



21 November 2019

Information circular*

To: Members of the staff

From: The Assistant Secretary-General for Human Resources

Subject: **Official holidays for 2020 at United Nations Headquarters**

1. In accordance with General Assembly resolution [52/214 A](#) and decision 52/468, and [ST/SGB/2019/6](#), the official holidays for 2020 at United Nations Headquarters have been designated as follows:

1 January	New Year's Day
10 April	Good Friday
25 May	Memorial Day
26 May	Eid al-Fitr** (observed)
3 July	Independence Day*** (observed)
31 July	Eid al-Adha
7 September	Labour Day
26 November	Thanksgiving Day
25 December	Christmas Day

2. The General Assembly, in its resolutions [69/250](#) and [72/19](#), recognized the significance of a number of other holidays. Accordingly, in the interest of respecting the diversity of the staff of the United Nations, staff members are given the option of observing any one of the following eight floating holidays:

7 January	Orthodox Christmas
17 February	Presidents' Day
20 March	Nowruz**** (observed)
17 April	Orthodox Good Friday
7 May	Day of Vesak
28 September	Yom Kippur
13 November	Diwali† (observed)
30 November	Gurpurab

* Expiration date of the present information circular: 31 December 2020.

** Eid al-Fitr falls on Sunday, 24 May 2020, but will be observed on Tuesday, 26 May 2020.

*** Independence Day falls on Saturday, 4 July 2020, but will be observed on Friday, 3 July 2020.

**** Nowruz falls on Saturday, 21 March 2020, but will be observed on Friday, 20 March 2020.

† Diwali falls on Saturday, 14 November 2020, but will be observed on Friday, 13 November 2020.



3. Staff members should inform their supervisors in advance as early in the year as possible of the floating holiday they wish to observe. Managers are to respect the floating holiday chosen by the staff member. If, owing to exigencies of service, a staff member in the General Service and related categories is required to report for work on the date chosen as the floating holiday, the staff member will be recorded as having taken the floating holiday and compensated for overtime worked on an official holiday. Staff in the Professional and higher categories who are required to work on the date chosen as the floating holiday will not be recorded as having taken the floating holiday and may choose to observe one of the remaining floating holidays.
