

**FIFTY-SECOND SESSION OF THE IPCC**  
**Paris, 24 – 28 March 2020**

IPCC-LII/Doc. 4  
(24.I.2020)  
Agenda Item: 9  
ENGLISH ONLY

**ADMISSION OF OBSERVER ORGANIZATIONS**

(Submitted by the Secretary of the IPCC)

## ADMISSION OF OBSERVER ORGANIZATIONS

### Status of IPCC Observer Organizations

In compliance with the IPCC Policy and Process for Admitting Observer Organizations (hereafter the "IPCC Observer Policy") which was adopted at the 25<sup>th</sup> Session of the IPCC and amended at its 31<sup>st</sup> and 35<sup>th</sup> Session, the Panel currently has 161 Observer Organizations. The list of IPCC Observer Organizations is attached as **Annex 1, Tables 1 - 4**.

**Annex 1, Table A** lists new applications received by the Secretariat from organizations to obtain IPCC observer status. Since the 49<sup>th</sup> Session of the IPCC (Kyoto, Japan, 8-12 May 2019), the following five organizations have requested IPCC observer status:

(1) Sasakawa Peace Foundation (SPF), (2) Dalit Welfare Association (Nepal), (3) Royal Meteorological Society (UK), (4) Institute for Environment and Development Sustainability (IEDS), and (5) the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC).

The five organizations are already accredited as observer organization with UNFCCC and therefore in accordance with Rule I.5 of the IPCC Observer Policy, they do not have to submit additional documentation concerning their organization.

The four columns on the right of **Table A** indicate respectively the relevance of the organization's objectives to IPCC activities, if the organization already has observer status with UNFCCC, WMO or UNEP, the date of first application by letter or e-mail, and the Secretariat's view on the adequacy of the application with respect to IPCC's policy on the matter.

Furthermore there is one pending application as shown in **Annex 1, Table 5**.

In addition, the Secretariat received by letter dated 21 March 2019 from the Secretary of State of the Holy See a request for admission to the IPCC as a non-member Observer State. The letter and the enclosed United Nations General Assembly Resolution A7RES/58/314 of 16 July 2004 can be found in **Annex 2** to this document.

In its application the Holy See requests that it is granted the following procedural rights at Sessions of the IPCC and of any of its Working Groups:

- the right to speak in turn, rather than after all participating States;
- the right to have its communications circulated to participating States;
- the right to introduce proposals and to co-sponsor the proposals of other States;
- the right to provide comments on the Government/expert review of IPCC Reports and Technical Papers and the final review stage of Summaries for Policymakers;
- the right of reply;
- the right to raise points of order to any proceeding involving the Holy See.

These rights do not grant the ability to vote or to be elected.

The request furthermore includes a specific seating position, so that the Holy See will be positioned immediately after the IPCC Member countries and before the other IPCC observers.

The rights requested by the Holy See are similar to those already granted by the IPCC to the European Union in 2012, which are stated in Rule I.8 of the IPCC Observer Policy, and in line with the rights granted to the Holy See by the United Nations General Assembly in the above-mentioned Resolution of July 2004.

Since the IPCC Policy and Process for Admitting Observer Organizations is dealing with organizations only, admitting the Holy See as a non-member Observer State will require a separate Panel decision. The draft decision is attached for consideration by the Panel in **Annex 3**.

Once the Holy See has been admitted as an IPCC observer, the Secretariat will create a separate Table to reflect the Holy See's position as a non-member Observer State and change the title of "List of IPCC Observer Organizations" into "List of IPCC Observers".

The IPCC Observer Policy is attached for easy reference in **Annex 4**.

In accordance with Rules II.5 and II.6 of the IPCC Observer Policy, the requests were submitted to the IPCC Bureau for its review. Subsequently, upon the Bureau's positive consideration during its 57<sup>th</sup> Session (Singapore, 24 – 25 October 2019), the requests are now presented to the Session of the Panel for its acceptance and decision.

TABLE A – List of new applications of organizations for IPCC Observer Status (5)

No.	Name of organization	Relevance to IPCC	Observer of UNFCCC, WMO or UNEP	Date of Application	Secretariat's Proposal
<b>New applications (5)</b>					
1	Sasakawa Peace Foundation	Y	Y	L 1/4/19	Y
2	Dalit Welfare Association (Nepal)	Y	Y	L 23/4/19	Y
3	Royal Meteorological Society (UK)	Y	Y	L 18/6/19	Y
4	Institute for Environment and Development Sustainability (IEDS)	Y	Y	L 27/6/19	Y
5	Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC)	Y	Y	L 3/9/19	Y

**LIST OF IPCC OBSERVER ORGANIZATIONS (161 as of 13 May 2019)**

**TABLE 1 - List of UN Bodies and Organizations as Participating Organizations (30)**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Name of organization</b>	<b>Relevance to IPCC</b>	<b>Observer of UNFCCC</b>
1	Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution (LRTAP)	Y	Y
2	UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific	Y	Y
3	UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia	Y	Y
4	UN Economic Commission for Africa	Y	Y
5	UN Economic Commission for Europe	Y	Y
6	UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean	Y	Y
7	Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	Y	Y
8	Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC/UNESCO)	Y	Y
9	International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)	Y	Y
10	International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)	Y	Y
11	International Labour Organization (ILO)	Y	Y
12	International Maritime Organization (IMO)	Y	Y
13	Ozone Secretariat (Sec. for the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and for the Montreal Protocol)	Y	Y
14	Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)	Y	Y
15	Secretariat of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	Y	N.A.
16	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)	Y	Y
17	United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM)	Y	Y
18	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	Y	Y
19	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)	Y	Y
20	United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	Y	Y
21	United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT)	Y	Y
22	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)	Y	Y
23	United Nations University (UNU)	Y	Y
24	World Bank	Y	Y
25	World Food Programme (WFP)	Y	Y
26	World Health Organization (WHO)	Y	Y
27	World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)	Y	Y
28	World Meteorological Organization (WMO)	Y	Y
29	World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)	Y	Y
30	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)	Y	Y

**TABLE 2 - List of IPCC Observer Organizations - IGO's (25)**

No.	Name of organization	Relevance to IPCC	Observer of UNFCCC
<b>IGOs</b>			
1	African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP Group)	Y	Y
2	African Center of Meteorological Applications to Development (ACMAD)	Y	Y
3	African Union Commission (AUC)	Y	Y
4	Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO)	Y	Y
5	European Space Agency (ESA)	Y	Y
6	European Union (EU)	Y	Y*
7	Global Research Alliance on Agricultural Greenhouse Gases (GRA)	Y	N
8	Green Climate Fund (GCF)	Y	N.A.
9	Group on Earth Observations (GEO)	Y	Y
10	Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research (IAI)	Y	Y
11	Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)	Y	Y
12	Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soils (ITPS)	Y	N
13	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)	Y	Y
14	International Energy Agency (IEA)	Y	Y
15	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)	Y	Y
16	International Organization for Migration (IOM)	Y	Y
17	International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)	Y	Y
18	International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN)	Y	Y
19	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)	Y	Y
20	Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)	Y	Y
21	Pacific Community	Y	N
22	Preparatory Commission for the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)	Y	N
23	South Centre	Y	Y
24	South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)	Y	Y
25	The Ramsar Convention Bureau	Y	Y

\* Party to UNFCCC and Kyoto Protocol

**TABLE 3 - List of IPCC Observer Organizations - NGOs (105)**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Name of organization</b>	<b>Relevance to IPCC</b>	<b>Observer of UNFCCC</b>
<b>NGOs</b>			
1	Action Jeunesse pour le Développement (AJED-Congo)	Y	Y
2	African Network for a Climate Community (ANCC)	Y	Y
3	Alliance for Responsible Atmospheric Policy	Y	Y
4	American Psychological Association (APA)	Y	N
5	Associaton Carré Geo & Environment (Cameroon)	Y	Y
6	C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group	Y	Y
7	Campaign for a Hydrogen Economy (UK)	Y	Y
8	Canadian Nuclear Association	Y	Y
9	CARE International (Denmark)	Y	Y
10	Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC)	Y	Y
11	Carnegie Council	Y	N
12	Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR)	Y	Y
13	Climate Action Network – Europe (CAN-Europe)	Y	Y
14	Climate Action Network – International (CAN-I)	Y	Y
15	Climate Alliance	Y	Y
16	Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC)	Y	Y
17	Centre for International Studies, Cambridge University (UK)	Y	Y
18	CICERO Center for International Climate and Environmental Research (Norway)	Y	Y
19	College of the Atlantic (UK)	Y	Y
20	Consortium of International Agricultural Research Centers (CGIAR)	Y	Y
21	Ecology Center	Y	Y
22	Energy Research Austria	Y	Y
23	Environmental Defense (USA)	Y	Y
24	ETC Group (Action Group on Erosion, Technology and Concentration)	Y	Y
25	European Climate Foundation (ECF)	Y	Y
26	European Marine Board	Y	N
27	Food and Water Watch	Y	Y
28	Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC)	Y	Y
29	Future Earth International	Y	N
30	Gender CC – Women for Climate Justice	Y	Y
31	GERMANWATCH (Germany)	Y	Y
32	Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF)	Y	Y
33	Global Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) Institute (Australia)	Y	Y
34	Global Change Impact Studies Centre (GCISC)	Y	N

35	Global Climate Observing System (GCOS)*	Y	Y
36	Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC)	Y	Y
37	Green Cross International	Y	Y
38	GreenFacts (Belgium)	Y	Y
39	Greenpeace	Y	Y
40	Greenplanet (India & Canada)	Y	Y
41	Heinrich Boell Foundation	Y	Y
42	Humane Society International (HSI)	Y	Y
43	IEA Greenhouse Gas R&D Programme (IEAGHG)	Y	N
44	Imperial College London (UK)	Y	Y
45	Indian Institute for Human Settlements (IIHS)	Y	N
46	Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy (IATP)	Y	Y
47	Institute of Energy Policy and Research, Universiti Tenaga Nasional (UNITEN, Malaysia)	Y	Y
48	Institute of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology (IMarEST) (UK)	Y	N
49	Instituto Bem Ambiental (IBAM)	Y	N
50	InterAcademy Partnership (IAP)	Y	N
51	Intermon Oxfam (on behalf of Oxfam International)	Y	Y
52	International Air Transport Association (IATA)	Y	Y
53	International Aluminium Institute (IAI)	Y	Y
54	International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD)	Y	Y
55	International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)	Y	Y
56	International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI)	Y	Y
57	International Council for Science (ICSU)	Y	Y
58	International Development Research Centre (IDRC)	Y	Y
59	International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP)	Y	N
60	International Hydropower Association (IHA)	Y	Y
61	International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)	Y	Y
62	International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)	Y	Y
63	International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA)	Y	Y
64	International Policy Network (USA)	Y	Y
65	International Social Science Council (ISSC)	Y	Y
66	International START Secretariat **	Y	N
67	International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG)	Y	Y
68	Iuventum (Germany)	Y	Y
69	London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)	Y	Y
70	Many Strong Voices (MSV)	Y	N
71	Mary Robinson Foundation – Climate Justice	Y	Y



72	Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) (USA)	Y	Y
73	New World Hope Organization (NWHO)	Y	Y
74	OASIS (Serbia)	Y	Y
75	Organisation of Development and Human Rights of Cameroon (GICAR-CAM)	Y	Y
76	Overseas Development Institute (ODI) (UK)	Y	Y
77	ParlAmericas	Y	N
78	Princeton University (USA)	Y	Y
79	Research and Development Centre, Nepal	Y	Y
80	Rutgers University (USA)	Y	Y
81	School of Public and Environmental Affairs (SPEA), Indiana University (USA)	Y	N
82	Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research (SCOR)	Y	N
83	SILVA (Arbres, Forêts et Sociétés)	Y	Y
84	SouthSouthNorth Projects Africa (SSN)	Y	Y
85	Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) (Sweden)	Y	Y
86	Stockholm Resilience Centre	Y	N
87	The Climate Group	Y	Y
88	The Nature Conservancy (TNC)	Y	Y
89	The World Energy Council (WEC)	Y	Y
90	Third World Network (TWN)	Y	Y
91	Transparency International (TI)	Y	Y
92	Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research (UK)	Y	Y
93	United Nations Foundation (UNF)	Y	Y
94	Université catholique de Louvain (Belgium)	Y	N
95	University College London (UK)	Y	Y
96	University of Linköping (Sweden)	Y	Y
97	University of Nijmegen (Netherlands)	Y	Y
98	Wetlands International	Y	N
99	World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)	Y	Y
100	World Climate Research Centre (WCRP)**	Y	Y
101	World Coal Institute	Y	Y
102	World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA)	Y	Y
103	World Resources Institute (WRI)	Y	Y
104	WWF International (WWF)	Y	Y
105	Yale University (USA)	Y	Y

\* GCOS, a UN joint undertaking of WMO, the IOC/UNESCO, UNEP and ICSU, has special status with respect to UNFCCC, and is invited to attend their meetings.

\*\* WCRP, a UN joint undertaking of WMO, the IOC/UNESCO and ICSU.

**TABLE 4 - List of IPCC Observer Entities (1)**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Name of organization</b>	<b>Relevance to IPCC</b>	<b>Observer of UNFCCC</b>
1	Environment Quality Authority (EQA) of the Palestinian National Authority (PNA)	Y	Y

**TABLE 5 – List of pending applications (1)**

<b>NGOs pending applications (1)</b>					
1	Industrial Technology Research Institute (ITRI), Hsinchu	Y	Y	L 13/03/08	Y



SEGRETERIA DI STATO

N. 2982/19/RS/E-mail

From the Vatican, 21<sup>st</sup> March 2019

Dear Sir,

I refer to your letter N. 5339-18/IPCC/GEN, dated 20 November 2018, regarding the possible participation of the Holy See at the IPCC.

While grateful for the assurance that the Holy See would be admitted as a Non-member Observer State and that it would be able to participate in the sessions of the IPCC and of any of its Working Groups, we cannot but note that the *Principles governing the IPCC work* do not foresee the category of "non-member Observer State". It would appear therefore that the Holy See would have the same procedural rights as an observer organization. In our view, such a situation would not be suitable for a Sovereign entity having, under international law, the same rights and duties of a State.

In order to request admission to the IPCC as a non-member Observer State, the Holy See would kindly ask that the following procedural rights be granted:

- the right to speak in turn, rather than after all participating States;
- the right to have its communications circulated to participating States;
- the right to introduce proposals and to cosponsor the proposals of other States;
- the right to provide comments on the Government/expert review of IPCC Reports and Technical papers and the final review stage of Summaries for Policymakers;
- the right of reply;
- the right to raise points of order to any proceeding involving the Holy See.

As is evident, these rights do not grant the ability to vote or to be elected.

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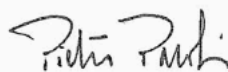
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Dr Abdalah Mokssit  
IPCC Secretary  
IPCC Secretariat

In addition, the seating position for the Holy See should be provided immediately after the participating States and before observer organizations.

I would like to note that such rights are similar to those already granted to the European Union under paragraph 8 of the current *IPCC Policy and process for admitting observer organizations* and to those granted to the Holy See at the United Nations General Assembly by resolution A/RES/58/314 of 16 July 2004 (enclosed). I am fully aware that granting such rights to the Holy See may require the adoption of a formal decision by the Plenary or an amendment to the aforementioned IPCC Policy and process. We look forward to our continued cooperation to obtain a positive result so that the Holy See may soon join the work of the IPCC.

Yours sincerely,



PIETRO CARD. PAROLIN  
*Secretary of State*



## General Assembly

Distr.: General  
16 July 2004

Fifty-eighth session  
Agenda item 59

### Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 1 July 2003

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/58/L.64)]

#### 58/314. Participation of the Holy See in the work of the United Nations

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* that the Holy See became a Permanent Observer State at the United Nations on 6 April 1964, and since then has always been invited to participate in the meetings of all the sessions of the General Assembly,

*Recalling also* that the Holy See is a party to diverse international instruments, including the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations,<sup>1</sup> the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties,<sup>2</sup> the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees<sup>3</sup> and the Protocol thereto,<sup>4</sup> the Convention on the Rights of the Child<sup>5</sup> and the Optional Protocols thereto,<sup>6</sup> the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,<sup>7</sup> the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,<sup>8</sup> the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict,<sup>9</sup> the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property,<sup>10</sup> the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,<sup>11</sup> the main disarmament treaties and the Geneva Conventions<sup>12</sup> and the Additional Protocols thereto,<sup>13</sup>

*Recalling further* that the Holy See enjoys membership in various United Nations subsidiary bodies, specialized agencies and international intergovernmental

<sup>1</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 500, No. 7310.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1155, No. 18232.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 606, No. 8791.

<sup>5</sup> Resolution 44/25, annex.

<sup>6</sup> Resolution 54/263, annexes I and II.

<sup>7</sup> Resolution 39/46, annex.

<sup>8</sup> Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

<sup>9</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 249, No. 3511.

<sup>10</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 828, No. 11851.

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

<sup>12</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

<sup>13</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

organizations, including the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the World Intellectual Property Organization, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization and the International Committee of Military Medicine,

*Aware* that the Holy See actively participates as an observer in many of the specialized agencies, such as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Labour Organization, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the World Tourism Organization, as well as in the World Trade Organization, that it is a full member of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and a Guest of Honour in its Parliamentary Assembly, and that it participates as an observer in various other regional intergovernmental organizations, including the Council of Europe, the Organization of American States and the African Union, and is regularly invited to take part in the main meetings of the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization,

*Aware also* that the Economic and Social Council, by its decision 244 (LXIII) of 22 July 1977, recommended that the Holy See attend sessions of the regional commissions on a basis similar to that provided for in the relevant terms of reference applicable to States Members of the United Nations not members of the regional commissions,

*Recalling* that the Holy See contributes financially to the general administration of the United Nations in accordance with the rate of assessment for the Holy See as a non-member State, as adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 58/1 B of 23 December 2003,

*Considering* that it is in the interest of the United Nations that all States be invited to participate in its work,

*Desirous* of contributing to the appropriate participation of the Holy See in the work of the General Assembly in the context of the revitalization of the work of the Assembly,

1. *Acknowledges* that the Holy See, in its capacity as an Observer State, shall be accorded the rights and privileges of participation in the sessions and work of the General Assembly and the international conferences convened under the auspices of the Assembly or other organs of the United Nations, as well as in United Nations conferences as set out in the annex to the present resolution;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to inform the General Assembly during the current session about the implementation of the modalities annexed to the present resolution.

*92nd plenary meeting  
1 July 2004*

## **Annex**

The rights and privileges of participation of the Holy See shall be effected through the following modalities, without prejudice to the existing rights and privileges:

1. The right to participate in the general debate of the General Assembly;

2. Without prejudice to the priority of Member States, the Holy See shall have the right of inscription on the list of speakers under agenda items at any plenary meeting of the General Assembly, after the last Member State inscribed on the list;
3. The right to make interventions, with a precursory explanation or the recall of relevant General Assembly resolutions being made only once by the President of the General Assembly at the start of each session of the Assembly;
4. The right of reply;
5. The right to have its communications relating to the sessions and work of the General Assembly issued and circulated directly, and without intermediary, as official documents of the Assembly;
6. The right to have its communications relating to the sessions and work of all international conferences convened under the auspices of the General Assembly issued and circulated directly, and without intermediary, as official documents of those conferences;
7. The right to raise points of order relating to any proceedings involving the Holy See, provided that the right to raise such a point of order shall not include the right to challenge the decision of the presiding officer;
8. The right to co-sponsor draft resolutions and decisions that make reference to the Holy See; such draft resolutions and decisions shall be put to a vote only upon request from a Member State;
9. Seating for the Holy See shall be arranged immediately after Member States and before the other observers when it participates as a non-member State observer, with the allocation of six seats in the General Assembly Hall;
10. The Holy See shall not have the right to vote or to put forward candidates in the General Assembly.

**Draft Panel Decision IPCC-LII-X– Participation of the Holy See in the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change**

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change at its 52<sup>nd</sup> Session,

Having considered the application letter of the Holy See dated 21 March 2019 requesting admission to the IPCC as non-member Observer State;

Decides to admit the Holy See as a non-member Observer State with the following procedural rights and modalities at IPCC Sessions and at any of its Working Groups:

- the right to speak in turn, rather than after all participating States;
- the right to have its communications circulated to participating States;
- the right to introduce proposals and to co-sponsor the proposals of other States;
- the right to provide comments on the Government/expert review of IPCC Reports and Technical Papers and the final review stage of Summaries for Policymakers;
- the right of reply;
- the right to raise points of order to any proceeding involving the Holy See;
- seating for the Holy See shall be arranged immediately after Member States and before other IPCC observers;
- the Holy See shall not have the right to vote or to be elected;

Requests the Secretariat to inform the Holy See accordingly.



## **IPCC POLICY AND PROCESS FOR ADMITTING OBSERVER ORGANIZATIONS**

**Adopted by the Panel at the Twenty-fifth Session (Mauritius, 26-28 April 2006),  
Amended following the decision of the Thirty-first Session (Bali, 26-29 October 2009) and  
Thirty-fifth Session (Geneva, 6-9 June 2012)**

### **I. Admission policy for observer organizations**

The following policy for admitting observer organizations to Sessions of the IPCC and any of its Working Groups applies:

1. A body or an agency, whether national or international, governmental or non-governmental, which is qualified in matters covered by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and which has informed the IPCC Secretariat of its wish to be represented at Sessions of the IPCC and any of its Working Groups, may be so admitted subject to acceptance by the Panel.
2. In judging whether an organization is "qualified in matters covered by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change" the Secretariat should be guided by the Principles Governing IPCC Work.
3. Organizations need to be non-profit organizations and are required to furnish proof of their non-profit and/or tax-exempt status in a State Member of the United Nations, of one of its specialized agencies or of the International Atomic Energy Agency, or in a State Party to the International Court of Justice.
4. Bodies and organizations, which are part of the UN System, are considered participating organizations of the IPCC and are not requested to submit an application or other documentation.
5. Organizations, which already have observer status with WMO, UNEP or UNFCCC, are considered as observer of the IPCC if they request so, subject to acceptance by the Panel. They are not required to submit other documentation.
6. Applications from national organizations will be brought to the attention of the IPCC Focal Point of that IPCC Member. They need to provide evidence of independence from governments. Otherwise, they are encouraged to participate as part of their government delegations.
7. Only admitted observer organizations may designate representatives to attend Sessions of the IPCC and Sessions of a Working Group at plenary level. Observer organizations have to register their representatives for each Session in advance.
8. The European Union (EU) may exercise the following procedural rights at IPCC Sessions: the right to speak in turn, rather than after all participant States have been acknowledged; the right to reply; the right to introduce proposals. These rights are exclusive. They do not grant the ability to vote or to be elected. Furthermore the EU will be allowed to provide comments in the Government/Expert review of IPCC Reports and Technical Papers and the final review stage of Summaries for Policymakers.
9. Being admitted as observer organization to Sessions of the Panel and of its Working Groups does not imply that the organization is admitted or invited to workshops, expert meetings and other closed meetings. During a Session of the Panel or a Working Group certain meetings may be closed to observers. Observer organizations are not admitted to any Session of the IPCC Bureau or Task Force Bureau.

10. Consistent with the IPCC procedures experts from “international, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations may be invited in their own right to contribute to the work of the IPCC Working Groups and Task Forces.”
11. Subject to availability of sufficient space in the conference room UN and other international and intergovernmental organizations will be provided with nameplates.

## **II. Process of admitting observer organizations**

For admitting observer organizations the following process applies:

1. Organizations interested in being admitted as an observer to Sessions of the Panel and any of its Working Groups will be asked to send by post a letter of application with copies of
  - a) Documents describing the mandate, scope and governing structure of the organization, such as the charter/statutes/constitution/by-laws or articles of association.
  - b) Evidence of the non-profit and/or tax-exempt status of the organization.
  - c) Any other information that supports the competence of the organization in matters related to the IPCC.
  - d) Information on the affiliation with other non-governmental organizations or institutions involved in climate change activities as appropriate.
  - e) Completed form with contact information of the organization and of a designated focal point.
2. New requests for admission as an observer to Sessions of the IPCC and any of its Working Groups shall be submitted at least 4 months before a Session of the Panel or a Working Group.
3. Organizations, which are already on the list of observers of the IPCC Secretariat and which have received invitations to Sessions of the IPCC and any of its Working Groups in the past, will be asked whether they wish to continue to receive invitations to Sessions of the Panel and any of its Working Groups on a provisional basis until the Panel has taken a decision, and if so, they will be asked to submit documentation listed under item 1 above.
4. The Secretariat will bring all requests for admission as observer organization to the attention of Members of the Panel at least 4 weeks before a Session of the Panel or Working Group.
5. The Secretariat will screen the submissions and make a proposal to be considered by the IPCC Bureau.
6. The list of observer organizations as reviewed by the IPCC Bureau will be presented to the next Session of the Panel for acceptance.
7. An organization is admitted as observer organization by the Panel by consensus.
8. Any organization accepted as observer organization by the IPCC may retain that observer status only as long as they satisfy the conditions set out for observer organizations.
9. The Secretariat of the IPCC maintains information on observer organizations.
10. The Secretariat shall extend invitations to Sessions of the Panel and its Working Groups to accepted observer organizations. The IPCC shall not provide financial assistance to the observers for participating in the IPCC process.
11. Admission of observer organizations will be included as a regular agenda item of Sessions of the IPCC Bureau and the Panel at the discretion of the Chair. The IPCC Bureau and the Panel shall review the list of accepted observer organizations annually.
12. If the observer status has to be withdrawn for any reason, the Chair may suspend the observer status of that organization subject to ratification by the Panel.