



Secretariat

Office of the Director-General
Correspondence
seen by the DG

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29 September 2025

Information Circular No. 5Subject: **Official Holidays for 2026 at the United Nations Office at Geneva**

1. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 52/214 A and decision 52/468, the official holidays for 2026 at the United Nations Office at Geneva have been designated as follows:

Thursday	1 January	New Year's Day
Friday	20 March	Eid al-Fitr / Nowruz
Friday	3 April	Good Friday/Orthodox Good Friday
Monday	6 April	Easter Monday
Monday	25 May	Whit Monday
Tuesday	26 May	Eid al-Adha
Friday	31 July	Swiss National Day (observed) ¹
Thursday	10 September	Jeûne Genevois
Friday	25 December	Christmas Day

2. The General Assembly, in its resolutions 69/250, 72/19 and 78/245, 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 one floating holiday of their choice, which should be chosen from the list below:

Wednesday	7 January	Orthodox Christmas
Tuesday	17 February	Lunar New Year
Friday	1 May	Day of Vesak
Thursday	14 May	Ascension Day

¹ Swiss National Day falls on Saturday, 1 August, and will be observed on Friday, 31 July.

Friday	14 August	Assumption Day ²
Monday	21 September	Yom Kippur ³ / Jeûne Fédéral ⁴
Monday	9 November	Diwali ⁵
Tuesday	24 November	Gurpurab

3. For planning and technical reasons, staff members should inform their supervisors before 31 January 2026 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 may choose to observe another day as a floating holiday.

The present circular expires on 31 December 2026.



(Signed) Tatiana Valovaya
Director-General
United Nations Office at Geneva

² Assumption of Mary falls on Saturday, 15 August, and will be observed on Friday, 14 August.

³ Yom Kippur starts in the evening of Sunday, 20 September, and will be observed on Monday, 21 September.

⁴ Jeûne Fédéral falls on Sunday, 20 September, and will be observed on Monday, 21 September.

⁵ Diwali falls on Sunday, 8 November, and will be observed on Monday, 9 November.