UN Tourism

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Agenda item 9
Membership status

CE/127/9(II)
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Suspension of membership in accordance with Article 34 of the Statutes and requests for temporary exemption from the application of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules

Executive summary

In accordance with FR 8(3), the Secretary-General transmits to the Executive Council updated information on the Members falling under the provisions of Article 34 of the Statutes and/or paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes, thanking those that have made the necessary efforts in order to fulfil their financial obligations and reminding Members of the importance of settling their contributions within the time period stipulated, thereby averting delays that could hamper the Organization's Programme of Work execution.

UN Tourism

DRAFT DECISION[1]

Agenda item 9
Membership status
(document CE/127/9(II))

The Executive Council,

Having examined the report containing updated information on the Members falling under provisions of Article 34 of the Statutes and/or paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the comprehensive information contained in document CE/127/9(II) and its annexes;

2. *Thanks* the Members (Full and Associate) that have made the necessary efforts in order to fulfil their financial obligations, urges Members that have not yet complied with their financial obligations to take the necessary steps to pay their contributions for 2026 as well as contribution arrears from previous year(s), and reminds them to pay their contributions within the time period stipulated by regulation 7(2) of the Financial Regulations; and

3. *Notes with satisfaction* that Bangladesh, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Nepal and Togo are no longer subject to the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules and/or Article 34 of the Statutes, since they have reduced their contribution arrears partially or in full.

[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. Members subject to provisions of Article 34 of the Statutes and/or paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes

1. The table in Annex II.A shows the Full Members subject to the provisions of Article 34 of the Statutes and/or paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes (texts shown in Annex I), as of 31 August 2026 and 31 October 2026 (19 Full Members, plus Associate Member Aruba). The latter Members have been deprived of Member's privileges in the form of services and the right to vote in the Assembly and Council.

2. The Secretariat has addressed letters to all the Members subject to the provisions of Article 34 of the Statutes and/or paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes, urging them to discharge their debts or propose plans for their payment in instalments over a period of years according to their circumstances.

3. The Full Member Uganda settled its arrears in full before the 26th session of the General Assembly therefore the provisions of Article 34 of the Statutes and paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes were no longer applicable as of November 2025.

4. The Secretariat, through its regional departments and under the supervision of Management, has been actively negotiating with Full and Associate Members—both through official correspondence and verbal discussions—regarding the application of Article 34 of the Statutes and/or paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes. These negotiations urge Members to settle their outstanding debts or propose payment plans in instalments over a period of years according to their circumstances.

5. The update from the previous statement as of 31 March 2026 (CE/126/9(II)) on the amount due by Members subject to provisions of Article 34 of the Statutes and/or paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes as of 31 August 2026 and 31 October 2026 is shown in Annex II.B.

II. Members granted temporary exemption from the application of Article 34 of the Statutes and paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes

6. Annex III shows the degree of compliance with the conditions laid down by the Assembly for Members with agreed payment plans for the settlement of their outstanding balances, and which have been granted a temporary exemption from the application of the stipulations of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules and Article 34 of the Statutes by the 26th session of the General Assembly (Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 7-11 November 2025) as of 31 August 2026. At the request of the Members mentioned in said table, the General Assembly agreed, in its resolution 783(XXVI) paragraphs 2 and 3 (excerpts shown in Annex IV) to grant them temporary exemption from the application of the aforementioned provisions subject to the following conditions: (a) to discharge the contribution corresponding to the present year before the General Assembly session at which their case is reviewed, ; and (b) strict observance of the agreed payment plan for the settlement of arrears.

7. Following General Assembly Resolution A/RES/783(XXVI) the Full Member Liberia submitted a payment plan to the 126 session of the Executive Council (CXXVI) which is partially accomplished pending ratification by the next session of the General Assembly.

8. All communications received from Members after the date of this document requesting temporary exemption from the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes are to be submitted to the present session of the Executive Council for its consideration.

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Annex I: Texts of Article 34 of the Statutes and paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes

Article 34 of the Statutes

1. Article 34 of the Statutes concerning the suspension of Members provides as follows:

> 1. If any Member is found by the Assembly to persist in a policy that is contrary to the fundamental aim of the Organization as mentioned in Article 3 of these Statutes, the Assembly may, by a resolution adopted by a majority of two-thirds of Full Members present and voting, suspend such Member from exercising the rights and enjoying the privileges of membership.
>
> 2. The suspension shall remain in force until a change of such policy is recognized by the Assembly.

2. At its seventh session, the General Assembly adopted the following resolution A/RES/217(VII) concerning the application of these provisions:

> **A/RES/217(VII)**
>
> Suspension of Members in arrears in the payment of statutory contributions: Article 34 of the Statutes
>
> *The General Assembly*,
>
> *Considering* decision CE/DEC/2(XXX) by which the Executive Council recommended the Assembly to apply Article 34 of the Statutes and consequently to suspend the Members of the Organization whose contribution arrears are equal to or exceed the contributions owed by such Members for four financial years and who have not, within six months, agreed with the Secretary-General on a payment plan for reimbursing these arrears,
>
> *Considering* document, A/7/10(j) prepared by the Secretary-General pursuant to the above Executive Council decision,
>
> *Recognizing* that Article 34 of the Statutes, which provides the sanction of suspension when a Member persists in a policy that is contrary to the fundamental aim of the Organization as mentioned in Article 3 of the Statutes, becomes applicable in the case of prolonged non-payment of obligatory contributions to the Organization's budget, such an attitude clearly constituting a policy contrary to the aims of WTO,
>
> 1. *Decides* to apply henceforward the measure of suspension provided for in Article 34 of the Statutes:
>
> (a) when a Member of the Organization has accumulated contribution arrears in respect of any four financial years, which need not be consecutive, partial payment of contributions not preventing the measure of suspension being applied, and;
>
> (b) when the aforementioned Member has not agreed a payment plan for the contribution arrears with the Secretary-General within a period of one year from the date of the resolution by which the Assembly noted that the measure of suspension was applicable to the Member pursuant to Article 34 of the Statutes;
>
> …
>
> 3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to apply the present resolution and to inform each session of the Executive Council concerning its application.

Paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes

3. The provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes read as follows:

> "13. A Member which is in arrears in the payment of its financial contributions to the Organization's expenditure shall be deprived of the privileges enjoyed by the Members in the form of services and the right to vote in the Assembly and the Council if the amount of its arrears equals or exceeds the amount of the contributions due from it for the preceding two financial years. At the request of the Council, the Assembly may, however, permit such a Member to vote and to enjoy the services of the Organization if it is satisfied that the failure to pay is due to conditions beyond the control of the Members."

4. In this regard, at its sixth session the Assembly adopted the following resolution:

> **A/RES/162(VI)**
>
> *The General Assembly*,
>
> …
>
> *Confirms* the following provisions;
>
> When a Full Member becomes subject to the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules and Regulation 8(7) of the Financial Regulations, the Assembly may restore that Member's right to vote and to enjoy the services of the Organization, only on an exceptional basis, when:
>
> 1. the Member has explained the reasons for its failure to pay in writing and has requested the restoration of its rights in writing;
>
> 2. the Council finds that the circumstances are beyond the Member's control;
>
> 3. the Council and the country concerned have agreed to the measures which should be taken in order to settle the arrears."

Annex II.A: Application of Article 34 of the Statutes and paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes as of 31 August 2026 and 31 October 2026 [2] [3] [4]

Statement of Members subject to provisions of Article 34 of the Statutes and/or Paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes
at 31 August 2026
Euros

			Arrear contributions		
Full Members	**Para. 13**	**Art. 34**	**Years**	**Number of years**	**EUR**
Total					*7,980,115.76*
Afghanistan	X	X	81-87,89-08,10,12,14,19-25	37	877,651.91
Antigua & Barbuda	X		22-23,25	3	52,730.00
Belarus	X		24-25	2	124,247.00
Bolivia	X	X	83-87,89-98,19-22,24-25	21	626,703.57
Cameroon	X	X	21-25	5	172,286.00
Central African Republic	X	X	07-25	19	481,837.20
Chad	X	X	12-25	14	384,715.56
Djibouti	X	X	03-25	23	536,391.00
Gabon	X	X	16-25	10	549,307.91
Guinea	X	X	00, 07-09,14-22,24-25	15	369,733.01
Guinea Bissau	X	X	92-96, 99-25	32	758,515.55
Niger	X	X	84-87,90-07,10-11,14-17,19-21,23	32	761,043.01
Nigeria	X		23-25	3	160,475.26
Papua New Guinea	X		23-25	3	107,963.00
Sao Tome et Principe	X	X	86-14,18-22,24-25	36	714,993.65
Somalia	X	X	18-25	8	228,152.00
Sudan	X	X	90-03,06-08,13-14,18-20,23-25	25	644,748.18
The Union of Comoros	X	X	18-21,23-25	7	163,462.00
Vanuatu	X	X	13-17, 20-25	11	265,159.95

[2] Amounts include assessed contributions for the first budget period after admission which were not included in the approved budget (extrabudgetary): Antigua and Barbuda 2022–23, Somalia and Comoros 2018–19.

[3] Years shown include years partly paid

[4] Provisions of Paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes and Article 34 of the Statutes are also applicable to the Associate Member Aruba whose arrear contributions for the period 2019-2025 amount to 181,236.00 Euros.

Statement of Members subject to provisions of Article 34 of the Statutes and/or Paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes
at 31 October 2026
Euros

			Arrear contributions		
Full Members	**Para. 13**	**Art. 34**	**Years**	**Number of years**	**EUR**
Total					*7,807,439.11*
Afghanistan	X	X	81-87,89-08,10,12,14,19-25	37	877,651.91
Antigua & Barbuda	X		22-23,25	3	52,730.00
Belarus	X		24-25	2	124,247.00
Bolivia	X	X	83-87,89-98,19-22,24-25	21	626,703.57
Cameroon	X	X	21-25	5	172,286.00
Central African Republic	X	X	07-25	19	481,837.20
Chad	X	X	12-25	14	384,715.56
Djibouti	X	X	03-25	23	536,391.00
Gabon	X	X	18-25	8	395,941.26
Guinea	X	X	00, 07-09,14-22,24-25	15	369,733.01
Guinea Bissau	X	X	92-96, 99-25	32	758,515.55
Niger	X	X	84-87,90-07,10-11,14-17,19-21,23	32	761,043.01
Nigeria	X		23-25	3	160,475.26
Papua New Guinea	X		23-25	3	107,963.00
Sao Tome et Principe	X	X	86-14,18-22,24	35	695,683.65
Somalia	X	X	18-25	8	228,152.00
Sudan	X	X	90-03,06-08,13-14,18-20,23-25	25	644,748.18
The Union of Comoros	X	X	18-21,23-25	7	163,462.00
Vanuatu	X	X	13-17, 20-25	11	265,159.95

Annex II.B: Movements from previous statement of contributions due by Members subject to the provisions of Article 34 of the Statutes and/or paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes as of 31 August 2026 and 31 October 2026

Movements from previous statement of the amount due by Members subject to provisions of Article 34 of the Statutes and/or Paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes
at 31 August 2026
Euros

	31/03/2026	Increase	Decrease	31/08/2026
Amount due	*8,454,048.14*	-	*473,932.38*	*7,980,115.76*
Afghanistan	*877,651.91*		*0.00*	
Antigua & Barbuda	*52,730.00*			
Bangladesh	*110,622.00*		*110,622.00*	
Belarus	*124,247.00*			
Bolivia	*626,703.57*		*0.00*	
Cameroon	*208,211.00*		*35,925.00*	
Central African Republic	*481,837.20*		*0.00*	
Chad	*384,715.56*		*0.00*	
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	*89,970.50*		*89,970.50*	
Djibouti	*536,391.00*		*0.00*	
Gabon	549,307.91		*0.00*	
Guinea	*369,733.01*		*0.00*	
Guinea Bissau	758,515.55		*0.00*	
Nepal	62,123.00		*62,123.00*	
Niger	761,043.01	-	0.00	
Nigeria	160,475.26			
Papua New Guinea	*107,963.00*		*0.00*	
Sao Tome et Principe	*714,993.65*		*0.00*	
Somalia	*228,152.00*		*0.00*	
Sudan	*644,748.18*		*0.00*	
Togo	*103,167.83*		*103,167.83*	
The Union of Comoros	*163,462.00*		*0.00*	
Vanuatu	*337,284.00*		*72,124.05*	

Movements from previous statement of the amount due by Members subject to provisions of Article 34 of the Statutes and/or Paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes
at 31 October 2026
Euros

	31/08/2026	Increase	Decrease	31/10/2026
Amount due	*7,980,115.76*	-	*172,676.65*	*7,807,439.11*
Afghanistan	*877,651.91*		*0.00*	
Antigua & Barbuda	*52,730.00*			
Bangladesh	-		*0.00*	
Belarus	*124,247.00*			
Bolivia	*626,703.57*		*0.00*	
Cameroon	*172,286.00*		*0.00*	
Central African Republic	*481,837.20*		*0.00*	
Chad	*384,715.56*		*0.00*	
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	-		*0.00*	
Djibouti	*536,391.00*		*0.00*	
Gabon	549,307.91		*153,366.65*	
Guinea	*369,733.01*		*0.00*	
Guinea Bissau	758,515.55		*0.00*	
Nepal	-		*0.00*	
Niger	761,043.01	-	0.00	
Nigeria	160,475.26			
Papua New Guinea	*107,963.00*		*0.00*	
Sao Tome et Principe	*714,993.65*		*19,310.00*	
Somalia	*228,152.00*		*0.00*	
Sudan	*644,748.18*		*0.00*	
Togo	-		*0.00*	
The Union of Comoros	*163,462.00*		*0.00*	
Vanuatu	*265,159.95*		*0.00*	

Annex III: Members granted temporary exemption from the application of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes (resolution A/RES/783(XXVI)) as of 31 August 2026 and 31 October 2026 [5] [6]

Members granted temporary exemption from the application of Paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes
Compliance with the conditions laid down by the 26th General Assembly (A/RES/783(XXVI))
at 31 August 2026

	Arrears payment plan approval and details				Strict fulfilment of the agreed payment plan		
	GA/EC approval		Details			Payment made	
Full Member	Year	Payment made	Start from	Number of years	Year	Contribution for the year	Annual arrears
Burundi	2025	No	2026	30	2026	No	No
Cambodia	2006	Yes	2006	30	2006-2026	Yes	Yes
Ethiopia	2025	Yes	2026	10	2026	No	No
Gambia, Republic of the	2015	Yes	2016	15	2016-2025	Yes	Yes
					2026	No	No
Iraq	2010	Yes	2014	25	2014-2026	Yes	Yes
Kyrgyzstan	2016	Yes	2017	21	2017-2026	Yes	Yes
Lao People's Dem. Republic	2005	Yes	2005	26	2005-2026	Yes	Yes
Malawi	2023	No	2024	20	2024-2025	Yes	Yes
					2026	No	No
Mauritania	2025	Yes	2025	30	2025	Yes	Yes
					2026	No	No
Sierra Leone	2025	Yes	2022	20	2025	Yes	Yes
					2026	No	No
Syrian Arab Republic	2025	Yes	2024	21	2025	Yes	Yes
					2026	No	No
Turkmenistan	2023	No	2024	10	2024-2026	Yes	Yes
Uruguay	2017	Yes	2007	13	2007-2026	Yes	Yes
Venezuela	2023	Yes	2023	10	2023-2025	Yes	Yes
					2026	No	No

[5] Temporary exemptions for unaccomplished payment plans to be reviewed by the next session of the General Assembly in 2027.

[6] In 2017 Uruguay requested a revision of its initial payment plan dated 2007.

Members granted temporary exemption from the application of Paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes
Compliance with the conditions laid down by the 26th General Assembly (A/RES/783(XXVI))
at 31 October 2026

	Arrears payment plan approval and details				Strict fulfilment of the agreed payment plan		
	GA/EC approval		Details			Payment made	
Full Member	Year	Payment made	Start from	Number of years	Year	Contribution for the year	Annual arrears
Burundi	2025	No	2026	30	2026	No	No
Cambodia	2006	Yes	2006	30	2006-2026	Yes	Yes
Ethiopia	2025	Yes	2026	10	2026	No	No
Gambia, Republic of the	2015	Yes	2016	15	2016-2025	Yes	Yes
					2026	No	No
Iraq	2010	Yes	2014	25	2014-2026	Yes	Yes
Kyrgyzstan	2016	Yes	2017	21	2017-2026	Yes	Yes
Lao People's Dem. Republic	2005	Yes	2005	26	2005-2026	Yes	Yes
Malawi	2023	No	2024	20	2024-2025	Yes	Yes
					2026	No	No
Mauritania	2025	Yes	2025	30	2025	Yes	Yes
					2026	No	No
Sierra Leone	2025	Yes	2022	20	2026	Yes	Yes
Syrian Arab Republic	2025	Yes	2024	21	2025	Yes	Yes
					2026	No	No
Turkmenistan	2023	No	2024	10	2024-2026	Yes	Yes
Uruguay	2017	Yes	2007	13	2007-2026	Yes	Yes
Venezuela	2023	Yes	2023	10	2023-2025	Yes	Yes
					2026	No	No

Annex IV: Excerpts of resolution A/RES/783(XXVI)

The General Assembly,

Having examined the report in document A/26/6(b) rev.2 transmitted by the Secretary-General containing updated information on the Members falling under the provisions of Article 34 of the Statutes and/or paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes,

(…)

2. Decides, in view of their compliance with the agreed payment plans during the period of reference of this document, to renew the temporary exemption from the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes and/or Article 34 of the Statutes to the Full Members Cambodia, Iraq, Kyrgyzstan, Malawi, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Gambia, Turkmenistan, Uruguay and Venezuela;

3. Ratifies the payment plans and grants temporary exemption from the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes and Article 34 of the Statutes to Full Members Sierra Leone, and Syrian Arab Republic as endorsed by the Executive Council at its 122nd and 121st sessions, respectively, as well as to Burundi, Ethiopia and Mauritania as endorsed by the 124th session of the Executive Council;

(…)

5. Grants Liberia a temporary exemption from the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes and Article 34 of the Statutes, in accordance with General Assembly resolution A/RES/162(VI), albeit making it clear that these provisions shall be reapplied to Liberia should it fail to submit a payment plan for the settlement of its arrears by 31 March 2026;

6. Also decides to maintain the temporary exemption from the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes to Full Member Uganda, as well as to Affiliate Member Adventure Travel and Trade Association (ATTA), albeit making it clear that these provisions will be reapplied to these Members if they are not up to date with their payment plans by 1 April 2026;[7]

(…)

8. Establishes the following conditions for the Members requesting temporary exemption from the provisions of paragraph 13 of the Financing Rules attached to the Statutes and which propose payment plans to settle their arrears in instalments: (i) to discharge the contribution corresponding to the present year before the General Assembly session at which their case is reviewed, and (ii) strict observance of the plan agreed for the settlement of arrears

[7] Affiliate Member Adventure Travel and Trade Association's (ATTA) ceased to be active on 1st April 2026 as per General Assembly Resolution A/RES/783(XXVI) and DFR.IV.2