



INFORMATION CIRCULAR

To: All Staff Members

Date: 14 December 2018
Ref: ADM01-01-10DOA/4-105 

From: Carlos Haddad, Director
Division of Administration 

Subject: Official Holidays for 2019 – Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

1. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 52/214 A and decision 52/468, the official holidays for 2019 at the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa have been designated as follows:

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|----|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. | 1 January 2019 | International New Year |
| 2. | 7 January 2019 | Ethiopian Christmas |
| 3. | 26 April 2019 | Orthodox Good Friday |
| 4. | 5 June 2019 | Eid-al-Fitr (End of Ramadan) |
| 5. | 12 August 2019 | Eid-al-Adha (Arafa) |
| 6. | 11 September 2019 | Ethiopian New Year |
| 7. | 27 September 2019 | Finding of the True Cross (Meskel) |
| 8. | 11 November (Observed) | Mawlid (The Prophet's Birthday) |
| 9. | 25 December 2019 | International Christmas |

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 any one of the following six holidays:

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|------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 March 2019 | Adwa Victory Day* (observed) |
| 21 March 2019 | Nowruz |
| 17 May 2019 | Day of Vesak** (observed) |
| 9 October 2019 | Yom Kippur |
| 28 October 2019 | Diwali*** (observed) |
| 12 November 2019 | Gurpurab |

3. Staff members should inform their supervisors by 15 February 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 will not be recorded as having taken the floating holiday and may choose to observe one of the remaining floating holidays.

* Adwa Victory Day falls on Saturday, 2 March 2019, but will be observed on Friday, 1 March 2019
** Day of Vesak falls on Saturday, 18 May, 2019, but will be observed on Friday, 17 May 2019
*** Day of Diwali falls on Sunday, 27 October 2019, but will be observed on Monday, 28 October 2019