

Committee on Statistics

Terms of reference¹

Mission

1. The Committee is a subsidiary advisory body of the Executive Council. As such, it contributes to the fulfilment of Article 13, paragraph 3 of the Agreement signed between the United Nations and UNWTO, which states:

“The United Nations recognizes UNWTO as the appropriate organization to collect, to analyze, to publish, to standardize and to improve the statistics of tourism, and to promote the integration of these statistics within the sphere of the United Nations system”.

Consequently, the Executive Council requires the collaboration of the Committee in the following areas:

- proposing initiatives related to the design and implementation of international tourism statistics recommendations;
- promoting international comparability of tourism statistics by proposing initiatives relative to the collection, homogeneity, processing and dissemination of data;
- supporting efforts to integrate such data into the frameworks of the system of national tourism statistics and the Tourism Satellite Account;
- helping member countries in their initiatives to improve their respective national systems of tourism statistics and in the development of the TSA;
- liaising with other international bodies with delegated responsibilities for leadership and coordination of related international statistics and their standards within sphere of the UN system.

¹ As approved at the 73rd session of UNWTO Executive Council, held in Hyderabad, India, 8-9 July 2004.

Composition

2. For the period 2023-2027, the composition of the Committee² is as follows:

<u>Chairman</u>	to be elected
<u>Vice-Chairmen</u>	to be elected
<u>Members</u>	Austria Brazil* Costa Rica France* Honduras India Morocco Philippines* Portugal Saudi Arabia Seychelles Spain*
<u>Representative of the Associate Members</u>	
Flanders (2025)	
<u>Representative of the Affiliate Members</u>	
Chairman of the Affiliate Members Board (2025) Asociación Empresarial Hotelera de Madrid (AEHM), Spain	
*	Ex officio Member

The Secretariat of the Committee is the Department of Statistics.

Invited observers

3. For each of the Committee's meetings, the Secretariat may extend invitations to non-member countries, national and international organizations and institutions in order to enlarge the perspective of statistics producers, users and stakeholders and facilitate UNWTO's international leadership and coordination activities, according to the content of the agenda.
4. Invited observers may address the Committee only with the permission of its Chairman.

² [Executive Council decision CE/DEC/2\(CXX\)](#)

Venues of the meetings

5. The sessions of the Committee shall take place annually and shall be held at the UNWTO Headquarters, save on exceptional occasions in which the Secretariat decides otherwise.

Creation of working groups

6. The Committee will determine whether it is relevant to create temporary working groups of these appropriate parties that would strive to solve, clarify or provide insights, advice and liaison assistance on any particular issue of interest related with the UNWTO's statistics programme and its international leadership responsibilities relating to tourism statistics.

Repercussions on the Programme of Work of the Statistics Department

7. If requested by its members, the Secretariat of the Committee can accept commitments that will partially modify the biannual Programme of Work of the Statistics Department.
8. In no case shall these potential modification/s justify new financial or human resources for the Secretariat.

Communication between meetings

9. The Secretariat of the Committee is responsible for encouraging communication among its members between sessions. In order to enhance its capacity for action, the Secretariat will consider using electronic or other means in order to make it possible for it to continue to work effectively between meetings.