

THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE WORLD BUSINESS ORGANIZATION

A PARTNERSHIP FOR PEOPLE, PLANET AND PROSPERITY



THE INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SEEKS OBSERVER STATUS AT THE 71ST SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

2015 WAS A LANDMARK YEAR

From Sendai to Addis Ababa to New York and Paris, the decisions governments made under United Nations (UN) auspices will impact generations to come. At each of these key UN Summits, the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) was designated as the official business representative to the intergovernmental processes.

ICC is the world business organization with global networks encompassing over 6.5 million companies, chambers of commerce, and business associations in more than 130 countries from every region of the world.

THE ROLE OF BUSINESS HAS NEVER BEEN MORE IMPORTANT TO THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

In a historic development, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development places heavy emphasis on the crucial role of business in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Member states in the General Assembly now recognize the private sector as a dynamic force for innovation and economic growth. For successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda in all countries, it is essential to institute public-private dialogue at global, national, and local levels.

ICC'S GLOBAL BUSINESS NETWORKS PROVIDE UNRIVALED AUTHORITY AS THE ONLY ORGANIZATION QUALIFIED TO SPEAK IN THE NAME OF WORLD BUSINESS

- Founded in 1919, in the aftermath of World War I, by a group of industrialists known as “the merchants of peace,” ICC represented business from the very beginning to national governments and intergovernmental organizations.
- More than 2,000 business experts drawn from ICC’s policy commissions feed their knowledge and expertise into devising its rules, standards, and positions on specific business issues.
- ICC has enjoyed consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) since 1946. Over this long history, ICC has steadfastly supported the UN’s mission and goals. ICC closely supported the launch of several key UN bodies including UNCITRAL and the UN Global Compact, as well as the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and the World Trade Organization (WTO).

REASONS FOR SEEKING OBSERVER STATUS

- ICC wishes to provide maximum support to the UN to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Established by the General Assembly, the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) is the UN political entity mandated to monitor and review progress on the 2030 Agenda and provide technical and policy guidance to implementing the SDGs. The presence of an official voice of business at the General Assembly takes on far greater importance. The most effective means to provide ongoing business engagement at the HLPF and all the related intergovernmental processes is to grant GA Observer Status to ICC.
- By virtue of its long history of authoritative involvement in international policy-making and its global reach, ICC is exceptionally positioned to represent world business at the General Assembly. Extensive consultation of its global membership in developed and developing countries lends ICC special authority and legitimacy to its views at the UN.
- ICC’s request to obtain Observer Status and represent business views at the General Assembly is part of its historic mission. The General Assembly is the pre-eminent global focal point where ICC can mobilize its policy-making expertise from companies and business organizations of all sizes and in all regions of the world.



The world business organization

**We are the world business organization.
We support the #GlobalGoals.**

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