



USCAN Associate Member Policy

Following the CAN charter (see full text below), USCAN also has an associate (or “observer”) member category. Associate member organizations are not associated with any USCAN policy positions.

From the CAN charter:

Observer Members (With Observer, Affiliate or Advisory status)

21. Non-government and non-profit organisations and individuals who:

- Qualify for membership of CAN but wish to have observer status only*
- Do not qualify for membership of CAN but wish to have observer status*
- Qualify for CAN membership but not for membership of a Node to which they will belong, may apply to become Observer Members of CAN and of their Node as the case may be. Applicants must sign a copy of the membership application form and stipulate their choice of membership. Application will be to the National or Regional Node, if applicable, or if not, to the CAN Secretariat.*

In the case of such applications, the relevant National or Regional Node, or the CAN Board as the case may be, will have full discretion regarding the admission of the applicant member. If the member is admitted, the CAN Secretariat will place the member on a separate register of Observer Members.

22. Observer members of CAN will be permitted to observe CAN meetings and to have access to CAN materials. Such Members have no rights to influence the determination of sufficient consensus at the point where a decision is being finalized within the decision-making process of CAN.

Such members will respect the confidential nature of internal CAN meetings at all times. The facilitator/chairperson or CAN Board members may exclude such members from CAN meetings at the request of CAN members.

23. Observer members at COP/MOP's may attend CAN meetings but must at the commencement of the meeting obtain permission from the meeting chairperson before attending the meeting as an observer.

24. Observer members are required to make contributions to CAN and it is recognised that their involvement is valuable to CAN.