

21 April 2025

**CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE
INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE
FOR GLOBAL CHANGE RESEARCH
Thirty-third meeting
Asunción, Paraguay. Hybrid.
29–30 May 2025
Agenda item 12**

**Revision of formal procedures for granting permanent observer status
at the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research**

1. This document was drafted by the Directorate.

Background

2. The Conference of the Parties (CoP) of the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research, at its 32nd meeting, approved Decision XXXII/20, which states:

The Conference of the Parties adopts the Formal procedures for granting Observer Status at the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research.

Updates

3. The Directorate noted that the Formal procedures for granting permanent observer status at the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research approved by CoP-32¹ could be simplified and aligned with the process followed by other IGOs.
4. In light of the above, the Directorate, in consultation with the Executive Council Chair, proposes the following revision to the procedures:

¹ See: Document [IAI/COP/32/11](#)

- a. States and organizations interested in being granted permanent observer status can apply directly to the IAI Directorate, without being sponsored by a Party.
- b. The IAI Directorate reviews the application and forwards it to the EC Chair, who will decide whether to grant permanent observer status, without the need for approval by the Conference of the Parties.

Conclusions

5. The reviewed formal procedures for granting permanent observer status at the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research are included in Annex I to this document.

Recommendation

6. The Conference of the Parties is invited to consider adopting the reviewed Formal procedures for granting permanent observer status at the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research, included in Annex I to this document.
7. The Conference of the Parties is invited to consider adopting the Decisions included in Annex II to this document.

Annex I

Formal procedures for granting permanent observer status at the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research

The permanent observer status could be granted to States not Party to the [*Agreement establishing the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research*](#), regional or international intergovernmental organizations, and industries and other nongovernmental and private organizations whose activities cover matters of interest to the IAI.

The State or organization interested in being granted permanent observer status needs to apply by filling out this [form](#).

The form includes a Justification Statement field to explain how the State or organization will contribute to the IAI's Strategic Plan and Scientific Agenda, on topics of mutual interest.

The IAI's Executive Council Chair reviews the application and decides whether to grant permanent observer status.

The conditions under which permanent observers may participate in meetings of the Conferences of the Parties shall be as follows:

- (a) A permanent observer may take the floor only when the Chair invites him/her.
- (b) A permanent observer may not propose, second, or oppose motions, and shall not vote.
- (c) A permanent observer may receive all public documents of the meetings of the Conference of the Parties.

Permanent observers should inform the IAI Directorate of their interest in attending a Conference of the Parties no later than forty-five (45) days before the Conference or, in exceptional circumstances, no later than three (3) days before the Conference.

Provision to remove the permanent observer status

Permanent observers that have not participated in the last three (3) years in any meeting of the Conference of the Parties, collaboration initiatives or agreements, and/or other IAI activities, will be notified and permanent observer status will be removed.

Additionally, permanent observers can ask to be removed as permanent observers at any time. This request must be sent to the IAI Directorate.

Annex II

Draft decisions of the Conference of the Parties

Formal procedures for granting permanent observer status at the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research

Directed to Parties

XXXIII/xx. The Conference of the Parties adopts the revised Formal procedures for granting permanent observer status at the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research.

Directed to the Directorate

XXXIII/xx The Conference of the Parties instructs the IAI Directorate to publish the revised Formal procedures for granting permanent observer status at the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research on the IAI website.