



**United Nations**  
Climate Change Secretariat

Executive Secretary

**Nations Unies**  
Secrétariat sur les changements climatiques

Secrétaire exécutive

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application process  
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## MESSAGE TO PARTIES AND OBSERVERS

### **Changed timeline for the assessment of applications from organizations for admission as observers to the UNFCCC process**

I would like to inform Parties and observer States to the Convention, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement, admitted observer organizations and other non-Party stakeholders about a change in the timeline for the assessment of applications from organizations for admission as observers to the UNFCCC process.

As the Subsidiary Body for Implementation acknowledged,<sup>1</sup> there has been a significant increase in the number of organizations admitted to the UNFCCC as observers over time. In the [information note](#) on the admission process in 2013, the deadline for applications for admission was communicated as 31 August of the year prior to the session of the Conference of the Parties (COP) in question.

In response to the request from the Subsidiary Body for Implementation to take the necessary administrative measures in order to facilitate more effective participation of observer organizations in the intergovernmental process,<sup>2</sup> it has been decided that the approach of linking the assessment of applications for admission to a specific session of the COP will be last applied to organizations that submitted applications for admission to COP 28 by 31 August 2022.

**Distribution:** To Parties and observer States to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change through their national focal points and diplomatic missions accredited to the Federal Republic of Germany, admitted observer organizations and other non-Party stakeholders.

<sup>1</sup> FCCC/SBI/2022/10, para. 169. See also documents FCCC/SBI/2022/5, para. 27, FCCC/SBI/2020/10, paras. 10 and 12, FCCC/SBI/2018/7, para. 39 and FCCC/SBI/2016/2, para. 39–40.

<sup>2</sup> FCCC/SBI/2016/8, para. 167.



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Going forward, the secretariat will assess applications on a continuous basis in order of application date and subject to the availability of resources. This change is necessitated by the secretariat's budgetary constraints and the need to safeguard the quality of the assessment of applications, which in turn will facilitate effective observer participation in the UNFCCC process. Information on the new timeline for the admission process is available at <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/parties-non-party-stakeholders/non-party-stakeholders/overview/how-to-obtain-observer-status>.

Yours sincerely,

*(signed by)*

Simon Stiell