



28 October 2020

Information circular*

To: Members of the staff

From: The Assistant Secretary-General for Human Resources

Subject: **Official holidays for 2021 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 2021 at United Nations Headquarters have been designated as follows:

1 January	New Year's Day
2 April	Good Friday
13 May	Eid al-Fitr
31 May	Memorial Day
5 July	Independence Day** (observed)
20 July	Eid al-Adha
6 September	Labour Day
25 November	Thanksgiving Day
24 December	Christmas Day*** (observed)

2. The General Assembly, in its resolutions [69/250](#) and [74/252](#), 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
15 February	Presidents' Day
22 March	Nowruz**** (observed)
30 April	Orthodox Good Friday
26 May	Day of Vesak
16 September	Yom Kippur
4 November	Diwali
19 November	Gurpurab

* Expiration date of the present information circular: 31 December 2021.

** Independence Day falls on Sunday, 4 July 2021, but will be observed on Monday, 5 July 2021.

*** Christmas Day falls on Saturday, 25 December 2021, but will be observed on Friday, 24 December 2021.

**** Nowruz falls on Sunday, 21 March 2021, but will be observed on Monday, 22 March 2021.



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.
