



Governing Council  
Sixty-eighth Session

GC/68/7  
13 April 2026

Lyon, 27–28 May 2026  
Hybrid format

**ADMISSION OF NEW PARTICIPATING STATES**  
**Amendment to the Rules of Procedure of the Governing Council – Rule 50**

1. In accordance with Resolution [GC/67/R15](#), the Secretariat was requested to work with the Subcommittee on the admission of new Participating States to develop a proposal regarding Rule 50 of the Rules of Procedure of the Governing Council to be presented to the Governing Council for its consideration at its 68<sup>th</sup> session in 2026.
2. The Subcommittee met on 30 September 2025 and reviewed Rule 50, more specifically regarding the ninety (90) days' deadline for application, discussing the detailed timeline required to allow for the different steps to be completed when a Member State formally applies for admission as an IARC Participating State.
3. The Subcommittee unanimously supported a change in the deadline for applications from ninety (90) to sixty (60) days and recommends amending Rule 50 as follows:

**Rules of Procedure of the Governing Council – Rule 50**

Present text	Amended text
<p>ADMISSION OF NEW PARTICIPATING STATES Rule 50</p> <p>Applications made by Members of the World Health Organization for admission as Participating States in the Agency shall be addressed to the Director-General and shall be transmitted immediately to Participating States and the Director of the Agency.</p> <p>Any such application shall be placed on the agenda of the next session of the Governing Council provided the application reaches the Director-General at least ninety days before the opening of such session.</p>	<p>ADMISSION OF NEW PARTICIPATING STATES Rule 50</p> <p>Applications made by Members of the World Health Organization for admission as Participating States in the Agency shall be addressed to the Director-General and shall be transmitted immediately to Participating States and the Director of the Agency.</p> <p>Any such application shall be placed on the agenda of the next session of the Governing Council provided the application reaches the Director-General at least <b>sixty</b> days before the opening of such session.</p>