

TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP IN UNWTO

The UNWTO or United Nations World Tourism Organization has divided memberships into three major types, one of which is governments and the other is organizations related to tourism.

1. Full Members

Full Members are only sovereign states and they enjoy all rights and responsibilities concerning UNWTO, including voting rights. They take part in decision-making and the forming of global tourism policies while also covering a part of the organization's budget.

2. Associate Members

The territories or regions that are under UNWTO jurisdiction but do not have their own external relations and have control over the tourism sector are classified as Associate Members. They can engage in activities and discussions of the UNWTO but their voting rights are not as extensive as Full Members. Their involvement is a factor that fosters tourism development in the regions.

3. Affiliate Members

The membership of Affiliate Members consists of NGOs, private sector companies, universities, and other bodies such as tourism associations and local authorities that are connected with and support

tourism. They do not participate in the voting but their contribution consists of expertise, innovation, and practical experience. The role of Affiliate Members is to connect the public policy and private tourism sector.

Membership of the UNWTO consists of:

- Full Members (sovereign states)
- Associate Members (territories/regions)
- Affiliate Members (private sector and tourism-related bodies)
- The UNWTO structure thus has a comprehensive representation of world tourism.

MEMBER OF UNWTO

An UNWTO Full Member is a nation that possesses the power of recognition, fulfills certain conditions, and submits to a formal admissions procedure.

Criteria for Qualification:

- **Sovereign State Status**

Only nations that are recognized as sovereign can be Full Members.

- **Membership in the United Nations**

UN Member nations become UNWTO Full Members automatically if they accept the UNWTO Statutes.

Non-UN members might gain entry too, however, their admission will need to be sanctioned through a two-thirds majority voting by the UNWTO General Assembly.

- **Acceptance of UNWTO Statutes**

The nation will be required to accept the UNWTO Constitution (Statutes) in writing and to adhere to the spirit, aims, and regulations of the same.

- **Financial Contribution**

Full Members are obligated to pay their share of contribution towards UNWTO's budget according to the scale of assessed contributions.

- **Rights and Responsibilities:**

1. Full voting privileges in the UNWTO General Assembly
2. The power to affect worldwide tourism policies
3. Membership in committees and programs
4. Duty to ensure tourism is sustainable, responsible, and inclusive

In summary, a Full Member of the UNWTO is a sovereign state—mostly a UN Member State—that accepts the organization's statutes, makes financial contributions, and is actively involved in the development of international tourism through its participation.