

Procedural Steps for Joining INBAR

Application procedures for membership of INBAR are based on *the Agreement on the Establishment of the International Network for Bamboo and Rattan*. The acceding country must agree to the INBAR Treaty, which requires a formal political decision of the Government. The procedure is as follows:

- a. The Government of the applying country shall issue out a letter of application to INBAR in writing of its decision to apply for membership and indicate that it agrees to the terms of INBAR Establishment Agreement.
- b. The Chair of INBAR Council will send a letter to each Council Party member requesting approval in a set period of time (usually 4-6 weeks).
- c. When the application is approved by simple majority of the Council, a letter of acceptance will be sent to the applying government from the Chair of the INBAR Council. The letter of acceptance will also grant the applying country a status of Observer. The term of Observer will be valid for 2 years commencing after the date of the Council approval.
- d. Upon receiving the letter of acceptance, the applying government shall issue an Instrument of Accession and send it to the Depository of the INBAR Establishment Agreement (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Host Government, P.R. China). The signatory of the Instrument of Accession must have the authority to speak on behalf of their Government and duly authorized (Minister of Foreign Affairs or above). See the Annex for a sample Instrument of Accession.
- e. The official announcement of the membership shall be communicated to all the Council Party members by the Depository of the INBAR Establishment Agreement after receiving the original Instrument of Accession. The membership of applicant country will enter into force on the first day of the month commencing after the date of the receipt of the Instrument of Accession.
- f. According to Article 21 of the Establishment Agreement, “in the event that the internal legislation of a signatory Party requires it to ratify the Agreement, the Agreement, with respect to that Party, shall enter into force on the first day of the month commencing after the date of receipt by the Depository of its Instrument of Ratification”.