Relevant *International Governmental Organizations (IGO)* and *International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGO)* can be accredited as observers to meetings of FAO’s Committee on Fisheries (COFI).

The accreditation requires that several legal and administrative criteria be met and reviewed by internal FAO units. *National organizations do not qualify as COFI observers.*

To request accreditation for **observer status** IGOS and INGOs should submit the following documents by email to FAO-COFI@fao.org:

a) Formal name and contact information of the organization  
b) History of organization  
c) Mandate of the organization and methods of operation (Enclose charter, constitution, by-laws, rules of procedure, etc). Date of establishment  
d) Representative and board members of organization with nationality (international board members is requested)  
e) Geographical coverage including location of any international offices  
f) Activities of organization  
g) Activities in relation to the work of FAO particularly with the Fisheries and Aquaculture Division  
h) Reasons for application  
i) Other matters for consideration

FAO will respond to requests as soon as the accreditation process is completed.