

## ANNEX 2

**PRINCIPLES AND CRITERIA FOR THE PARTICIPATION OF  
OBSERVERS AT MEETINGS OF THE COMMISSION**

1. The Director shall invite to meetings of the Commission convened pursuant to Article VIII of this Convention intergovernmental organizations whose work is relevant to the implementation of this Convention, as well as non-Parties interested in conservation and sustainable use of the fish stocks covered by this Convention that so request.
2. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) referred to in Article XVI, paragraph 2 of this Convention shall be eligible to participate as observers in all meetings of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies convened pursuant to Article VIII of this Convention, except meetings held in executive session or meetings of Heads of Delegation.
3. Any NGO desiring to participate as an observer in a meeting of the Commission shall notify the Director of its request to participate at least fifty (50) days in advance of the meeting. The Director shall notify the members of the Commission of the names of such NGOs, together with the information specified in paragraph 6 of this Annex, at least forty-five (45) days prior to the beginning of the meeting.
4. If a meeting of the Commission is held with less than fifty (50) days' notice, the Director shall have greater flexibility concerning the time frames established in paragraph 3 of this Annex.
5. An NGO wishing to participate in the meetings of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies may also be allowed to do so on an annual basis, subject to paragraph 7 of this Annex.
6. Requests for participation referred to in paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 of this Annex shall include the name and office locations of the NGO, and a description of its mission and how its mission and activities are related to the work of the Commission. Such information shall be updated if necessary.
7. An NGO desiring to participate as an observer may do so unless at least one-third of the members of the Commission object for cause in writing to such participation.