



26 October 2018

Information Circular No. 5*

Subject: **Official Holidays for 2019 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 2019 at the United Nations Office at Geneva have been designated as follows:

1 January	New Year's Day	Tuesday
19 April	Good Friday	Friday
22 April	Easter Monday	Monday
5 June	Eid Al-Fitr	Wednesday
10 June	Whit Monday	Monday
1 August	Swiss National Day	Thursday
12 August	Eid al-Adha	Monday
5 September	Jeûne genevois	Thursday
25 December	Christmas Day	Wednesday

2. The General Assembly, in its resolution 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 one floating holiday of their choice, which should be chosen from the list below:

7 January	Orthodox Christmas	Monday
21 March	Nowruz	Thursday
17 May	Day of Vesak ** (Observed)	Friday
30 May	Ascension Day	Thursday
16 September	Jeûne fédéral *** (Observed)	Monday
9 October	Yom Kippur	Wednesday
28 October	Diwali **** (Observed)	Monday
12 November	Gurpurab	Tuesday

* The present circular expires on 31 December 2019.

** Day of Vesak falls on Saturday, 18 May 2019, but will be observed on Friday, 17 May 2019.

*** The day of Jeûne fédéral falls on Sunday, 15 September 2019, but will be observed on Monday, 16 September 2019.

**** Day of Diwali falls on Sunday, 27 October 2019, but will be observed on Monday, 28 October 2019.

3. For planning and technical reasons, staff members should inform their supervisors as soon as possible but no later than 31 January 2019 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.

(Signed) Michael Møller
Director-General of UNOG