Application from a non-governmental organization for consultative status

Note by the Director General

The present document provides information on the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), a non-governmental organization (NGO) applying for consultative status with UNIDO.

1. In accordance with Article 19.1 (b) of the Constitution of UNIDO and the Guidelines for the Relationship of UNIDO with intergovernmental, governmental, non-governmental and other organizations (decision GC.1/Dec.41), in particular paragraph 17 of the annex thereto, information on the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), a non-governmental organization (NGO) seeking consultative status with UNIDO, is circulated to the members of the Board in the annex to the present document. More detailed information on the NGO is available with the Secretariat.

2. Paragraph 17 of the annex to the Guidelines, stipulates that the Board shall establish appropriate procedures for reviewing applications from NGOs for consultative status. In line with the procedures established by the Board at its forty-fifth session (IDB.45/Dec.16), the Enlarged Bureau of the Board shall review the present application of, and information on the NGO referred to in the annex to the present document at its meeting prior to the fiftieth session and submit its recommendation to the Bureau of the Board. The Bureau shall consider the application and recommendation of the Enlarged Bureau at its first meeting on 21 November 2022.

3. At the subsequent plenary meeting, the President of the fiftieth session shall inform the Board of the Bureau’s recommendation on the application and with the approval of the Bureau, the President shall present a draft decision to the Board for adoption.

For reasons of sustainability, this document has not been printed. Delegates are kindly requested to refer to electronic versions of all documents.
Annex

International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)

Historical background

IIASA was established in October 1972 as a non-governmental, multinational, autonomous scientific institution with the objective to initiate and support collaborative and individual research in relation to problems of modern societies arising from scientific and technological development. IIASA also aims to encourage and reinforce national and international efforts in corresponding fields of inquiry; devise means of enhancing appreciation of this type of research among scientists from all nations; and attempt to increase understanding through the development of uniform standards and terminology. IIASA was established to work exclusively for peaceful purposes.

Today, IIASA is an international research institute that advances systems analysis and applies its research methods to identify policy solutions to reduce human footprints, enhance the resilience of natural and socioeconomic systems, and help achieve the sustainable development goals.

Statutes

Available.

Structure of governing bodies and administration

IIASA is governed by a Council comprised of one permanent representative from each National and Regional Member Organization.

Regulations concerning the Institute’s objectives, conditions of membership, internal structure, and the roles and responsibilities of the Council are outlined in the IIASA Charter and the delegation of authority framework of the Council and Council Committees.

The Council is responsible for governance oversight, approval of the Institute’s budget, strategies and governing principles, areas for IIASA research, as well as ensuring that IIASA activities are in line with institutional objectives, the provisions of the Charter and the interests of National and Regional Member Organizations.

The Council meets twice a year, in June and November. The Charter, the Council delegation of authority and Council resolutions document the role of the Council, as well as its processes and decisions. The Council appoints the Institute’s Director General, Deputy Director General for Science, the Chief Operations Officer (COO) and the Council Secretary.

The Council has the following Committees:
- Executive Committee;
- Finance, Risk and Audit Committee;
- Membership Committee; and
- Research and Engagement Committee.

Activities related to the work of UNIDO

The IIASA Strategy 2021–2030 positions the Institute to be among the primary destinations for integrated systems solutions and policy insights to current, emerging, and novel global sustainability challenges, threats and opportunities. The IIASA Research Plan 2021–2024 aims to spotlight opportunities for simultaneously achieving multiple global sustainability goals while minimizing trade-offs; using
multidisciplinary, collaborative and inclusive approaches that better integrate behaviour, equity, justice and resilience imperatives.

IIASA and UNIDO have a long record of cooperation under various formats:

- IIASA and UNIDO partnered to develop integrated solutions for energy, water, food and ecosystem security in regions characterized by extreme hydro-climatic complexity, multiple energy and land use challenges, and rapid demographic, economic and climate change.

- Since 2009, IIASA and UNIDO are hosting the Vienna Energy Forums that bring together over 1,500 policymakers, country delegations, experts and representatives from the private sector and civil society from over 100 countries.

- IIASA and UNIDO partnered in the Integrated Solutions for Water, Energy, and Land (ISWEL) research project.

- IIASA and UNIDO collaborated on the preparation of the report Connecting Regional Development, Regional Integration and Value Added Creation: Strategic Elements for Industrial Development of Kyrgyzstan.

Relations with the United Nations, other IGOs and NGOs

IIASA is partnering with a number of intergovernmental organizations. These organizations include: the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), the Convention on Biological Diversity, the International Nuclear Information System (INIS) of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and its Government Economists for New Economic Systems (GENESYS) initiative/platform, the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), the Secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and the International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA).

Furthermore, IIASA is collaborating with a number of non-governmental organizations. These organizations include: the Belmont Forum, the Earth League, the Global Commons Alliance, the Global Energy Interconnection Development and Cooperation Organization (GEIDCO), the International Science Council (ISC), REN21, the World Water Council (WWC), Africa-UniNet, the Austrian Agency for Research Integrity (OEAWI), the Climate Change Center Austria (CCAA), the Complexity Science Hub Vienna (CSH), Eurasia-Pacific Uninet, the European Citizen Science Association (ECSA), the Science Center Netzwerk and the Vienna Energy Club.

IIASA is also a founding partner of the initiative to organize the International Year of Basic Sciences for Sustainable Development in 2022, proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly in 2021.

Membership

Based roughly on a country’s or region’s GDP and purchasing power parity, IIASA membership categories vary from A (highest contribution) to E (lowest contribution) category. All members’ votes are equal regardless of membership category. The Council periodically reviews membership contributions.

Currently, the following are members of IIASA: Austria, Brazil, China, Egypt, Finland, Germany, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Japan, Jordan, Mexico, Norway, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Sub-Saharan Africa Regional Member Organization (SSARMO), Sweden, Ukraine,
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Viet Nam.

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