



Open call for applications for the general
commissioning of the

**International Union of Architects (UIA)
Barcelona World Congress 2026**

UIABCNWC26

June 2023

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1. Background

International Union of Architects (UIA)

The International Union of Architects (UIA) is an international non-governmental association that brings together architects' associations from all the countries around world that wish to join, without discrimination or prerequisites. All registered or associate architects from all the countries represented in the UIA are automatically considered UIA members.

In the case of Spain, the professional associations are called *colegios profesionales*. In Spain, each region (usually, though not always, the autonomous community) has its own independent professional association. The body representing the union of professional associations in the different Spanish regions in Spain is the Consejo Superior de Arquitectos de España (Higher Council of Professional Associations of Architects of Spain, CSCAE), based in Madrid, which is the Spanish UIA member institution and the only Spanish association directly recognised by the UIA.

The UIA is the only international architecture association recognised by UNESCO and is considered a UNESCO advisory body on habitat and spatial quality, and for UNESCO-endorsed call for tenders.

The UIA was founded as the Union Internationale des Architectes in Lausanne in 1948 with 27 founding delegations (countries). It currently has 124 member countries and 1.3 million members (registered architects in the member countries). The UIA's permanent headquarters are in Paris.

The UIA functions as a democratic, federated body divided into five macro-regions. It is governed by two bodies of elected members: the Bureau and the Council. The highest governing body, called the Bureau, is democratically elected every three years, and is made up of the president, the immediate past president, the secretary-general, the treasurer and five regional vice-presidents (one for each macro region). In terms of organisation, member countries are assigned to one of five geographic zones or macro-regions. Each of these regions chooses the members of the Council. Thus, the Council is made up of four members from each region. Together, the members of the Council and Bureau form the UIA General Assembly.

The Council meets at least twice a year and the Bureau at least once between meetings of the Council. The UIA General Assembly is held immediately after the UIA Congress (every three years) and has the power to renew positions and approve reference and regulatory documents. It operates democratically through its delegate members. In the days following UIA Barcelona 2026, the UIA General Assembly will be held in the same city to renew the UIA bodies and choose the host city for the UIA's congress in 2032.

The UIA's functions focus on the professional field: the qualification and promotion of the architectural profession as a means to improve the quality of global architecture. The UIA conducts its advisory role for international organisations such as UNESCO through commissions that act both as consultative bodies and provide *ex officio* recommendations. The UIA currently has four commissions: the Architecture Education Commission, the Professional Practice Commission, the International Competitions Commission and the Sustainable Development Goals Commission. Another of the UIA's regular activities is to award prizes and manage international competitions (especially in

areas that are sensitive for historic and heritage reasons and are therefore promoted and endorsed by UNESCO).

In addition, the UIA has a number of work programmes that promote specific goals and values on issues such as education and professional practice in architecture. The current work programmes are:

Architecture for All / Architecture, Cities and Territories / Architecture and Children / Community Architecture and Human Rights / Education and Cultural Spaces / Heritage and Cultural Identity / Indigenous Peoples / Public Health / Public Spaces / Social Habitat / Sports and Leisure

International Union of Architects World Congresses

The first UIA architecture congress was also the institution's founding act. It was held in 1948 in Lausanne, in the midst of post-World War II reconstruction. The congresses are held every three years in a UIA member country and always with an internationalist outlook. At present, the UIA congresses are the organisation's main regular activity.

UIA congresses have a highly professional role to play, and at each congress, one or more discussion topics relevant to the profession are chosen and summed up in a motto. The mottoes for the last congresses were:

Copenhagen 2023: Sustainable Futures. Leave no one behind.

Rio 2020-2021 (congress delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic): All the worlds. Just one World.

Seoul 2017: Soul of City.

Durban 2014: Architecture Otherwhere.

Tokyo 2011: Design 2050.

Turin 2008: Transmitting Architecture.

Istanbul 2005: Grand Bazaar of Architectures.

Berlin 2002: Resource Architecture.

Beijing 1999: Architecture of the 21st Century.

Barcelona 1996: Present and Futures: Architecture in Cities.

UIA World Congress Barcelona 1996

Barcelona hosted the 19th UIA World Congress in 1996, in a very different context to the current one, both professionally, politically and socially. The city won the bid in 1991, a year before the Olympic Games were held in the city. The Congress, held four years after the Olympic Games, came at a moment of maximum international interest in the so-called "Barcelona model", the local design boom and the initial expansion in tourism to the city. Perhaps for this reason, the success of the event exceeded all the organisation's expectations. Another reason for the massive attendance was the fact that it brought the great architects of the time together in Barcelona. During the congress sessions, the architects contributed in a variety of formats (from lectures to round table debates). Among them were Peter Eisenman, Norman Foster, Jacques Herzog and Daniel Libeskind (at a round table debate chaired by Luis Fernández Galiano and Joan Busquets), Zaha Hadid, Tadao Ando, Richard Rogers, Rem Koolhaas, Kenneth Frampton and Oriol Bohigas.

The Congress was mostly attended by local and international architecture students.

UIA Barcelona 2026, UIABCNWC26

In 2018, the UIA and UNESCO agreed that the city chosen to host the UIA Congress would automatically be eligible for UIA-UNESCO designation as the World Capital of Architecture for the same year as the congress.

The race to designate Barcelona as the host of the UIA World Congress and UIA-UNESCO World Capital of Architecture began on January 25, 2019, when Barcelona City Council issued an institutional declaration stating its intention to present the city's candidacy for UNESCO World Capital of Architecture in 2026, a designation inextricably linked to hosting the UIA World Congress of Architects. As Spain's representative to the International Union of Architects, the CSCAE formally submitted the proposal and, from that moment on, Barcelona City Council, the Architects' Association of Catalonia (COAC) and the CSCAE worked together to present the bid and final candidacy dossiers.

In January 2020, Barcelona was officially named by the UIA as a candidate city with only one rival, the Chinese city of Beijing. From that moment on, Barcelona's candidacy received additional support from the Spanish Ministry of Transport, Mobility and Urban Agenda, and the Generalitat de Catalunya, which joined Barcelona City Council, the CSCAE and the COAC. A memorandum of understanding signed by the five institutions in June 2021 set out their commitment to promoting the bid and supporting the events, should Barcelona be the winning city.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions, the Rio Congress scheduled for 2020 had to be postponed for a year. In 2021, with restrictions still in place in much of the world, the Rio Congress and subsequent UIA General Assembly, where the next venue is chosen, had to be held virtually. Beijing and Barcelona were allowed to submit a promotional video 10-15 minutes in length as the only element to influence the vote. On 27 July, at the UIA General Assembly, a vote was held in which Barcelona's candidacy won by 147 votes to 129.

A working group was then set up with representatives from the five institutions promoting the project: CSCAE, COAC, the Ministry of Transport, Mobility and Urban Agenda, the Generalitat de Catalunya and Barcelona City Council, who have taken on the organisational work to prepare for UIA Barcelona 2026 (UIABCNWC26).

In hosting the 2026 Congress, Barcelona will become the first city to host the event twice. The institutions working on its organisation consider this an opportunity to rethink and update formats and themes, in a global context of change. For this reason, the organisation of UIABCNWC26 has decided to submit, for the first time in the history of UIA congresses, the general commissioning of the event to an international selection process, through a two-round competition. The aim of this international competition is to provide an incentive to broadening the horizons of this collective reflection and thus organise a congress of maximum relevance and interest to the global community of architects.

The structure of the UIA congresses is defined by the institution itself. Nevertheless, the opportunity to hold an international competition will not only serve to establish the themes for discussion at UIABCNWC26, but also to rethink the nature of an international architecture congress in a context of a climate and energy crisis and with the new perspectives arising from the COVID-19 pandemic, always within the framework and general structure determined by the UIA itself.

The announcement of this competition is the result of an agreement between the organisations and government bodies organising the UIABCNWC26:

- Barcelona City Council
- Generalitat de Catalunya Ministry of Territory
- Spanish Ministry of Transport, Mobility and Urban Agenda (MITMA)
- Higher Council of Professional Associations of Architects of Spain (CSCAE)
- Architects' Association of Catalonia (COAC)

2. General framework

Although UIA congresses are largely professional and adopt a general approach, each congress highlights a specific theme relevant at the time. In addition to this general theme (accompanied by a motto that summarises it), the very structure of the congress sessions, preparatory events and parallel events should extend the debate to other areas of discussion related to and arising from the general theme.

The UIABCNWC26 Working Group has drafted a conceptual framework summarising the general approach the organisations and government authorities involved in organising UIABCNWC26 would like to imprint on the event, in terms of the discussion topics.

Participants in the UIABCNWC26 commissioning competition must develop their conceptual proposal by establishing a motto and a general theme. The motto and theme will consider and interpret the conceptual approach specified above and must be capable of covering the different related themes, establishing priorities, groups and thematic hierarchies, and incorporating other possible visions.

The motto and theme should reflect and match the complexity of the current moment and the challenges facing architects in the coming years. In short, the established theme will serve as the global presentation of the Congress while containing and presenting a reflection on the transformative capacity of architecture as a discipline, in relation to the social, cultural and environmental responsibility inherent in our professional activity, with special emphasis on the context of climate crisis/emergency, and how to address the latter at all possible scales.

(TABLE 1 next page)

TABLE 1 - Conceptual Framework proposed by the UIABCNWC26 Working Group -

GENERAL FRAMEWORK	VALUES OF ARCHITECTURE	AREAS	TOPICS	REFERENCES
<p>- <i>Architecture and urban planning as defining factors of the form of the city</i></p> <p>- <i>Global relevance: the role of architecture and the architect in today's world and in different development scenarios</i></p> <p>- <i>Trans-scale vision: from building to neighbourhood, city and territory</i></p>	<p>Social and human dimension</p>	<p>INHABIT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Human dimension of architecture. - Architecture as a means to improving people's lives. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Architecture's ability to improve ways of living, working, enjoyment, play, education. - Housing as a right and a fundamental part of the city. - Architecture and gender. - Inclusive architecture: architecture for all life experiences (children, young people, adults, the elderly, migrants, minorities). - Civic engagement in architectural processes. <i>Co-creation</i>. - Public architecture: work on collective spaces, the physical framework for people's relationships and cohesion. - City models. - Landscape. 	<p>1. LAW ON ARCHITECTURE Promoting architectural quality to improve people's quality of life</p> <p>2. NEW EUROPEAN BAUHAUS Promoting the architectural dimension and its value in improving the quality of towns and cities to achieve a sustainable, inclusive and beautiful society</p> <p>3. SDGs and Urban Agendas In particular SDG 11: inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities and communities</p>
	<p>Environmental value</p>	<p>SUSTAINABILITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Health: reconnecting with nature. - Architecture's ability to influence the environment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Circular architecture: design; building; materials. - Bioclimatic architecture. - Energy efficiency and self-sufficient buildings. - Nature-based solutions and green infrastructure. - Adaptation to climate change and new material culture. - Energy model. Decarbonisation. - The relevance of the landscape. 	
	<p>Functional and technical quality (process and industry)</p>	<p>BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Technology applied to the architect's work. - Prefabrication and digital fabrication. - Transformation of production systems. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Architecture's ability to devise and implement the optimal configuration, design and habitability of spaces. - Suitability and technical quality of buildings to accommodate intended uses and support changes over time. - Building recycling. - New construction processes and systems: the role of prefabrication. - The role of trades and vernacular constructive knowledge. - Research and technology transfer in the industry. - Economic models. 	
	<p>Cultural relevance and disciplinary framework</p>	<p>THE LIMITS OF THE DISCIPLINE: CULTURE, EDUCATION AND DEBATE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Artistic aspect of architecture and heritage. - Contribution to the cultural debate. - Practice of the profession. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inherent value of architecture as art: beauty as an end. - Preserving and generating an architectural heritage: managing existing heritage/generating quality heritage that prioritises cultural values and integration into the environment in its design. - Research and promotion of creativity in architecture. - Contribution of architecture to the debate and reflection on significant issues in society and culture. - Architecture education. - New ways of working for architects. The role of new technologies in the architect's work. - Ways of sharing architecture with society: debate, dissemination and exchange. - Architectures for the virtual world. 	

3. Purpose and scope

The purpose of these Terms and Conditions is to regulate the two-round selection process for a commissioning project for the International Union of Architects Barcelona World Congress 2026 (UIABCNWC26), which must include the following tasks and functions:

TABLE 2

CONGRESS CONCEPT PROPOSAL	PROJECT SET-UP, MANAGEMENT AND COORDINATION		
	BEFORE THE CONGRESS	DURING THE CONGRESS 30 JUNE-2 JULY 2026	AFTER THE CONGRESS
1. ESTABLISHING THE CONGRESS THEME AND MOTTO 2. DEVELOPING DISCUSSION TOPICS, GOALS AND OBJECTIVES IN RELATION TO THE THEME 3. DEVELOPMENT OF CONTENTS IN RELATION TO THE CONGRESS STRUCTURE 4. CONCLUDING DOCUMENTS AND NARRATIVE IN LINE WITH OBJECTIVES	PREPARATION AND ORGANISATION OF THE WHOLE EVENT MANAGEMENT OF THE ALLOCATED BUDGET PROMOTIONAL ACTIONS INTERNET COMMUNICATION SOCIAL MEDIA COORDINATION PREPARATORY EVENTS OR DISCUSSIONS AS DETERMINED BY THE COMMISSIONING TEAM SELECTION AND MANAGEMENT OF SPEAKERS AND CALLS FOR PARTICIPATION CHOICE AND PREPARATION OF THE CONGRESS VENUES AND SOCIAL EVENTS (PARTIES, STAGING, PROJECTIONS, ETC.) CALL FOR COMPETITION ENTRIES (MINIMUM UIA COMPETITION FOR STUDENTS) EXHIBITION/S (TO BE CONTINUED DURING THE CONGRESS AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY) AND ANY OTHER SIDE EVENTS THE TEAM PROPOSES PREPARATION OF DOCUMENTATION, PUBLICATIONS, ETC. COLLABORATION IN FINDING SPONSORSHIPS	CONCEPTUALISATION AND PREPARATION OF THE RECEPTION FOR UIA MEMBERS AND GUESTS AND THE PARTY OPEN TO THE PUBLIC PREPARATION OF MATERIALS TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO CONGRESS PARTICIPANTS EVENT PRESENTATION AND COORDINATION OPENING CEREMONY DESIGN OF THE CONGRESS SESSIONS: - 3-4 PLENARY SESSIONS - SEMINARS, DEBATES, WORKSHOPS - LECTURES, MEETINGS (ACTIONS PROPOSED BY THE UIA OR THE ORGANISATION SHOULD BE INCLUDED) STUDENT PARTY AND STUDENT COMPETITION AWARDS CEREMONY UIA AWARDS CEREMONY CLOSING CEREMONY	PREPARATION, PRODUCTION AND PRESENTATION OF CONCLUDING MATERIALS
<i>*A specific graphic may be created in relation to the motto, always in line with the general graphic framework</i>			

In relation to the UIABCNWC26 timeline,

TABLE 3

		UIA BARCELONA 2026, 29 JUNE - 2 JULY					
		Sunday, 28 June 2026	Monday, 29 June 2026 DAY 1 UIABCNWC26	Tuesday, 30 June 2026 DAY 2 UIABCNWC26	Wednesday, 1 July 2026 DAY 3 UIABCNWC26	Thursday, 2 July 2026 DAY 4 UIABCNWC26	
PRIOR TO THE CONGRESS	MORNING:	MEETINGS OF THE UIA COUNCIL (NOT PART OF THE COMPETITION)	OPENING CEREMONY	CONGRESSIONAL EVENTS: THREE OR FOUR PLENARY SESSIONS, SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS, CONFERENCES, MEETINGS. TO BE DIVIDED INTO MORNING AND AFTERNOON SLOTS		CLOSING CEREMONY	AFTER THE CONGRESS
	AFTERNOON:	MEETINGS OF THE UIA COUNCIL (NOT PART OF THE COMPETITION)	CONGRESSIONAL EVENTS: THREE OR FOUR PLENARY SESSIONS, SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS, CONFERENCES, MEETINGS. TO BE DIVIDED INTO MORNING AND AFTERNOON SLOTS		ASSEMBLY MEETINGS (NOT SUBJECT TO THE COMPETITION)		
	NIGHT:	RECEPTION FOR UIA MEMBERS AND GUESTS. OPENING CEREMONY OPEN TO THE PUBLIC	ONE NIGHT: PARTY FOR STUDENTS ONE NIGHT: UIA AWARDS CEREMONY				
EXHIBITIONS AND SIDE EVENTS PROPOSED BY THE COMMISSIONING TEAM (FOR EXHIBITIONS, TEMPORARY INSTALLATIONS, ETC.) EVEN IF THEY START EARLIER, THEY SHOULD CONTINUE DURING THE DAYS OF THE CONGRESS AND THE UIA ASSEMBLY CONTROL AND MONITORING OF THE TRADE FAIR AT THE CONGRESS VENUE COORDINATION WITH UNESCO'S WORLD CAPITAL OF ARCHITECTURE BARCELONA 2026							
CALLS FOR THE STUDENT COMPETITION AND ANY OTHERS THAT MAY BE PROPOSED						PRESENTATION AND COMMUNICATION OF CONCLUSIONS	
PREPARATORY EVENTS CALLS FOR PARTICIPATION ONLINE COMMUNICATIONS AND WEBSITE							
KEY	EVENTS WITHIN THE CONGRESS STRUCTURE	SOCIAL EVENTS DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE CONGRESS OR OPEN TO THE PUBLIC		CONGRESS PREPARATORY, CONCLUDING AND SIDE EVENTS			

CONGRESS CONCEPT PROPOSAL

The following sections describe the different scales of thematic development participants must define based on the conceptual framework described by the Working Group (Table 1). Establishing the motto and general theme as the main element and then developing it more specifically and in greater detail, as suggested in the following sections, previously included in Table 2.

1. ESTABLISHING THE CONGRESS THEME AND MOTTO

Establishing a main theme and motto for UIABCNWC26 implies providing a general interpretation framework for the Congress. The theme and motto must contain and summarise the general guiding thesis for the set of themes for the Congress. In addition, it will be the main element of communication and promotion for the Congress and, as such, must be attractive and capable of explaining and expressing a powerful idea, to organise and provide the thematic content for the Congress. Since the Congress is aimed at an international audience, the theme and motto should be defined directly in English; if proposed in other languages, the proposed English translation should also be given.

2. THEMATIC DEVELOPMENT, THEME-RELATED GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The theme and motto should sum up a comprehensible and deeply meaningful narrative that gives meaning and relevance to UIABCNWC26. This first development, the explanation of the meaning of the motto and the theme, would be the first document in which the commissioning team can express the *why* of its proposal, its relevance and pertinence.

This explanation should contain the goals and objectives for the debates: UIABCNWC26 should be a space for change and evolution, by establishing general agreements or manifestos, or by broadening collective understanding and knowledge of the issues under discussion. Therefore, the Congress discussions, reflections and debates should be directed towards goals and objectives, a horizon of optimistic, relevant and substantive change for the profession and society in general.

3. DEVELOPMENT OF CONTENTS IN RELATION TO THE CONGRESS STRUCTURE

The explanation of the meaning of the theme and motto and related objectives should be reflected in the sub-themes that provide specific content for the different Congress events (debates, presentations, competitions, etc.). In short, the development of the theme and motto should be specified in a congress structure, with the aim of achieving the aforementioned objectives. Therefore, a proposal for the Congress structure and contents for reflection and debate in each of its parts must be presented, whether for the obligatory part in the scope of this competition (congress sessions and debates, inaugural events and parties, competitions), or actions proposed by competition participants (exhibitions, preparatory actions, preparatory and/or concluding documents), etc. Likewise, in addition to the formats and their themes, these events should be linked to people who can play a relevant role due through their contributions to and knowledge of the proposed themes and sub-themes and who would participate in the Congress, in the way proposed by the competition participants (as speakers, participants in debates, authors of articles, commissioners, jurors, etc.).

4. CONCLUDING DOCUMENTS AND NARRATIVE BASED ON OBJECTIVES

The relevance of UIABCNWC26 and, to a large extent, its success, will be measured by the ability to draw relevant conclusions from the set objectives. The legacy of the Congress, the documents and repositories left to posterity and how the participants' conclusions and contributions are collected and recorded, is a highly relevant part of the proposal submitted to this competition.

**SPECIFIC GRAPHIC IMAGE*

Although UIABCNWC26 will have a logo and a general graphic image, the main Congress event (the subject of this competition) may have a specific image related to the theme and motto if the competition participants consider it relevant and necessary for better comprehension and its potential communicative impact. This image must fully comply with the graphic framework established by the organisation and respect the UIABCNWC26 logo. Likewise, the events related to UIABCNWC26 (parties, seminars, competitions, etc.) may have other specific graphics, if the competition participants consider them necessary (they do not necessarily have to be produced in the competition process but must always respect the general Congress graphic image). A proposed graphic image related to the theme and motto need not adapt to the general graphic image of UIABCNWC26 in either of the two phases of this competition.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND COORDINATION REGARDING THE UIABCNWC26 STRUCTURE:

STRUCTURE OF UIABCNWC26

1. RECEPTION EVENT on SUNDAY 28/06/2026 (afternoon-evening)

Concept, location and content of the UIABCNWC26 reception event to be held on Sunday evening, 28 June 2026. This event has two parts: the first is private for UIA members and their guests; the second is a social event that can be opened to a wider or general public, as the competition participants deem appropriate.

The first part will be held after the UIA Council meeting (whose organisation is outside the scope of this competition). This is a dinner-reception to be attended by about 50 UIA members and other guests (members of the organisation, speakers, sponsors, etc.), in an environment suitable for social interaction.

The second part may be conceived as an event of greater scope and involve the participation of the public (apart from Congress attendees). It should serve to link the event to the city of Barcelona and will have a festive, recreational and/or cultural side.

As the two events are linked, they should be held in nearby venues suitable for each format.

2. CONGRESS EVENTS AND SESSIONS

The purpose of this competition is to propose a structure for the main Congress events in relation to the proposed theme and motto. One of the objectives of the competition is to collectively reflect on how to run a congress suitable for the current times, with the concurrence of the climate crisis and unprecedented technological advances. Thus, competition participants are expected to reflect on the meaning of a world architecture congress in the current context and adopt a position on presence-virtuality,

representativeness and diversity in terms of geography, gender, etc., and make proposals on, for example, compensating the carbon footprint the event would generate. Competition participants should also indicate the type of materials to be provided to attendees, related to the content of UIABCNWC26.

The proposal to be submitted to this competition must include:

- General event calendar, including the format of each session and its thematic content.
- An initial approach to possible speakers and chairs for the different sessions, or the procedure for their selection.
- An idea of how the spaces will be organised (regardless of the chosen venue, an initial notion of how the proposed format translates into physical and/or virtual space is requested) *. Likewise, specific venues in the city of Barcelona may be proposed directly as an example or as a proposal, although this point would not be binding.

*If the chosen venue does not have a fixed layout (auditoriums, congress halls, theatres), an idea of how the spaces would be organised and its ephemeral elements may be provided. The choice of venues and their layout should be linked to the proposed sessions and formats (including parties). Although it is not strictly obligatory for all the Congress events to be held at the same venue, they must be close to one another to assist the Congress participants and simplify mobility and logistics. Locations for parties, ceremonies, exhibitions and Congress sessions, among other actions, may be proposed in the competition. The proposals made by the participant teams must take into account a number of requirements established by the UIA, which are the usual requisites for a venue for hosting events of this size (simultaneous translation, access control, public address system, screens and computers, press areas, Wi-Fi, streaming and recording, security and catering services, among others). In all cases proposals must be validated by the organisation, taking into account availability, feasibility and suitability to requirements. Therefore, the proposal of venues, although subject to competition, will be considered neither binding nor excluding when evaluating the teams' proposals. Nor will inclusion of specific locations for all events linked to UIABCNWC26 be considered a necessary condition for the participant teams. However, general proposals or reflections on the Congress venues or the physical and/or stage organisation of the venues for the events and sessions will be accepted, as long as the participant team considers it relevant to their proposal. Proposals for specific venues in the city of Barcelona should consider that they be in an attractive urban location that facilitates interaction of the Congress and its participants with the city and its citizens.

Some of the Congress events have been fixed in the calendar by the organisation (UIA). Participants must interpret them in terms of their conceptualisation, location, choice of format and content, but may not eliminate them:

- UIABCNWC26 **opening ceremony** to be held on 29 June 2026 as the first Congress event. This will present the general content of the Congress, with the participation of the host country and city authorities, and the UIA.
- UIABCNWC26 **closing ceremony** to be held on Thursday, 2 July (morning-noon). The event will consist of two parts: a formal closing ceremony, with the presence of authorities, speakers, commissioners, etc. And a second, more social and festive part for Congress participants, members of the UIA and the organisation, sponsors and guests. The proposal may include the speakers, structure and content for the event, the location and "stage" if considered necessary. Both will be held in the same space or in very close, connected

venues. This event is not expected to be open to the public, but will be open to the local architectural community.

Although competition participants are free to plan a schedule, it must include the following events, spread over the days on which there are UIABCNWC26 sessions are to be held (Table 3):

- **Congress sessions** (to be held between 29 June and 2 July, except for the time slots reserved for the opening and closing ceremonies). They must include, as a minimum:

- **Three or four plenary sessions**, consisting of five or six keynote speakers, in which the content of the Congress is developed into sub-themes.

- A series of **seminars and workshops** that address the Congress theme in greater detail and are open to participation from architects from all over the world, through the submission of papers.

- **Conferences, meetings, workshops and exhibitions** organised by UIA member sections, regions and labour organisations. In this case, the competition proposal does not need to include content, but must provide venues and time slots.

- **A UIA triennial award presentation ceremony**. The time, place and setting for this award ceremony should be included (initially, this is expected to be outside the times of the main Congress sessions, e.g. the late afternoon or early evening).

- An **evening party for architecture students**. This is a festive event whose only content is to announce the results of the student competition described in the following section. The rest of the event may be conceptualised by the competition participants with regard to format, location and content.

- **The following spaces will be reserved for the duration of the Congress and in its main site:**

- A space to showcase the best works from the UNESCO-UIA student competition described in the next section. The awards ceremony will be held during the evening party for students, described above.

- A space in the format of a trade fair, with stands for companies and organisations, whose conceptualisation is not part of this competition (although providing an appropriate space should be addressed if specific locations for Congress events are included).

EVENTS BEFORE THE START OF THE CONGRESS OR AFTER THE DATES OF UIABCNWC26

- The proposal submitted to this competition may include preparatory events and debates, calls for participation, publications, etc; in general, all actions the team believes necessary to provide content and enhance the UIABCNWC26 debates. These events may be held in Barcelona or any other places the team proposes. The purpose and justification, content, subject matter and format, profile of participants and/or speakers and location should be indicated. These preparatory or side events do not include actions whose content is solely the promotion of UIABCNWC26.

- As indicated by the UIA, at least one UNESCO-UIA ideas competition should be organised for architecture students from all over the world before the Congress, the results of which will be presented during the Congress. The purpose of this competition is to guide the theme and format of the student competition in relation to the general theme proposed for the UIABCNWC26. During the Congress (at its main venue), the best works should be displayed in an exhibition. The awards ceremony will be held during the evening party for students, described above.

- Other events or productions proposed by the competition participants in relation to the main theme of the Congress. These events should take place or be present or visible during the days of the Congress, even if their time scale goes beyond these dates. Likewise, if these events include exhibitions or temporary installations, they must last at least until the end of the UIA General Assembly (Monday, 6 July 2026) even if they begin before the Congress and, in such cases, must be held in the city of Barcelona (in their physical format).

In addition to the aforementioned content, the team awarded the contract will also be required to:

- Attend meetings as required by the UIABCNWC26 organisation and the UIA itself, as well as UIABCNWC26 promotional and media events and presentations in which their presence is required.

- Draft texts to provide content for communication material (protocol press releases, etc.) and publicity (additional information material). As well as the Congress events, this includes all side events, such as competitions, exhibitions and debates, and any others that may be proposed.

- Appointing collaborators, speakers, assistant commissioners, etc. Making contacts and sending invitations. Travel or accommodation arrangements will not be the responsibility of the winning team.

- If published materials, catalogues or online and social media content are planned: provide scientific coordination and ensure that the printed and/or online and social media materials are related to the UIABCNWC26 content and objectives. Design and oversee the production of materials for Congress participants and promotional materials for the event.

- Present a budget for the amount indicated in these Terms and Conditions and monitor budget execution, in conjunction with the UIABCNWC26 organisation, for productions, publications, assemblies, etc. This budget should not include venue's rent. Nor should the budget include protocol, accommodation and travel for UIA members and guests. This budget must include the technical, translation, security, signage and catering equipment of the proposed actions in accordance with the requirements of the UIA, as well as the production of merchandising.

- Choose (in agreement with the UIABCNWC26 organisation) the venues for the Congress and side events, parties, exhibitions, etc. If necessary, the design and supervision of stage production and adapting/organising spaces for Congress acts, parties, events and other proposed actions, such as exhibitions. In this case, when events require temporary or exhibition installations or specific stages, these must be included in the budget.

- Produce audiovisual materials for running the Congress (projections, graphics...).

- Guide and present the Congress (team and volunteer management) and proposed side events, or if necessary, appointing people to guide and present the events.
- Manage rapporteurs or the process for collecting conclusions. Conceive and produce the Congress concluding documents.
- Prepare competitions: theme, preparatory materials, management and exhibition of projects.
- Exhibitions and side events proposed by the commissioning team.
- Collaborate in finding sponsorships in agreement with the organisation.
- Supervise or produce graphics for events and the proposed motto/theme, if deemed necessary.

The economic framework for running all activities and productions for which the commissioning team is responsible will be a maximum of 700,000 euros + VAT (this amount does not include the fees of the team awarded the contract, which are detailed in section 6).

PROPOSED COMMISSIONING TEAM

While the proposals will be anonymous in the first round of the competition, in the second round, the members of the commissioning team, their professional profiles and their experience in organising architecture-related events will be evaluated.

4. Competition timetable and main milestones

- June 2023, launch of the first phase of the competition.
- 2-6 July 2023, international presentation of the competition at the UIA World Congress in Copenhagen, UIA 2023 CPH.
- **7 September: delivery of the first phase of the competition.**
- Week of 11 September. First meeting of the jury and announcement of the teams that will participate in the second phase. In the following days, a briefing meeting and consultation over doubts in the participating teams with the UIABCNWC26 organisation.
- **15 November: deadline for submitting proposals for the second phase.** The submitted material will be made available to the jury.
- Week of 20 November: in-person presentation of the second-phase proposals to the jury in Barcelona and subsequent deliberation.
- First week of December: announcement of the winning team. A presentation of the proposal to the media will subsequently be organised.
- The winning team will work in 2024, 2025 and up to the UIA World Congress in Barcelona, UIABCNWC26, in June-July 2026 and the last of the concluding events planned in this competition.

To this end, a detailed schedule of follow-up meetings and presentations will be established with the winning team.

5. Contracting authority

Higher Council of Professional Associations of Architects of Spain

Paseo de la Castellana 12, 4ª planta

28046 Madrid

The Col

Col·legi d'Arquitectes de Catalunya COAC will hold the permanent secretariat of the Congress and will be responsible for the reception of the works, the administrative management and the secretarial tasks, the communication with the contestants, the convocation of the meetings of the jury, the announcement of the winners and any other function destined to the correct development of this contest with strict compliance with these bases.

Col·legi d'Arquitectes de Catalunya (COAC)

Plaça Nova 5

08002 Barcelona

6. Base tender budget

This refers to the commissioning work (fees), not the productions arising from it:

Base tender budget: €150,000 + VAT

Amount of VAT (21%): €31,500

TOTAL amount: €181,500

The amount will be divided into yearly instalments:

First quarter of 2024: €40,000 + VAT

First quarter of 2025: €70,000 + VAT

After UIABCNWC26. July 2026: €40,000 + VAT

7. Award procedure

Two-round negotiated procedure with advertising, respecting the principles of concurrence, equal treatment and non-discrimination. Remuneration is earmarked for the teams participating in the second phase that fail to win the competition, as detailed in section 12.

8. Selection process

First round

All interested natural or legal persons may submit their application, attaching an anonymous proposal and the rest of the documentation listed in section 10.2, within the

period established in section 10.3, provided the team manager is an architect or architecture graduate.

An expert committee (jury) will choose a maximum of five proposals as finalists, based on the criteria established in section 13.1, and invite them to participate in the second round. The envelopes with the data on the selected participants will be opened at a public event broadcast live.

Second round

The teams that submitted the five finalist proposals (hereinafter, finalists) will participate in the second round by submitting a project and the rest of the documentation listed in section 11.1 within the deadline established in section 11.2. These finalists will be summoned to present their proposal in person before the expert committee (jury) in line with the schedule as yet to be defined.

The jury will select the person/team that submitted the winning proposal (hereinafter, the winner) from this process, based on the criteria laid down in section 13.2.

The finalists will be remunerated for participating in the second round as established in section 12.

The winner of this selection process will be invited to sign a service contract under the terms established in section 6 of this call for proposals.

9. Expert committee (jury)

The expert committee, or jury, is composed of a chair, 14 members and a secretary with no voice or vote.

Chair:

- President of the CSCAE, or the person delegated by her.

Members:

- Dean of the COAC, or the person delegated by him.
- Spanish Ministry of Transport, Mobility and Urban Agenda Secretary-General for Urban Agenda, Housing and Architecture, or the person delegated by him.
- Generalitat de Catalunya Director-General for Territorial Planning, Urban Planning and Architecture, or the person delegated by him.
- Barcelona City Council Chief Architect, or the person delegated by him.

Architects:

- Ángela García de Paredes
- Beth Capdferro
- Carme Pigem
- José María Sánchez
- Josep Bohigas

-Josep Ferrando

-Josep Lluís Mateo

-María Hurtado de Mendoza

-Philip Ursprung

-Zaida Muxí

The organization reserves the right to replace the people who are part of the jury if, for any reason, they could not assume the responsibilities that it entails.

Roger Subirà, or the person delegated by him, will act as secretary of the expert committee, without voice or vote.

Should any of the named members of the jury be unable to attend all or some of the meetings, the organisation reserves the right to substitute him/her, without prior communication to the participating teams.

The chair shall have the casting vote in adopting agreements in the event of a tie.

10. Submission of proposals in the first round

The Terms and Conditions and other additional documentation will be made available to participants on the website <https://www.arquitectes.cat/uiabcnwc26>.

Presentation of the proposals implies the participants have unconditionally accepted all the contents of these Terms and Conditions.

The language of presentation shall be Spanish, Catalan or English.

10.1 Information and queries

Any doubts and queries that may arise during the call for participants should be sent by email to: **secretaria_uiabcnwc26@coac.net**

Both the questions and answers will be published on the website <https://www.arquitectes.cat/uiabcnwc26>, and passed on to the expert committee (jury).

10.2 Documentation to be submitted in the first phase

All documentation shall be submitted electronically via the website <https://www.arquitectes.cat/uiabcnwc26>

Participating teams will find the following sections on the website, which they are required to complete:

- REGISTRATION FORM

- It is mandatory to fill in the "**Registration form**" section of the website <https://www.arquitectes.cat/uiabcnwc26>.

Contents of the registration form:

Team pseudonym

Team members: list of team members, stating their qualifications, position and responsibility within the team.

Confirmation of payment of tax and Social Security obligations (applicable to all team members).

Team leader and contact details

This form will not be provided to the members of the jury to preserve the anonymity of the proposals. It will only be opened once the jury has decided which teams will move on to the second phase.

- PROPOSAL ELECTRONIC FILES

- On the same website, in the section titled **“Proposal electronic proposal files”**, a single PDF file containing 4 DIN A3 sheets in HORIZONTAL format must be provided.

Anonymity: as the proposal must be submitted under a PSEUDONYM, no name or sign that could directly or indirectly identify the author or authors of the work may appear anywhere in the documentation, in order to preserve the anonymity of the participants. Proposals that in any way violate the anonymity requirement will be excluded.

Pseudonym: the pseudonym will consist of a word, phrase or alphanumeric combination and may not be accompanied by any graphic element that would permit identification. It should appear at the top right of each panel. Failure to comply with these obligations will be an automatic cause for exclusion.

File name: the PDF file name should be the same name as the pseudonym for the proposal. For example: if the chosen pseudonym is “ONE DAY ONE TOMORROW”, the file should be named *ONEDAYONETOMORROW.pdf*

File size: The PDF file should be no larger than 25 megabytes.

Content of the panels:

The four explanatory panels in the PDF must contain the following minimum information (as detailed in point 3 of these Terms and Conditions):

A. CONGRESS CONCEPT PROPOSAL

Giving special relevance to the THEME and MOTTO and their conceptual development.

B. PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND COORDINATION REGARDING THE UIABCNWC26 STRUCTURE

This should include a schedule for the proposed activities.

C. INDICATIVE BUDGET

An indicative budget estimate including productions, exhibitions, Congress events and other proposals by the team.

The budget will not include winning team’s fees but will include any travel, accommodation and meals for carrying out their functions will be.

- EMAIL ADDRESS FOR NOTIFICATION PURPOSES

An email address specifically created by the team for this competition, identified only by the team's pseudonym, must be provided on the same website, <https://www.arquitectes.cat/uiabcnwc26>, in the section "**Email address for notification purposes**". For example: if the chosen pseudonym is "ONE DAY ONE TOMORROW", the email address should be *ONEDAYONETOMORROW@xxxx.xxx*

This email will be used by the competition secretary to communicate with the team until the jury's decision in the first phase. Likewise, all queries sent to the competition secretary must be sent from this email address, always ensuring no information regarding the identity of the persons submitting the query is included.

10.3 First phase submission period

The period for submitting the documentation will run from the day following the publication of these Terms and Conditions on the CSCAE and COAC websites until 12 noon on 7 September 2023.

11. Second round submission of documentation

Only natural and legal persons that have been invited after the first round selection will participate in this phase. There will be a maximum of five teams. The documentation submitted in the second round will not be subject to anonymity.

11.1 Documentation to be submitted in the second phase

The finalists will submit a **free-format dossier** with the following documentation to participate in the second round:

- Project that develops the content and approach presented in the first round. It should contain:

A. CONGRESS CONCEPT PROPOSAL

The UIABCNWC26 motto and theme, the development and justification for them and the conceptual proposal. If this theme or motto is associated with a specific graphic image, this should be included at this stage.

B. PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND COORDINATION REGARDING THE UIABCNWC26 STRUCTURE

- Schedule of the proposed activities.

- Development of the theme and motto and resulting objectives into sub-themes that will provide specific content for the different Congress events (debates, presentations, competitions, etc.), including conceptualisation, Congress schedule and structure, proposed venues (or their organisation).

- The names of the proposed speakers/participants and persons with specific commissioning assignments (without implying acceptance of their participation), or their selection procedure, must be included at this stage.

- Proposal for exhibitions, competitions, parallel events, parties, publications, a website to complement the main proposal as detailed in point 3, including the proposal for the opening ceremony open to the public.

C. BUDGET

- Detailed, itemised budget for the project, respecting the maximum amount established in these bases.

D. LETTERS OF SUPPORT

- Letters of support from organisations, public authorities and sponsors that might join the project.

E. TEAM INFORMATION

- CVs of the team members. In the case of legal persons, the CV(s) of the person(s) proposed as commissioner(s) must be included, and the report must be signed by all the proposed person(s).

The team may include different professional profiles, but the director of the team must have a bachelor's degree in Architecture or its equivalent.

There is no limit to the number of people in the team and management functions may be assigned to one or more team members (as long as all the members designated as directors are architects).

Once this documentation has been submitted, it will be shared with all jury members prior to its presentation.

Submission of proposals to the expert committee (jury)

Once the dossiers have been submitted, the UIABCNWC26 organisation will invite participants to present their proposals in person in the city of Barcelona during the week of 27 November 2023. For this presentation, the physical presence in Barcelona of at least the team director will be required. The presentations will have a time limit of 30 minutes and may be supported by any audiovisual or physical materials the team deems necessary. The presentation will be in Spanish or English. Once the proposal has been presented, the jury may ask the team any questions it considers necessary. Jury deliberations will be closed to the public. The cost of travel and accommodation will be borne by the competition participants and no expenses will be paid.

11.2 Deadline for submission in the second phase

The deadline for submission will be 12 noon on 20 November 2023.

11.3 Form of submission of the second-phase documentation

Before the deadline, the documentation will be sent **in digital format** to the email address:

secretaria_uiabcnwc26@coac.net

In addition, a **hard copy** of the requested documentation will be delivered either by registered mail, courier or hand to the reception of the COAC:

Plaça Nova 5, first floor, 08002 Barcelona

In the case of delivery by registered mail or courier, the sending date must be prior to the delivery deadline.

12. Compensation

The finalists will receive remuneration of 6,000 euros (excluding VAT and subject to income tax) for participating in the second round. For the winning team, this remuneration will be considered to be included in the fees paid for the assignment and, consequently, will be deducted from the first payment established in these Terms and Conditions.

13. Qualification criteria for each round

13.1 Criteria for selection of the five finalists

The criteria for evaluating the participants in the first round are:

Criterion 1:

- Interest and communicative capacity of the proposed motto and theme.
- Originality, quality and coherence of the conceptual proposal for UIABCNWC26. Interest of the project in the national and international context, capacity to integrate different sensitivities and offer global relevance (in line with the guidelines set out in point 2 of the Terms and Conditions).
- Setting preliminary goals and objectives consistent with the motto and theme.

Criterion 2:

- Suitability of the preliminary conceptual proposal for the Congress structure/needs.
- Interest and feasibility of the UIABCNWC26-related events proposed by the team, and the proposal for the physical venues for the events, in the terms described in point 3 of these Terms and Conditions.

Criterion 3:

- Financial viability.

The expert committee reserves the right to declare this selection process void in the event that none of the applications in the first round meet the selection criteria or are of insufficient quality.

Once proposals have been selected for the second phase, the envelopes will be opened to check that the participants meet the Terms and Conditions. Once the verification process has concluded, the finalists will be contacted.

13.2 Criteria for selecting the winning project (second phase)

Criterion 1:

CONGRESS CONCEPT PROPOSAL

- Development of the theme and motto and joint evaluation of the conceptual proposal.

Criterion 2:

PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND COORDINATION REGARDING THE UIABCNWC26 STRUCTURE

- Interest and development of the themes in relation to the Congress structure and its event schedule.
- Feasibility of the Congress events formats and proposed venues.
- Evaluation of the persons and/or organisations proposed for the different events, presentations and specific assignments, or the system for their selection.
- Drafting process and proposed format of the concluding documents or events, in relation to the set objectives.

Criterion 3:

- Feasibility of the budget.

Criterion 4:

- Relevance of the support received from bodies, public authorities or sponsors.

Criterion 5:

- Experience, relevance and diversity of the people in the commissioning team.

14. Procedure for concluding the selection process and reporting the results

The UIABCNWC26 organisation will make the result public and inform the finalists participating in the second round of its verdict on 4 December 2023.

15. Improvements to incorporate in the winning proposal

The UIABCNWC26 organisation may ask the winner to make changes to the winning proposal that it considers appropriate for organisational, logistical and economic reasons or as indicated by the UIA. Such changes will not interfere or substantially modify the intellectual content of the proposal. The criteria will relate to aspects that impact on more successfully performing the purpose of the contract and ensuring the total budget is not exceeded. These issues may be raised by the contracting authority throughout the duration of the contract.

UIABCNWC26 may also set up a permanent expert committee throughout the UIABCNWC26 preparation process to act as a monitoring body for the implementation of the project. This permanent expert committee will play an advisory and support role for the winning team. The body may be made up of members of the UIABCNWC26 organisation, the government authorities involved in funding the event and the UIA itself, as well as prestigious architects (for example, members of the jury who remain linked to the project at the request of the organisation).

This advisory body will ensure that implementation of the project is consistent with the proposal submitted to the competition and correctly incorporates the contributions and observations made to the commissioning team. It will also ensure that the quality level required for an event as relevant as UIABCNWC26 is maintained in implementing the project. Under no circumstances may this body substantially alter the proposal arising from the competition; on the contrary, it will ensure the proposal does not deviate from the acquired commitments and themes proposed by the winning team. However, the commissioning team must consider the observations provided by this body and attend all meetings called by this body or directly by the UIABCNWC26 organisation.

The UIABCNWC26 organisation reserves the right to withdraw the commission from the commissioning team in the event of serious and irreconcilable discrepancies in implementing the UIABCNWC26 commissioning project.

16. Intellectual property rights

The contractor expressly accepts transfer to the UIABCNWC26 organisation of the rights to the exploitation, reproduction, exhibition and publication of the proposals submitted to the competition, the products obtained as a result of the purpose of this contract, these being the developed programmes, graphic materials, documentation and any other products resulting from the final implementation of the proposal, in accordance with intellectual property legislation, nationally and internationally and with no limit to time or means, including, where appropriate, any variations in details and programming that may be necessary depending on the needs and objectives related to this call for proposals. All products and materials will be provided in their rough reusable formats and not only as the final result of the creation process.

The authors shall retain the intellectual property of the submitted works (authorship, originality of the work and full exercise of the transferred rights indicated in these Terms and Conditions) and none of these, not even the winning ones, may be used for purposes other than those referred to in these Terms and Conditions, or as material for drafting other projects by architects or creative professionals other than by the respective authors.

17. Confidentiality and data protection

Participants in this call for proposals must respect the confidential nature of the information to which they have access through the competition in general. They may not, without prior authorisation, publish news, drawings and/or photographs of the works submitted to the competition, nor authorise third parties to publish them. Failure to comply with the aforementioned obligations is expressly established as a cause for termination of the contract.

The successful participant must provide proportionate technical and organisational security measures in performing the contract, to create a safe working environment for data, information, applications and the systems that support all of them. Specifically, this must comply with that stipulated in the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

The successful participant must sign a specific data protection clause when the contract is formalised.

18. Confidentiality and data protection for this call for proposals

The UIABCNWC26 organisation may disseminate all or part of the works submitted to the competition through exhibitions and publications, citing their origin and authorship, except in those cases in which the participants have expressly requested to remain anonymous should they not be the winners.

In addition, it may publish all the works presented on paper, electronically and even on the Internet under the same conditions established for the exhibition.

In compliance with General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 and Organic Law 3/2018 of 5 December on personal data protection and the guarantee of digital rights, we hereby state that the data provided by participants in all forms and communications made during the period of this call will be processed by the Col·legi d'Arquitectes de Catalunya COAC, whose tax identification number (CIF) is Q-0875010A and whose address is Plaça Nova 5, 08002-Barcelona, in order to manage their application to participate in the competition. The contact details of the Data Protection Officer of the COAC is: dadespersonals@coac.net

The legal basis for processing their data is the consent given by the participants to process the provided data and information and the data controller's legitimate interest regarding disseminating the data and images of the participants, jury members and/or winners, as well as any other persons intervening in UIABCNWC26 organisation subject to the call under these rules in any media outlet, social media or websites. The data provided by participants and persons intervening in events related to UIABCNWC26 will be retained for as many years as necessary to comply with legal obligations and as long as their consent is not revoked. The data will not be disclosed to third parties except in cases where there is a legal obligation or where express consent has been given. Participants and persons intervening in the Congress in any way have the right to obtain confirmation as to whether the COAC or UIABCNWC26 organisation are processing their personal data and may therefore exercise their rights of access, rectification, restriction of processing, portability, opposition to processing and erasure of their data by writing to the above postal address or the email address dadespersonals@coac.net, attaching a copy of their identity document in both cases, as well as the right to file a complaint with the supervisory authority (aepd.es).

Barcelona, June 27th 2023