

Agenda item 6

**Report on the preparations for the
twenty-fifth session of the General
Assembly**

CE/118/6
Madrid, 14 April 2023
Original: English

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Executive summary

At its twenty-fourth session, the General Assembly decided that its twenty-fifth session would be held in Uzbekistan ([resolution 750\(XXIV\)](#)). The session is scheduled to be held in the city of Samarkand from 16 to 20 October 2023.

The tentative draft provisional programme outline (see Annex) includes the organization of the 119th and 120th sessions of the Executive Council, the plenary sessions of the Assembly and the meetings of the committees indicated in this document.

DRAFT DECISION¹

Agenda item 6
Report on the preparations for the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly
(document CE/118/6)

The Executive Council,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General on the preparations for the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly,

Takes note of the information provided.

¹This is a draft decision. For the final decision adopted by the Council, please refer to the Decisions document issued at the end of the session.

I. Introduction

1. At its last session, the Assembly decided that its twenty-fifth session would be held in Uzbekistan in 2023 and accepted the generous invitation of the Government of Uzbekistan to host the next session ([resolution 750\(XXIV\)](#)), in accordance with Rule 1(2) of its Rules of Procedure.
2. The UNWTO Secretariat is working in close cooperation with the Government of Uzbekistan on the organization of the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly, which is scheduled to be held in the city of Samarkand, Uzbekistan, on 16-20 October 2023.

II. Programme of meetings

3. The preliminary structure of the meetings and events during the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly (see Annex) includes the organization of the 119th and 120th sessions of the Executive Council, the plenary sessions of the Assembly and the meetings of the committees indicated in this document.
4. The organization of other statutory meetings will be communicated to the Member States at a later stage.
5. The provisional agenda of the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly has been drafted in accordance with Rule 5(1) of its Rules of Procedure. Members are kindly reminded that they may propose the inclusion of new items in the provisional agenda, provided they follow the procedure laid down for this purpose in Rule 5(3) of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly.
6. The Assembly will be called upon to elect the President of its twenty-fifth session, in accordance with Rule 16 of its Rules of Procedure.
7. An official ceremony followed by the high-level/ministerial segment will be organized in the framework of the Assembly.

III. Facilities provided to the Organization by the Government of Uzbekistan

8. The authorities of Uzbekistan have already taken all necessary measures to host this session in Samarkand and to provide all required services to the delegates of the UNWTO Member States. They will also facilitate the entry into their territory of Full, Associate and Affiliate Members of the UNWTO, as well as of the other participants invited by the Secretary-General.
9. The Agreement between the Organization and the host Government to be concluded by the parties establishes, in particular, the obligations and commitments that the Government has generously agreed to meet in convening and conducting the proceedings of the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly and the other related meetings, in accordance with the *Guidelines for the selection of venues for the General Assembly sessions* ([A/20/5\(II\)\(i\)](#)) adopted through [resolution 631\(XX\)](#).

IV. Invitations and working documents

10. The corresponding convocation letters and invitations issued by the Secretary-General to all Members, together with the provisional agenda prepared in accordance with Rule 5(1) of the General Assembly's Rules of Procedure and an information note, will be sent by e-mail within the prescribed time limits, i.e., ninety days before the opening of the session and posted in electronic format on the UNWTO website.
11. The working documents necessary for the General Assembly's discussions and resolutions on the various agenda items will also be posted on UNWTO website within the time limits prescribed in Rule 8 of the Assembly's Rules of Procedure.

12. In light of the United Nations mandate to promote sustainability, the World Tourism Organization is strengthening its efforts towards environmental sustainability by implementing paperless events and conferences.
13. According to Rule 43(2), secret ballots shall be taken by the casting of ballot papers or, where an appropriate electronic system is available, by electronic means, in such a way as to safeguard the secrecy and integrity of the secret ballot and in alignment with other organizations of the UN system.

V. Languages of the Assembly

14. The six official languages will be used for the Assembly and the other related meetings, in part or in totality, as each meeting requires.

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Preliminary structure

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**25th session of the General Assembly
16-20 October 2023, Samarkand, Uzbekistan****Monday, 16 October 2023**

Plenary of the Affiliate Members

Programme and Budget Committee

Tuesday, 17 October 2023

119th session of the Executive Council

Committees

Welcome reception

Wednesday, 18 October 2023

Official opening

First plenary session

Second plenary session

Gala dinner

Thursday, 19 October 2023

Third plenary session

Fourth plenary session

Dinner

Friday, 20 October 2023

120th session of the Executive Council

Affiliate Members Meeting

Programme and Budget Committee

Sightseeing tours