



Agreement on the Conservation of Gorillas and their Habitats of the Convention on Migratory Species

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FOURTH MEETING OF THE PARTIES
Paris, France, 11-15 December 2023
Agenda Item 6

ADMISSION OF OBSERVERS

(Prepared by the Interim Secretariat)

Background

1. Rule 2 of the Rules of Procedure for the Meeting of Parties to the Gorilla Agreement stipulates that:

1. *The United Nations, its Specialized Agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and any State not a Party to the Agreement may be represented at the meeting by observers who shall have the right to participate but not to vote.*
2. *Any body or agency technically qualified in protection, conservation and management of gorillas which is either*
 - a) *an international agency or body, either governmental or non-governmental, or a national governmental agency or body; or*
 - b) *a national non-governmental agency or body which has been approved for this purpose by the State in which it is located;*

and which has informed the Secretariat of the Agreement of its desire to be represented at the meeting by Observers, shall be permitted to be represented unless at least one third of the Parties present object. Once admitted, these Observers shall have the right to participate but not to vote.

3. *Bodies and agencies desiring to be represented at the meeting by Observers shall submit the names of their representatives (and in the case of bodies and agencies referred to in paragraph (2) (b) of this Rule, evidence of the approval of the State in which they are located) to the Secretariat of the Convention prior to the opening of the meeting.*
4. *Logistic and other limitations may require that no more than two Observers from any non-Party State, body or agency be present at a plenary session of the meeting. The Secretariat shall notify Parties, Observers and other participants of any such limitations in advance of the meeting.*
5. *No standard participation fee for non-governmental organisations shall be levied. Nonetheless contributions are appreciated.*

2. The present document includes as Annex a list of agencies and bodies belonging to the categories inter-governmental organizations, national governmental agencies and bodies, and non-governmental organizations that have notified the Interim Secretariat of their desire to be represented at the Fourth Meeting of the Parties to the Agreement on the Conservation of Gorillas and their Habitats (Gorilla Agreement) through pre-registration as at 4 December 2023.
3. Admission of these agencies and bodies will be confirmed at the Meeting. Should any Party have an objection to the participation of any of the agencies or bodies included in the list, it is requested that they inform the Interim Secretariat as soon as possible.

Recommended actions

4. The Meeting of the Parties is recommended to:
 - a) review the list of observers as contained in the Annex; and
 - b) admit the observers to the Fourth Meeting of Parties to the Gorilla Agreement.

ANNEX

**LIST OF AGENCIES AND BODIES PRE-REGISTERED FOR
THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE PARTIES**

(as at 4 December 2023)

1. Inter-governmental organizations

- Great Apes Survival Partnership Scientific Commission
- Greater Virunga Transboundary Collaboration
- IUCN Species Survival Commission Section on Great Apes Primate Specialist Group
- United Nations Environment Programme / Great Apes Survival Partnership

2. National governmental agencies and bodies

- Cameroon
- Germany
- United Kingdom

3. Non-governmental organizations

- Pan African Sanctuary Alliance
- Wildlife Impact