



International Organization for Migration (IOM)
Organisation internationale pour les migrations (OIM)
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**CRITERIA FOR ADMITTING NON-GOVERNMENTAL
ORGANIZATIONS AS OBSERVERS TO THE IOM COUNCIL**

**CRITERIA FOR ADMITTING NON-GOVERNMENTAL
ORGANIZATIONS AS OBSERVERS TO THE IOM COUNCIL**

1. At the Ninety-ninth Session of the IOM Council in November 2010, the Administration submitted document MC/INF/300 in response to the Council's request to be informed of the requirements to be met by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) for admission as observers at the Council.
2. In line with Article 8 of the IOM Constitution and Rule 10(2) and (4) of the Rules of Procedure of the Council, as well as MC/INF/300, the criteria applied by the Administration in screening NGO applications for observer status are the following:
 - (a) The aims and purposes of the NGO must be in conformity with the spirit, purposes and principles of the IOM Constitution.
 - (b) The activities of the NGO must be relevant to migration, migrants, diaspora, refugees, displacement or human resources. If its principal activity is in the latter area, it must be in the framework of the migration and development theme.
 - (c) If the NGO is national – rather than international – the scope of its work should extend in great part beyond the national boundaries.
 - (d) The NGO must have consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).
 - (e) There must be a history of successful operational cooperation between IOM and the NGO, so that the granting of observer status is recognition of mutually beneficial collaboration rather than the beginning of a partnership.
3. For IOM to respond better to the growing need for closer cooperation and partnerships in addressing migration issues, it often has evolving and expanding relationships and collaboration with various partner NGOs that, while they meet the other eligibility requirements listed above, do not have consultative status with ECOSOC. Where the Director General is of the view that observership at the Council of such NGOs will strengthen that cooperation and be in the interests of IOM, the Director General may henceforth recommend that an NGO that does not have consultative status with ECOSOC be granted observer status at the Council.