



General Assembly

Twenty-second session
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Place and dates of the twenty-third 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 A/RES/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.

(d) Resolution A/RES/631(XX)

In this resolution, the Assembly adopted new guidelines for the selection of venues for General Assembly sessions. The guidelines were described in document A/20/5(II)(i).



II. List of venues of the previous 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)
Nineteenth session	(2011)	Gyeongju (Republic of Korea)
Twentieth session	(2013)	Victoria Falls (Zambia and Zimbabwe)
Twenty-first session	(2015)	Medellín (Colombia)

III. Candidatures received for the twenty-third session

3. On 26 September 2016, the Secretary-General received a letter dated 26 September 2016 from His Excellency Mr. José Gustavo Santos, Minister of Tourism, submitting Argentina's candidature to host the twenty-third session of the General Assembly in 2019.

4. On 10 October 2016, a note verbale was sent by the Secretariat to all UNWTO Members informing of the Argentinian candidature.

5. On 12 April 2017, the Secretary-General received a letter dated 12 April 2017 from His Excellency Mr. Vladimir R. Medinskiy, Minister of Culture, submitting the Russian Federation's candidature to host the twenty-third session of the General Assembly in 2019.

6. On 13 April 2017, a note verbale was sent by the Secretariat to all UNWTO Members informing of the Russian candidature.

7. By decision CEU/DEC/10(LXI), the Regional Commission for Europe welcomed the submission of the candidature of the Russian Federation to host the 23rd session of the General Assembly in Saint Petersburg in 2019, and as such, this should meet the requirements of paragraph 9(b) of document A/20/5(II)(i) mentioned above.

8. Also, by decision CAM/61/DEC/12, the Regional Commission for the Americas expressed its support to the candidature of Argentina to host the 23rd session of the General Assembly in 2019, and as such, this should meet the requirements of paragraph 9(b) of document A/20/5(II)(i).

9. On 14 August 2017, the Secretariat received a communication from the Minister of Tourism of Argentina informing of the withdrawal of the candidature of the Argentine Republic to host the twenty-third session of the General Assembly in 2019 and providing its support to the candidature of the Russian Federation (Saint Petersburg).

10. On 15 August 2017, a note verbale was sent by the Secretariat to all UNWTO Members informing of the withdrawal of the candidature of Argentina, which means that the Russian Federation (Saint Petersburg) is the only candidate to host the twenty-third session of the General Assembly.

11. On 7 September 2017, the Secretariat received a communication from the embassy of the Russian Federation in Madrid communicating the readiness of the Russian Federation to hold the 23rd session of the UNWTO General Assembly in 2019 in Saint-Petersburg and to meet all the financial, legal and other related obligations corresponding to the host country of the Assembly.

IV. Actions to be taken by the General Assembly

12. The General Assembly is invited:

(a) To welcome the candidature of the Russian Federation to host the twenty-third session of the General Assembly in 2019;

(b) To thank the Argentine Republic for having withdrawn its candidature in support of the candidature of the Russian Federation; and

(c) To designate the Russian Federation (Saint Petersburg) as the venue of the twenty-third session of the General Assembly in the second half of 2019.