organization and Rule 29 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council, the nominee will be elected by the UNWTO Executive Council at its 113th session to be held on 19-20 January 2021\(^2\) in Madrid, Spain, and will be recommended to the UNWTO General Assembly, which will take the final decision on the candidature for appointment to the post of Secretary-General at its twenty-fourth session, to be held in Marrakech, Morocco\(^3\).

\(^2\) The exact date will be confirmed with the Host Country and communicated to all Members in due time.
\(^3\) The exact date will be confirmed with the Host Country and communicated to all Members in due time.