Dear Designated Focal Points of admitted observer organizations,

With the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen - Copenhagen 2009 - taking place within a few weeks, I have important information to communicate to you. As of the 13 November deadline set for the nominations from all non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations, the number of nominees representatives of admitted observer organizations alone had reached 14,000.

According to information recently provided by the Host Government, the Bella Center has a capacity for 15,000 participants in total, including Parties and media. In this context it is my duty to make decisions in order to safeguard the safety of all participants, to ensure the smooth running of the conference and to provide Parties with a suitable environment in which to negotiate a successful outcome.

The secretariat has always maintained a policy of enabling participation in the negotiation process by as many observer organizations as possible, by permitting late nominations beyond the deadlines and even throughout the conference period itself. However, under the present circumstances, I am now obliged to regulate the participation of admitted observer organizations in a more structured way.

The following measures will therefore be adopted with immediate effect:

1. Only nominations submitted up to and including 13 November 2009 will be processed. Replacements for names nominated before the deadline will be processed;

2. The time for admitted observer organizations to register and pick up their photo badges has been postponed to Monday, 7 December and Wednesday, 16 December. Photo badges on these days may be picked up as of 12 noon (see attachment);

3. A system will be set up to regulate the participation of each organization in the conference.

Cognizant of the fact that your nominations include participants who will be attending only part of the conference and that not everyone will be in the premises at the same time, the secretariat will closely monitor the access level and activate the system only once the figure of 15,000 has been reached.
Further details will be communicated through the Observer Organizations Liaison team. You can rest assured of my continuous support of observer participation and that I will do my best to secure your access to the highest degree possible.

I count on your good cooperation in helping us ensure the smooth operation of the registration process and in implementing the above-mentioned necessary safety measures.

Yours sincerely,

Yvo de Boer
Attachment

Modalities for collecting the photo badges

The photo badges will be assigned to individuals and will not be transferable. They must be worn visibly at all times and be presented upon request by security or secretariat staff. It will not be possible to pass the scanning point without this badge.

The times and dates for pick-up of the photo badges by individual representatives are:
From Tuesday 1 December to Sunday 6 December 2009: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.;
On Monday 7 December 2009: 12 noon to 6 p.m.;
From Tuesday 8 December to Tuesday 15 December 2009: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.;
On Wednesday 16 December 2009: 12 noon to 6 p.m.; and
From Thursday 17 December to Friday: 8 December: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Location: Registration Counter

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