

General Assembly

Nineteenth session
Gyeongju, Republic of Korea, 8-14 October 2011
Provisional agenda item 17

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Place and dates of the twentieth session of the General Assembly

I. Procedure for fixing the place and dates of General Assembly sessions

1. The Articles of the Organization's Statutes and the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly concerning the place and dates of General Assembly sessions are reproduced below for information:

(a) Article 8(2) of the Statutes:

"Meetings of the Assembly and the Council shall be held at the Headquarters of the Organization unless the respective organs decide otherwise."

(b) Rule 1 of the Rules of Procedure:

1. *The Secretary-General shall convene the Assembly in ordinary session every two years at the Organization's Headquarters.*
2. *The Assembly may meet at another place if it so decides, provided the host country reimburses the extra expenses involved in holding the session.*
3. *The date of the session shall be fixed by the Assembly or by the Council, if so empowered and notified to the Members of the Organization not less than seven months before it is due to be held."*

(c) Resolution 351(XI) of the General Assembly

By this resolution, the General Assembly adopted the procedure for the submission of candidatures by interested States, with particular regard to the timetable for the presentation of candidatures and the signature of agreements between the host State and the Organization.

II. List of venues of the previous eighteen sessions

2. It is recalled that, since its inception, UNWTO has held its General Assembly at the following venues:

First session	(1975)	Madrid (Spain)
Second session	(1977)	Torremolinos (Spain)
Third session	(1979)	Torremolinos (Spain)
Fourth session	(1981)	Rome (Italy)
Fifth session	(1983)	New Delhi (India)
Sixth session	(1985)	Sofia (Bulgaria)
Seventh session	(1987)	Madrid (Spain)
Eighth session	(1989)	Paris (France)
Ninth session	(1991)	Buenos Aires (Argentina)
Tenth session	(1993)	Bali (Indonesia)
Eleventh session	(1995)	Cairo (Egypt)
Twelfth session	(1997)	Istanbul (Turkey)
Thirteenth session	(1999)	Santiago (Chile)
Fourteenth session	(2001)	Seoul (Republic of Korea)/Osaka (Japan)
Fifteenth session	(2003)	Beijing (China)
Sixteenth session	(2005)	Dakar (Senegal)
Seventeenth session	(2007)	Cartagena de Indias (Colombia)
Eighteenth session	(2009)	Astana (Kazakhstan)

III. Candidature received for the twentieth session

3. On 23 August 2011, through its Ministry of Tourism and Hospitality Industry, the Government of Zimbabwe expressed its strong interest in hosting the twentieth session of the General Assembly, jointly with Zambia.

4. On 29 and 30 August 2011, a joint delegation of Zambia and Zimbabwe came on an official visit to the Headquarters of the Organization in Madrid, Spain, where it presented a very detailed and advanced file on preliminary preparations for the twentieth session of the General Assembly, as a proof of commitment of both countries' candidature to co-host this event.

5. On the occasion of this visit, and in accordance with the rules established for hosting a General Assembly session, the joint delegation submitted due written confirmation of the intention of Zambia and Zimbabwe to hold an Assembly session in their territory and of their readiness to accept the conditions laid down for the holding of General Assembly sessions, through two official documents signed by the Heads of State of both Republics.

6. Zambia and Zimbabwe are members of the UNWTO Commission for Africa. The General Assembly last met in this region in 2005, in Dakar, Senegal. It has since then met in the Americas (2007), Europe (2009) and East Asia and the Pacific (2011).