

### **NOTE ON MEMBERSHIP FOR NEW APPLICANTS - ACCESSION**

According to the IRENA Statute, Article VI, membership in IRENA is open to:

- States that are members of the United Nations ('States');
- Regional intergovernmental economic integration organisations ('regional organisations') that are constituted by sovereign States, at least one of which is a Member of the Agency, and to which its Member States have transferred competence in at least one of the matters within the purview of the Agency.

Pursuant to Article VI (B) (2) of the Statute, States and regional organisations that did not sign the Statute prior to its entry into force on 08 July 2010 may become Members of the Agency by accession to the Statute after their application for membership has been approved.

1. The first step of the process is to submit an application for membership to the Depositary of the Statute, the Federal Republic of Germany (contact details below). An application for membership may be presented through a *Note Verbale* from an appropriate authority, such as the relevant Ministry, or Office of the President or Prime Minister, stating that the Applicant wishes to be considered for IRENA membership. For States, the application should be routed through their Embassy in the capital of Germany (Berlin) or through their Embassy in a State other than Germany where the Head of the diplomatic mission is also accredited to Germany.
2. The Depositary then circulates the application to all Members of IRENA. In accordance with Article VI (B) (2) of the Statute, the application is regarded as approved if, three months after the application has been sent to Members, no disagreement has been expressed. In the case of disagreement the application will be decided on by the Assembly in accordance with Article IX (H) of the Statute.
3. After the application has been approved, and pursuant to Articles VI (B) (2) and XIX (C) of the Statute, membership for the State or regional organization concerned requires the deposit of an instrument of accession with the Depositary. Accession to the Statute is effected in accordance with the respective constitutional processes. For States, the instrument of accession should be routed through their Embassy in the capital of Germany (Berlin) or through their Embassy in another State where the Head of the diplomatic mission is also accredited to Germany.
4. For States or regional organisations having deposited an instrument of accession, Article XIX (E) of the Statute provides that the Statute shall enter into force, and the State or regional organisation becomes a Member of IRENA, on the thirtieth day after the deposit of the instrument of accession.

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*States may wish to consider the 'Agreement on Privileges and Immunities for IRENA' concurrently with their respective constitutional process of accession to the 'Statute of IRENA'. The IRENA Secretariat ([secretariat@irena.org](mailto:secretariat@irena.org)) may be contacted for further information on the matter.*