Agenda item 16
Election of the Executive Council Members

A/25/16
Madrid, 30 August 2023
Original: English

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Executive summary

The 25th session of the UNWTO General Assembly will elect 17 Member States to the Executive Council for the period 2023-2027.

Nominations and elections to statutory organs and their subsidiary bodies, including the nomination of candidates to represent the Regions on the Executive Council for the period 2023-2027, were held during the following meetings of the UNWTO Commissions: the 68th meeting of the Commission for Europe (1 June, Sofia, Bulgaria); the 49th meeting of the Commission for the Middle East (7 June 2023, Dead Sea, Jordan); the 55th meeting of the Commission for East Asia and the Pacific (CAP) and the 59th meeting of the Commission for South Asia (CSA) (16 June 2023, Phnom Penh, Cambodia); the 68th meeting of the Commission for the Americas (27 June 2023, Quito, Ecuador); and the 66th meeting of the Commission for Africa (26 July 2023, Pointe aux Piments, Mauritius).

Action by the General Assembly

DRAFT RESOLUTION 1

The General Assembly,

Having received the proposals of the Regional Commissions and the Board of Affiliate Members,

1. Declares the following Full Members elected as members of the Executive Council for the period 2023-2027, for the 17 seats to be filled:

   Africa:

   1. Democratic Republic of the Congo
   2. Ghana
   3. Namibia
   4. Nigeria
   5. Rwanda
   6. United Republic of Tanzania

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1 This is a draft resolution. For the final resolution adopted by the Assembly, please refer to the Resolutions document issued at the end of the session.
Americas:

1. Colombia
2. Jamaica

East Asia and the Pacific:

1. China
2. Indonesia
3. Japan
4. Republic of Korea

Europe:

1. Azerbaijan (2025)
2. Bulgaria
3. Czechia
4. Italy
5. Lithuania

Middle East:

1. Saudi Arabia

2. **Recalls** that the Associate Members will be represented by Puerto Rico on the Executive Council until the 26th session of the General Assembly; and

3. **Takes note** that the Affiliate Members will be represented on the Executive Council by (Affiliate Member).

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2 According to resolution A/RES/EXT-1/5, the General Assembly decided to suspend the membership of the Russian Federation in accordance with Article 34 of the Statutes from exercising the rights and enjoying the privileges of membership, including the right to participate in the UNWTO meetings. The Russian Federation requested to withdraw from the Organization through a Note Verbale sent to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation of Spain, Depositary of the Statutes of the Organization, on 26 April 2022. According to Rule 55(5) of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly, “If a Member ceases to belong to the Council before its term of office expires, a by-election shall be held at the following session of the Assembly to replace that Member until the end of its term of office”. The 68th meeting of the UNWTO Commission for Europe recommended Azerbaijan as member of the Executive Council for the period 2023-2025, following the decision by consensus of electing for the vacant seat the 5th most voted candidate in the previous vote.
I. Executive Council: Election of Members

1. The General Assembly is required to elect, at each of its sessions, one-half of the membership of the Executive Council, in accordance with Article 14(1) of the Statutes of the Organization, which reads as follows:

“The Council shall consist of Full Members elected by the Assembly in the ratio of one Member for every five Full Members, in accordance with the Rules of Procedure laid down by the Assembly, with a view to achieving fair and equitable geographical distribution.”

2. Article 15 of the Statutes also stipulates that:

“The term of elected Members shall be four years. Election for one-half of the membership of the Council shall be held every two years.”

3. This provision is enlarged upon in Rule 55(1) of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly, paragraph 4 of which reads:

“The term of office of the Members of the Council shall begin immediately following their election by the Assembly and shall end on the election of their successors.”

4. Article 14(1) of the Statutes provides that the total number of the Organization’s Full Members determines the number of seats on the Council. In order to achieve, so far as possible, fair and equitable geographical representation, the number of seats per region is calculated on the basis of one seat for every five Members out of the total number of Members in each region.

5. At its 22nd session in Chengdu, China, the General Assembly decided (resolution 697(XXII)) to amend Rule 54 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly as follows:

“The Assembly shall elect by secret ballot the Members of the Council in the proportion of one Member of the Council for every five Full Members of the Organization, having regard to fair and equitable geographical distribution. This proportion shall be applied to the number of Full Members by region (see annex I) in order to determine the number of seats on the Executive Council to be allocated to the corresponding region.”

6. Consequently, in accordance with the number of Full Members per region at the date of this document, the Council may be composed of 34 members in addition to Spain as a permanent member, during the period between the twenty-fourth and twenty-sixth sessions of the General Assembly.

7. The current membership of the Executive Council whose terms of office expire in 2023 is indicated in Annex II.

8. The current membership of the Executive Council until 2025 and the nominated candidates (2023-2027) by the Regional Commissions to the Executive Council to be elected by the General Assembly are indicated in Annex III.

9. Seventeen Full Members will have to be elected to the Council in the ratio of 1 member for every 5 Full Members per region, as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Seats</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Americas</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Asia and the Pacific</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5 The same provision is repeated in Rule 1(1) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council.

4 According to resolution A/RES/EXT-1/5, the General Assembly decided to suspend the membership of the Russian Federation in accordance with Article 34 of the Statutes from exercising the rights and enjoying the privileges of membership, including the right to participate in the UNWTO meetings. The Russian Federation requested to withdraw from the Organization through a Note Verbale sent to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation of Spain, Depositary of the Statutes of the Organization, on 26 April 2022. According to Rule 55(5) of the Rules of Procedure of the
10. The following tables reflect the States which have submitted their candidatures for Executive Council membership (2023-2027) as well as the States that have been nominated by the Regional Commissions for Africa, the Americas, Europe, the Middle East, and South Asia:

**AFRICA** (6 seats to be filled)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Candidates</th>
<th>Letter of Intent (date)</th>
<th>Nominated Candidatures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United Republic of Tanzania (new)</td>
<td>23.03.2022</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ghana (new)</td>
<td>19.04.2022</td>
<td>Ghana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Namibia (new)</td>
<td>26.07.2022</td>
<td>Namibia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Côte D’Ivoire (renewal)</td>
<td>28.07.2022</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congo (new)</td>
<td>21.07.2022</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tunisia (renewal)</td>
<td>05.08.2022</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seychelles (new)</td>
<td>12.08.2022</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Algeria (renewal)</td>
<td>29.08.2022</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mauritius (renewal)</td>
<td>30.08.2022</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria (new)</td>
<td>18.10.2022</td>
<td>Nigeria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senegal (renewal)</td>
<td>19.12.2022</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rwanda (new)</td>
<td>02.05.2023</td>
<td>Rwanda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Democratic Republic of the Congo (new)</td>
<td>15.06.2023</td>
<td>Democratic Republic of the Congo</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**AMERICAS** (2 seats to be filled)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Candidates</th>
<th>Letter of Intent (date)</th>
<th>Letter of Withdrawal (date)</th>
<th>Nominated Candidatures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paraguay (renewal)</td>
<td>11.08.2022</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jamaica (new)</td>
<td>16.09.2022</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jamaica</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colombia (new)</td>
<td>10.11.2022</td>
<td></td>
<td>Colombia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peru (new)</td>
<td>30.11.2022</td>
<td>07.06.2023</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecuador (new)</td>
<td>15.12.2022</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uruguay (new)</td>
<td>10.02.2023</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guatemala (renewal)</td>
<td>08.03.2023</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EUROPE** (5 seats to be filled)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Candidates</th>
<th>Letter of Intent (date)</th>
<th>Nominated Candidatures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ukraine (new)</td>
<td>22.08.2022</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Azerbaijan (new)</td>
<td>09.09.2022</td>
<td>Azerbaijan (2025) §</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Türkiye (renewal)</td>
<td>31.08.2022</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albania (new)</td>
<td>17.10.2022</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uzbekistan (new)</td>
<td>07.11.2022</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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General Assembly, “If a Member ceases to belong to the Council before its term of office expires, a by-election shall be held at the following session of the Assembly to replace that Member until the end of its term of office”. Considering that the Russian Federation was elected by the 24th session of the UNWTO General Assembly as a member of the Executive Council for the period 2021-2025, the term of one of the five seats allocated to the Europe region shall be 2023-2025.  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Slovakia (new)</td>
<td>16.11.2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czechia (new)</td>
<td>16.12.2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulgaria (new)</td>
<td>21.12.2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy (renewal)</td>
<td>22.12.2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Israel (new)</td>
<td>08.01.2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lithuania (new)</td>
<td>21.02.2023</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MIDDLE EAST** (1 seat to be filled)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Letter of Intent (date)</th>
<th>Nominated Candidatures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Egypt (new)</td>
<td>14.06.2022</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saudi Arabia (renewal)</td>
<td>03.10.2022</td>
<td>Saudi Arabia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lebanon (new)</td>
<td>12.04.2023</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC** (4 seats to be filled)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Letter of Intent (date)</th>
<th>Nominated Candidatures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia (new)</td>
<td>20.12.2022</td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China (renewal)</td>
<td>12.01.2023</td>
<td>China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republic of Korea (renewal)</td>
<td>25.01.2023</td>
<td>Republic of Korea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan (renewal)</td>
<td>31.01.2023</td>
<td>Japan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thailand (renewal)</td>
<td>28.02.2023</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. It should be recalled that Executive Council decisions 4(XXXIII) and 4(XXXIV) recommend that “...only Members of the Organization having no unjustified arrears (paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes) shall be eligible for election to the Executive Council”.

12. At its 24th session, the Assembly took note of the nomination of Puerto Rico as representative of the Associate Members to the Executive Council until the 26th General Assembly session (A/RES/704(XXII)).

13. The Board of Affiliate Members is requested to nominate its representative to serve on the Executive Council.

...
Annex I: UNWTO Member States (159)

1. Afghanistan 43 Democratic Republic of the Congo
2. Albania 44 Djibouti
3. Algeria 45 Dominican Republic
4. Andorra 46 Ecuador
5. Angola 47 Egypt
6. Antigua and Barbuda 48 El Salvador
7. Argentina 49 Equatorial Guinea
8. Armenia 50 Eritrea
9. Austria 51. Eswatini (the Kingdom of)
10. Azerbaijan 52 Ethiopia
11. Bahamas 53 Fiji
12. Bahrain 54 France
13. Bangladesh 55 Gabon
14. Barbados 56 Gambia
15. Belarus 57. Georgia
16. Benin 58 Germany
17. Bhutan 59 Ghana
18. Bolivia 60 Greece
20. Botswana 62 Guinea
21. Brazil 63 Guinea-Bissau
22. Brunei Darussalam 64 Haiti
23. Bulgaria 65 Honduras
24. Burkina Faso 66 Hungary
25. Burundi 67. India
26. Cabo Verde 68 Indonesia
27. Cambodia 69 Iran, Islamic Republic of
28. Cameroon 70 Iraq
29. Central African Republic 71. Israel
30. Chad 72 Italy
31. Chile 73 Jamaica
32. China 74 Japan
33. Colombia 75 Jordan
34. Comoros 76 Kazakhstan
35. Congo 77 Kenya
36. Costa Rica 78 Kuwait
37. Croatia 79 Kyrgyzstan
38. Cuba 80 Lao People's Democratic Republic
39. Cyprus 81. Lebanon
40. Czech Republic (Czechia) 82 Lesotho
41. Côte d'Ivoire 83 Liberia
42. Democratic People's Republic of Korea 84 Libya
85. Lithuania
86. Madagascar
87. Malawi
88. Malaysia
89. Maldives
90. Mali
91. Malta
92. Mauritania
93. Mauritius
94. Mexico
95. Monaco
96. Mongolia
97. Montenegro
98. Morocco
99. Mozambique
100. Myanmar
101. Namibia
102. Nepal
103. Netherlands
104. Nicaragua
105. Niger
106. Nigeria
107. North Macedonia
108. Oman
109. Pakistan
110. Palau
111. Panama
112. Papua New Guinea
113. Paraguay
114. Peru
115. Philippines
116. Poland
117. Portugal
118. Qatar
119. Republic of Korea
120. Republic of Moldova
121. Romania
122. Rwanda

123. Samoa
124. San Marino
125. Sao Tome and Principe
126. Saudi Arabia
127. Senegal
128. Serbia
129. Seychelles
130. Sierra Leone
131. Slovakia
132. Slovenia
133. Somalia
134. South Africa
135. Spain
136. Sri Lanka
137. Sudan
138. Switzerland
139. Syrian Arab Republic
140. Tajikistan
141. Thailand
142. Timor-Leste
143. Togo
144. Trinidad and Tobago
145. Tunisia
146. Turkmenistan
147. Türkiye
148. Uganda
149. Ukraine
150. United Arab Emirates
151. United Republic of Tanzania
152. Uruguay
153. Uzbekistan
154. Vanuatu
155. Venezuela
156. Viet Nam
157. Yemen
158. Zambia
159. Zimbabwe

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS
1. Aruba
2. Flanders
3. Hong Kong, China
4. Macao, China
5. Madeira
6. Puerto Rico

OBSERVERS PURSUANT TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION
1. Holy See (Permanent Observer)
2. Palestine (Special Observer)
Annex II: Member States finishing their terms of office as members of the UNWTO Executive Council in 2023

AFRICA

Algeria
Côte d’Ivoire
Kenya
Mauritius
Senegal
Tunisia

AMERICAS

Guatemala
Paraguay

EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

China
Japan
Republic of Korea
Thailand

EUROPE

France
Italy
Portugal
Türkiye

MIDDLE EAST

Saudi Arabia

South Asia (all seats occupied until 2025)
### Annex III: Current membership of the Executive Council until 2025 and the nominated candidates by the Regional Commissions to the Executive Council for the period 2023-2027 to be elected by the 25th session of the UNWTO General Assembly

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REGION</th>
<th>MEMBERS</th>
<th>2025</th>
<th>2027</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>AFRICA</strong></td>
<td>Cabo Verde</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Democratic Republic of Congo</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Morocco</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mozambique</td>
<td>X</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Namibia</td>
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<td>X</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Nigeria</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Rwanda</td>
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<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>South Africa</td>
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<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>United Republic of Tanzania</td>
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<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Zambia</td>
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<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>AMERICAS</strong></td>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Colombia</td>
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<td>X</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dominican Republic</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jamaica</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EUROPE</strong></td>
<td>Armenia</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Azerbaijan</td>
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<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bulgaria</td>
<td>X</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Croatia</td>
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<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Czechia</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Italy</td>
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<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lithuania</td>
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<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spain</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Permanent Member</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MIDDLE EAST</strong></td>
<td>Bahrain</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Saudi Arabia</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>United Arab Emirates</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EAST ASIA</strong></td>
<td>China</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Japan</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Republic of Korea</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SOUTH ASIA</strong></td>
<td>India</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Iran (Islamic Republic of)</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>