

Dear Secretariat

China Biodiversity Conservation and Green Development Foundation (CBCGDF) would like to submit an application to the Secretary- General of the International Seabed Authority, requesting observer status in the Assembly of the Authority, pursuant to rule 82, paragraph 1 (e), of the rules of procedure of the Assembly.

In accordance with rule 82, paragraph 1 (e), of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, non-governmental organizations with which the Secretary-General has entered into arrangements in accordance with article 169, paragraph 1, of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, and other non-governmental organizations invited by the Assembly that have demonstrated their interest in matters under consideration by the Assembly may participate as observers in the Assembly.

Application for observer status

A. Information about the organization

1. Name of organization

China Biodiversity Conservation and Green Development Foundation (CBCGDF)

2. Address of headquarters

B216E, Chengming Building, Xicheng District, Beijing, China

3. Addresses of all branches and/or regional headquarters

No.17 Minhe Road, Daxing District, Beijing, China

3-7-B1C Shijicheng, Haidian District, Beijing, China

4. Telephone number

+86 17319454776

5. Fax number

+86 10-88431370

6. Email address

v25@cbcgdf.org , v10@cbcgdf.org

7. Name, title and contact details of focal point

Ms. Linda Wong, v10@cbcgdf.org

Ms. Sara Song, v25@cbcgdf.org ,

Phone: +86 17319454776

8. Background information on the organization

China Biodiversity Conservation and Green Development Foundation (CBCGDF), founded in 1985, is an independent non-profit organization dedicated to biodiversity conservation, environmental protection and green development. It originated from the Père David's deer reintroduction in 1985.

<http://www.cbcgdf.org/>

http://file.cbcgdf.org/T18/O125/file/20210107/20210107102439_5520.pdf

http://file.cbcgdf.org/T18/O125/file/20210107/20210107102948_9506.pdf

http://file.cbcgdf.org/T18/O125/file/20210107/20210107102719_4246.pdf

9. Is the organization a member of, affiliated to or otherwise associated with another organization that has been granted observer status with the Authority?

Yes. CBCGDF is an observer to Convention on Biological Diversity and an accredited organization to the United Nations Environment Programme

Ms. Linda Wong, Deputy Secretary General, is a member of UNESCO DESC/ICT4D's Governance and Ethics Working Group & Deep-sea Mining Group.

10. Is the organization affiliated to consultants of the Authority, contractors with the Authority, entities in connection with the law of the sea, the offshore and deep-sea mining industry, research institutes or the mineral marketing and processing industry?

No.

11. Relationships with intergovernmental organizations

- a) CBCGDF is an observer to Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).
- b) CBCGDF is an observer to United Nation's Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES).
- c) CBCGDF is an observer to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).
- d) CBCGDF is an observer to Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).
- e) CBCGDF is an accredited organization to the Ocean Conference
- f) CBCGDF is a partner to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animal (CMS).
<https://www.cms.int/en/news/cms-signs-first-partnership-agreement-chinese-ngo>
- g) CBCGDF is an observer to the fourth and fifth session of the Intergovernmental Conference on an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction.
- h) CBCGDF is a member of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- i) CBCGDF is a member of the Global Genome Biodiversity Network (GGBN).
- j) CBCGDF is an observer to The International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA),
- k) CBCGDF is an observer to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES),

12. List of publications and/or other relevant documentation

- a) Deep Sea Mining for Renewable Technologies: a Potential Catastrophe for Biodiversity, published in IUCN Member Opinion Piece, IUCN's Marine News Magazine
- b) Xu Yanjun. Deep-sea Mining's Impact on Deep-sea Ecological Environment and Biodiversity. Biodiversity Conservation and Green Development, Volume 1, Issue 9, August 2022, ISSN2749-9065

B. Interest in matters under consideration by the Assembly

13. Briefly outline how your organization intends to demonstrate its interest in matters under consideration by the Assembly, including by answering questions 14 to 17 and by providing any other relevant information related to the application for observer status.

As China's national first level society in the field of biodiversity, CBCGDF has plentiful expert resources hoping to support the work of the Assembly. At the same time, CBCGDF is also focusing on ESG and other issues, promoting biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of marine biological resources.

14. Briefly outline whether and how the purposes or activities of the organization relate to the work of the Authority.

China Biodiversity Conservation and Green Development Foundation has had a strong commitment to marine wildlife protection. Within our Ocean Working Group, we focus on mobilizing private sector's ESG efforts in marine conservation and sustainable development, strengthening and broadening the knowledge basis of environmental impacts of Deep-Sea Mining, and improving existing and supporting new regulations and guidance on environmental protection for Deep-Sea Mining. We have also been promoting the sustainable fisheries, seagrass bed restoration. We strongly advocate for the application of the precautionary principle and for a green blue economy.

15. Briefly outline whether and how your organization intends to contribute to the work of the Authority, for example by providing specialized information, advice, or expertise, or by identifying or helping to procure the services of experts or consultants.

China Biodiversity Conservation and Green Development Foundation intends to support the development of regulation and guidance of marine biodiversity and migratory species conservation in order to minimize impacts on marine life. We intend to intensify discussions within ISA on seabed management and Environment impact assessment. We intend to bring our expertise into the International Seabed Authority's (ISA) work on environmental regulations and guidance regarding protection of the environment within the Mining Code.

16. Briefly outline whether and how your organization has the expertise and the capacity to contribute, within its field of competence, to the work of the Authority, in particular in connection with the law of the sea, the protection of the marine environment, the offshore and deep-sea mining industry, technology, minerals processing and marketing, activities in the Area and marine scientific research in the Area.

China Biodiversity Conservation and Green Development Foundation has been active in marine environment protection and biodiversity conservation for over 20 years. We entered our expertise on deep-sea mining into various international fora and have assisted in developing regulations and guidance. We have participated in the fourth and fifth session of the Intergovernmental Conference on an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction.

17. Briefly outline whether and how your organization intends to contribute to the capacity-building programmes and initiatives of the Authority (e.g., Secretary-General's award, voluntary commitments of the Authority).

Yes. CBCGDF is very honored to contribute to capacity-building within ISA by providing input to the issue of marine biodiversity conservation. As a public fundraiser and a national-level scientific society, we can help in multiple ways.