



Assembly

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Item 6 of the provisional agenda*

**Consideration of requests for observer status in accordance
with rule 82 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly**

Request for observer status in accordance with rule 82, paragraph 1 (d), of the rules of procedure of the Assembly on behalf of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission

Note by the secretariat

1. On 5 March 2025, the Executive Director of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission submitted a letter to the Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority, requesting observer status in the Assembly of the Authority. The text of the letter with additional information provided by the applicant can be found on the website of the Authority.¹
2. The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission is an intergovernmental organization established under the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean.
3. Rule 82, paragraph 1 (d), of the rules of procedure of the Assembly indicates that the United Nations, its specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and other intergovernmental organizations invited by the Assembly may participate as observers in the Assembly. Under rule 82, paragraph 3, such observers may participate in the deliberations of the Assembly upon the invitation of the President on questions within the scope of their competence.
4. Unlike non-governmental organizations, which must demonstrate that they have an interest in a particular aspect of the Authority's work, intergovernmental organizations, since they generally comprise States members of the Authority, are not required to demonstrate such interest nor to otherwise justify their status.

* ISBA/30/A/L.1.

¹ See www.isa.org.jm/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/ISA-Observer-status-application_WCPFC.pdf.

