

UNWTO Commission for the Middle East

Forty- fifth meeting
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4- Implementation of the General Programme of Work 2018-2019

4.3. Follow-up on the Framework Convention on Tourism Ethics

I. Framework Convention on Tourism Ethics

1. The 2017 UNWTO General Assembly approved the English text of the [Framework Convention on Tourism Ethics](#) by A/RES/707(XXI).
2. Based on the approved English text, and following the mandate of the abovementioned resolution, the Convention will be presented to the 23rd Session of the UNWTO General Assembly for adoption in all UNWTO Official Languages.
3. In order to have the translations prepared for the General Assembly, the UNWTO Secretariat has translated the Convention into all Official Languages and shared this with Member States for endorsement and linguistic comments when necessary.
4. All linguistic versions (Arabic, French, Spanish and Russian) have been reviewed by Member States. The Arabic version was circulated and relevant linguistic comments received from Member States will be taken into account.
5. If adopted, the Framework Convention on Tourism Ethics would be the first convention of UNWTO. Twenty years after the adoption of the [Global Code of Ethics for Tourism](#) in 1999, this Framework Convention will serve to enhance the effectiveness of the ethical principles championed by the Code.
6. Member States are invited and encouraged to be present at the voting of this key milestone for UNWTO during the 23rd General Assembly.

II. Implications of the adoption of the Framework Convention on Tourism Ethics

7. The eventual adoption of the text by the General Assembly will not create obligations for the member States to comply with the provisions of the Convention.
8. The adoption of the Convention will only imply that the text has been authenticated, meaning that the text of the Convention is established as authentic and definitive and that member States cannot unilaterally change its provisions.
9. Once adopted by the General Assembly in all five official UNWTO languages, the Convention will be open for signature and subsequently subject to ratification, acceptance or approval. As mentioned above, none of these steps is mandatory for Member States.
10. More information regarding signature, ratification, acceptance or approval accession and entry into force can be found in the UNWTO website: <http://ethicsconventions.unwto.org/content/frequently-asked-questions>