

Executive Council

126th session
Toledo, Spain

10 -11 June 2026

Agenda item 14**Place and dates of the 127th, 128th and 129th sessions
of the Executive Council**

CE/126/14
Madrid, 8 May 2026
Original: English

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**Report on candidatures and procedures for the selection of venues of the Executive Council
sessions up to the 27th session of the General Assembly****Executive summary**

During the present session, the Council is called upon to decide on the places of its meetings up to the next General Assembly taking into consideration the Guidelines on the selection of venues of Executive Council sessions adopted by decision 11(XCIV) and endorsed by the General Assembly in resolution 631(XX).

DRAFT DECISION¹

Agenda item 14
**Place and dates of the 127th, 128th and 129th sessions
of the Executive Council**
(document CE/126/14)

The Executive Council,

Having examined the report on candidatures and procedures for the selection of venues of the Executive Council sessions up to the 27th session of the General Assembly,

1. *Decides* to hold its 127th session in _____ during the second semester of 2026, on dates to be agreed upon between the Secretariat and the host country;
2. *Decides* to hold its 128th session in _____ during the first semester of 2027, on dates to be agreed upon between the Secretariat and the host country; and
3. *Decides* to hold its 129th session in the Dominican Republic during the second semester of 2027, within the framework of the 27th session of the General Assembly, on dates to be agreed upon between the Secretariat and the host country.

¹ This is a draft decision. For the final decision adopted by the Executive Council, please refer to the Decisions document issued at the end of the session.

I. Introduction

1. The statutory framework concerning the place and dates of ordinary sessions of the Executive Council is established in the Statutes and the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council, under the provisions reproduced below:

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."

Article 16 of the Statutes:

"The Council shall meet at least twice a year."

Rule 3(1) of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council:

"The Council shall meet at least twice a year. It shall fix at each session the date of the next session. The letters of convocation for ordinary sessions shall be sent to the Members of the Council by the Secretary-General at least forty days before the opening of the session."

2. Despite the wording of Article 8(2) of the Statutes, in practice, the Assembly and the Council do not meet at the Headquarters of the Organization. Through decision [11 \(XCIV\)](#), adopted at its 94th session held in October 2012, the Council considered "that, for the selection of venues of the Governing Bodies of the Organization, there is a need to balance the statutory requirements with the practice of geographical rotation of meetings that has contributed to promote the role of tourism and of [the Organization] around the world", and adopted the guidelines for the selection of venues of sessions of the Executive Council and General Assembly sessions (hereinafter "the Guidelines")².
3. Furthermore, the Council decided to meet at the Headquarters of the Organization when it is called to recommend a nominee for the post of Secretary-General.
4. The Guidelines establish that "[t]he next Executive Council meeting following the one held immediately after the General Assembly (...) decides the places of the meetings of the Council up to the next General Assembly".
5. Indeed, the 125th session of the Executive Council, in [decision 5\(CXXV\)](#), recalled that, in accordance with the Guidelines, the 126th session of the Executive Council would decide on the venues of the 127th, 128th and 129th sessions, and invited Member States to submit their candidatures to host the forthcoming sessions of the Executive Council to the Secretary-General, at the latest, 90 days before its 126th session.
6. Pursuant to the above, during the present session, the Council is called upon to decide on the places of its 127th (second semester of 2026), 128th (first semester of 2027) and 129th (second semester of 2027) ordinary sessions, up to the 27th session of the General Assembly to be held in Dominican Republic in the second semester of 2027.

II. Procedure for fixing the place of Executive Council sessions

7. Pursuant to the Guidelines, for a candidature to be eligible the State concerned must fulfil the following requirements before the Executive Council adopts the resolution concerning the place of its next session:

² [CE/94/3\(III\)\(d\)](#)

- (a) Inform the Secretary-General ninety days before the session that is required to decide on the venue, indicating the ordinal number of the Executive Council meeting that the State wishes to host,
 - (b) Receive the sponsorship of at least 25% of the Full Members of the Council, and
 - (c) Undertake in writing to observe the standard conditions laid out in the model agreement³.
8. The standard requirements and conditions laid out in the model agreement shall be the subject of an agreement between the government of the host country and the Organization.
 9. Just like the model agreement for General Assembly sessions⁴, adopted by General Assembly resolution [631\(XX\)](#), the model agreement for Executive Council sessions is based on the legal framework governing the holding of UN Tourism meetings away from Headquarters, which is primarily determined by Article 32 of the Statutes, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies and its Annex XVIII, as well as relevant resolutions by the General Assembly⁵, and is aligned with the policy of the United Nations in this regard.
 10. Failure to apply any of the standards and principles included in the template agreement may expose delegates of members of the Council and other participants to, *inter alia*, difficulties in the issuance of visas or refusal of entry into the host country, documentation and media materials destined for the meeting being refused free entry or being searched, customs duties being requested, and non-respect by national authorities of official immunity from legal process (e.g., arrest and detention, commencement of lawsuits). It may also expose the Organization to legal and financial liability.
 11. Any State willing to host a session of the Executive Council should, before submitting its candidature, become familiar with the standard requirements set out in the model agreement.
 12. As indicated in the Secretary-General's report on the selection of venue for the 25th session of the General Assembly⁶, the Secretariat often encounters some reluctance to apply the conditions required by the Governing Bodies for the hosting of their sessions as well as pressure to deviate from the policy established and from the consistent policy of the United Nations in this regard. As a result, lengthy negotiations are undertaken to ensure that the Governing Bodies' instructions are respected by States having been elected to host their sessions.
 13. Should the host country not be in a position to provide the necessary conditions for the hosting of the Executive Council, the Secretary-General, in line with his delegated authority pursuant to paragraph (k) of the Guidelines, will adopt any measure as necessary to ensure the proper holding of the session.
 14. Likewise, where, on the basis of applicable UNDSS security risk assessments, recommendations and other relevant security risk management considerations, in the event of supervening circumstances in the territory of the host State rendering the holding of the session impossible, impracticable or otherwise not appropriate, in particular having regard to the safety and well-being of delegates, staff of the Organization, and other participants, the Secretary-General, after consultation with the Chair of the Executive Council, may decide that the session be held in person at the Headquarters of the Organization.

³ [CE/94/3\(III\)\(d\) Annex 2](#)

⁴ [A/20/5\(III\)\(i\)](#)

⁵ Resolutions 136(V), 489(XVI) and 662(XXI).

⁶ [A/25/18](#)

15. Meetings of the Executive Council by virtual means or in hybrid format under Rule 3(5) of the Rules of Procedure should be considered only where an in-person session at the Headquarters is likewise not possible or not appropriate.

III. Venues of the 127th and 128th sessions of the Executive Council

16. Within the deadline established in decision 5(CXXV), one State had communicated to the Secretary-General its wish to host the 127th session of the Executive Council, which should be held in the second semester of 2026: **United Arab Emirates**.
17. The candidature of the United Arab Emirates (Annex I) was addressed to the Secretary-General through a letter dated 24 October 2025 from H.E. Mr. Abdulla Bin Touq Al Marri, Minister of Economy and Tourism. In the letter, the United Arab Emirates accepts the conditions set out in the model agreement for the hosting of Executive Council sessions and undertakes to faithfully conclude a host country agreement aligned with the stipulations contained therein at least ninety days before the opening of the session.
18. Furthermore, one State has communicated to the Secretary-General its wish to host the 128th session of the Executive Council, which should be held in the first semester of 2027: **Peru**. In a letter dated 9 April 2026, Peru accepts to comply with the legal framework governing the holding of Executive Council sessions, by applying the conditions granted for the meeting of the Regional Commission for the Americas, held in Peru in 2025, and undertakes to faithfully conclude a host country agreement aligned with the stipulations contained therein at least ninety days before the opening of the session.
19. On 11 March 2026, the Secretariat sent a Note Verbale to the members of the Council to transmit to them the above-mentioned candidatures to host the forthcoming sessions and to recall the provisions in connection with the eligibility requirements of the candidatures pursuant to the [Guidelines on the selection of venues of Executive Council sessions](#).

IV. Venue of the 129th session of the Executive Council

20. No candidatures have been received by the Secretariat to host the 129th session of the Executive Council, which should be held in the second semester of 2027.
21. It is customary that, in years where the General Assembly meets in ordinary session, the second annual session of the Executive Council is held within the framework of the General Assembly, immediately before and in the same venue as the Assembly. Therefore, the 129th session of the Executive Council should meet in the **Dominican Republic** within the framework of the 27th session of the General Assembly.

Annex I: Letter of candidature of the United Arab Emirates to host the 127th session of the Council in the second semester of 2026

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
MINISTRY OF ECONOMY & TOURISM



الإمارات العربية المتحدة
وزارة الاقتصاد والسياحة

SUBMISSION OF A CANDIDATURE TO HOST THE 127th SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

I, Abdulla Bin Touq Al Marri Minister of Economy and Tourism:

1. Declare that the United Arab Emirates wishes to host the 127th session of the Executive Council.

Having considered the legal framework for the holding of UNWTO meetings away from headquarters and in line with the procedure for the selection of venues for the sessions of the Executive Council adopted under resolution 631,

2. Accept the conditions set out in the model agreement for the hosting of the Executive Council, which is a preliminary condition for the candidature to be valid; and
3. Undertake faithfully to conclude a host country agreement aligned with the stipulations therein contained at least ninety days before the opening of the Session.

Done at Dubai on 24th October 2025.

Signature

Annex II: Letter of candidature of Peru to host the 128th session of the Council in the first semester of 2027 (original and English translation)



Ministerio
de Comercio Exterior
y Turismo

Despacho Ministerial



Firmado digitalmente por
Mónica Zúñiga Zúñiga (DNI 71050042)
2024.12.26 14:02
Mónica Zúñiga Zúñiga
Fecha: 2024.12.27 15:35:19 -0500

"Decenio de la Igualdad de Oportunidades para Mujeres y Hombres"
"Año de la Esperanza y el Fortalecimiento de la Democracia"

San Isidro, 27 de enero de 2026

OFICIO N° 065 - 2026 - MINCETUR/DM

Señora

SHAIKHA NASSER AL NOWAIS

Secretaria General

ORGANIZACION MUNDIAL DEL TURISMO - ONU TURISMO

Asunto : Postulación del Perú como sede de la 128ª Reunión del Consejo Ejecutivo de ONU Turismo durante el primer semestre del año 2027.

Tengo el agrado de dirigirme a usted para extender un cordial saludo, y a la vez, manifestar formalmente el interés del Gobierno del Perú, a través del Ministerio de Comercio Exterior y Turismo, en acoger la 128ª Reunión de Consejo Ejecutivo de ONU Turismo, a realizarse durante el primer semestre del año 2027, de conformidad con las Directrices sobre la selección de los lugares de celebración de las reuniones del Consejo Ejecutivo y de la Asamblea General establecidas en la decisión CE/94/3 III) d) de fecha 11 de octubre del 2012.

Esta postulación se sustenta en el firme convicción y compromiso del Perú con el fortalecimiento del sistema multilateral y, en particular, con la labor que desarrolla ONU Turismo. Es ese marco, el Perú ha asumido recientemente responsabilidades relevantes dentro de la Organización, al ejercer la representación de la región de las Américas ante el Consejo Ejecutivo; así como, la Presidencia del Comité de Programa y Presupuesto, lo que refleja la confianza depositada en el país y su activa contribución al cumplimiento de los objetivos institucionales.

Además, el Perú cuenta con condiciones para la realización de reuniones internacionales de alto nivel, al disponer de una red de destinos con centros de convenciones, infraestructura hotelera y adecuada conectividad aérea. Esta capacidad ha sido ampliamente demostrada mediante la organización de encuentros internacionales de gran relevancia en los últimos años, como la Presidencia de APEC en 2008, 2016 y 2024, la VIII Cumbre de las Américas en 2018; y la 70 Comisión Regional de ONU Turismo para las Américas, durante el año 2025.

En relación con la Sección I del modelo de acuerdo, referida a "Prerrogativas, Inmunidades y facilidades", el Gobierno del Perú expresa la mayor disposición para que, durante el proceso de negociación de este instrumento, se contemplen las inmunidades y facilidades específicas que ONU Turismo considere indispensables para el adecuado desarrollo de la reunión. Lo anterior, considerando que la República del Perú no es Estado Parte de la Convención sobre Prerrogativas e Inmunidades de los Organismos Especializados de las Naciones Unidas de 1947.

Cabe destacar que este mecanismo ya ha sido aplicado satisfactoriamente en ocasiones anteriores, como en el marco del Acuerdo para la celebración de la 70.ª Comisión Regional de ONU Turismo para las Américas, suscrito en el año 2025, lo que constituye un antecedente positivo y plenamente compatible con las prácticas de la Organización.

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MAQUINA!**

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En ese sentido, reitero la total disposición del Gobierno del Perú para iniciar, a la brevedad, las negociaciones del acuerdo correspondiente, con miras a su oportuna suscripción, resaltando que el Perú ofrece una combinación única de riqueza cultural e infraestructura moderna, consolidándose como un escenario ideal para la realización de eventos de gran magnitud como la 128° Reunión del Consejo Ejecutivo de ONU Turismo.

Atentamente,

Firmado digitalmente
TERESA STELLA MERA GÓMEZ
Ministra de Comercio Exterior y Turismo

Expediente N° 1855768

ndc

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PERÚ

Ministerio
de Comercio Exterior
y TurismoDespacho
Ministerial

"Decenio de la Igualdad de Oportunidades para Mujeres y Hombres"
"Año de la Esperanza y el Fortalecimiento de la Democracia"

[COURTESY TRANSLATION]

San Isidro, January 27, 2026

OFICIO N° 065 -2026-MINCETUR/DM

Ms.

SHAIKHA AL NOWAIS

Secretary General

WORLD TOURISM ORGANIZATION

Subject: Candidacy of Peru to host the 128th Session of the UN Tourism Executive Council during the first semester of 2027

Dear Secretary General,

I am pleased to extend my greetings and formally express the interest of the Government of Peru, through the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Tourism, in hosting the 128th Session of the UN Tourism Executive Council, proposed to take place during the first half of 2027, in accordance with the Guidelines for the Selection of Venues for Sessions of the Executive Council and General Assembly established under Decision CE/94/3 III) d) of October 11, 2012.

This candidacy reflects Peru's firm conviction and commitment to strengthening the multilateral system and, in particular, to the work of UN Tourism. In this context, Peru has recently assumed key responsibilities within the Organization, including representing the Americas region on the Executive Council and serving as Chair of the Programme and Budget Committee, which attests to the confidence placed in our country and its active contribution to advancing institutional objectives.

Peru also offers the conditions required to host high-level international meetings, with destinations equipped with modern convention facilities, hotel infrastructure, and robust air connectivity. This capacity has been consistently demonstrated through the successful organization of major international events, including the APEC Presidencies in 2008, 2016, and 2024; the Eighth Summit of the Americas in 2018; and the 70th UN Tourism Regional Commission for the Americas in 2025.

Regarding Section I of the model agreement, "Privileges, Immunities, and Facilities," the Government of Peru expresses its readiness to provide the specific immunities and facilities that UN Tourism deems indispensable for the meeting, noting that Peru is not a State Party to the 1947 Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies. This approach has been successfully applied in previous instances, including under the Agreement for the 70th UN Tourism Regional Commission for the Americas signed in 2025, which constitutes a positive precedent consistent with the Organization's established practices.

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y Turismo****Despacho
Ministerial**

"Decenio de la Igualdad de Oportunidades para Mujeres y Hombres"
"Año de la Esperanza y el Fortalecimiento de la Democracia"

In this regard, I reiterate the Government of Peru's readiness to initiate negotiations for the corresponding agreement at the earliest opportunity, with a view to its timely signature. Peru offers a distinctive combination of cultural heritage and modern infrastructure, positioning the country as an ideal venue for an event of the scale and significance of the 128th Session of the UN Tourism Executive Council.

Sincerely,

TERESA STELLA MERA GÓMEZ
Minister of Foreign Trade and Tourism
Ministry of Foreign Trade and Tourism – MINCETUR

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MINISTERIO DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES
DESPACHO MINISTERIAL

En mi calidad de Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores del Perú, y en representación del Estado peruano, declaro que la República del Perú desea acoger la 128.ª reunión del Consejo Ejecutivo de la Organización Mundial del Turismo (ONU Turismo) en el primer semestre de 2027.

Habiendo examinado el marco jurídico para la celebración de reuniones de la ONU Turismo fuera de la sede y de conformidad con el procedimiento para la selección de los lugares de celebración de las reuniones del Consejo Ejecutivo adoptado en virtud de la resolución 631(XX), la República del Perú acepta las condiciones establecidas en la Sección II "Condiciones para organizar la Reunión" del Modelo de acuerdo para la celebración del Consejo Ejecutivo, versión 2024.

Respecto de la Sección I del Modelo de acuerdo, referida a "Prerrogativas, inmunidades y facilidades", la República del Perú expresa la mayor disposición para que, durante el respectivo proceso de negociación, se contemplen las inmunidades y facilidades específicas que ONU Turismo considere indispensables para el adecuado desarrollo de la reunión. Ello, considerando que la República del Perú no es Estado Parte de la Convención sobre Prerrogativas e Inmunidades de los Organismos Especializados de las Naciones Unidas de 1947.

Cabe precisar que la alternativa planteada ha sido aplicada satisfactoriamente en anteriores acuerdos de sede con organismos especializados de las Naciones Unidas para la celebración de reuniones internacionales en nuestro país. En ese sentido, la República del Perú manifiesta su compromiso de replicar para el presente caso la fórmula prevista en la Sección I del Acuerdo de Sede para la celebración de la 70ª Comisión Regional de ONU Turismo para las Américas, suscrito el 2025, y que permitió el desarrollo exitoso de dicha reunión.

En tales términos, la República del Perú declara su compromiso de proceder con la suscripción del modelo de acuerdo como país anfitrión de la 128.ª reunión del Consejo Ejecutivo de la ONU Turismo, teniendo en cuenta lo mencionado anteriormente y dentro del plazo establecido previo a su apertura.

Lima, 9 de abril de 2026



Hugo de Zela
Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores

A la Organización Mundial del Turismo
Madrid.-

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER

In my capacity as Minister of Foreign Affairs of Peru, and on behalf of the Peruvian State, I declare that the Republic of Peru wishes to host the 128th session of the Executive Council of the World Tourism Organization (UN Tourism) in the first half of 2027.

Having examined the legal framework for the holding of UN Tourism meetings away from headquarters, and in accordance with the procedure for the selection of venues for meetings of the Executive Council adopted pursuant to resolution 631(XX), the Republic of Peru accepts the conditions set forth in Section II “Conditions for organizing the Meeting” of the Model Agreement for the holding of the Executive Council, 2024 version.

With respect to Section I of the Model Agreement, which refers to “Privileges, immunities and facilities”, the Republic of Peru expresses its utmost readiness to ensure that the specific immunities and facilities that UN Tourism deems indispensable for the proper conduct of the meeting are taken into account during the corresponding negotiation process. This is in view of the fact that the Republic of Peru is not a State Party to the 1947 Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies of the United Nations.

It should be noted that the proposed approach has been satisfactorily applied in previous hosting agreements with United Nations specialized agencies for the holding of international meetings in our country. In this regard, the Republic of Peru expresses its commitment to replicate for the present case the formula set out in Section I of the Agreement for the holding of the 70th meeting of the UN Tourism Regional Commission for the Americas, signed in 2025, and which allowed the successful holding of said meeting.

Accordingly, the Republic of Peru declares its commitment to proceed with the signing of the model agreement as host country of the 128th session of the UN Tourism Executive Council, taking into account the above and within the established timeframe prior to its opening.

Lima, 9 April 2026

[SIGNATURE]

Hugo de Zela
Minister of Foreign Affairs

To: The World Tourism Organization Madrid