

CERN/3852
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ORGANISATION EUROPÉENNE POUR LA RECHERCHE NUCLÉAIRE
CERN EUROPEAN ORGANIZATION FOR NUCLEAR RESEARCH

Action to be taken

Voting Procedure

For decision	CLOSED COUNCIL 218 th Session 26 September 2024	Two-thirds majority of all Member States
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**COUNCIL RESOLUTION CONCERNING
THE GRANTING OF OBSERVER STATUS TO JAPAN IN RESPECT OF THE
HIGH-LUMINOSITY LARGE HADRON COLLIDER (HL-LHC) PROJECT**

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THE COUNCIL,

RECALLING

The Convention for the Establishment of a European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN), which was signed on 1 July 1953, entered into force on 29 September 1954 and was amended on 17 January 1971;

Rule 6(b) of the Council Rules of Procedure, revised on 22 June 2023 ([CERN/3388/Rev.4](#)), which provides that the Council may, by a two-thirds majority of all Member States, decide to grant regular attendance rights at its Sessions, in particular Observer status, to other persons, States or intergovernmental organisations with which the Organization cooperates;

The Report of the Council Working Group to review certain aspects of the geographical enlargement policy of 2010 ([CERN/3436/C/Rev.](#)), approved by the Council on 26 September 2019, through which it decided, inter alia, to continue its practice of granting Observer status to States albeit under redefined boundary conditions, namely:

- The possibility for the Council to grant Observer status to States is retained for countries making “substantial contributions” to a major CERN project;
- Observer States are entitled to attend all agenda items in Open Council and those items in Restricted Council that relate to the major project(s) to which they make “substantial contributions” and are granted the right to take the floor but not to vote;
- The required level for a contribution to be considered “substantial” will be defined by the Council for each major project;
- The next phase of the Large Hadron Collider (LHC), the High-Luminosity LHC (HL-LHC), is a separate project from the LHC and the contribution required for the granting of Observer status is at least 25 MCHF;
- Observer status expires when the project’s construction and operation end, unless a “substantial contribution” has been made to another project the construction and operation of which have not yet ended.

The longstanding strong relations between CERN and Japan, also reflected in the fact that, in recognition of its substantial financial contributions to the LHC, Japan was granted Observer status with special attendance rights in 1995, which it has retained throughout the LHC operation phase;

CONSIDERING

The interest of both CERN and Japan in the latter's being granted Observer status in respect of the HL-LHC project under the new conditions for Observer status for States decided by the Council;

The letter of 23 April 2020 from the CERN Director-General to the Permanent Mission of Japan to the International Organizations in Geneva informing the latter of the new conditions and that, in the event that Japan should make a contribution to the HL-LHC of at least 25 MCHF and express its wish to be granted Observer status in respect of the HL-LHC project, the Council could decide to grant such status;

The letter dated 19 June 2023 from the CERN Director-General to the Director-General of the High Energy Accelerator Research Organization (KEK) recalling the in-kind contributions to the HL-LHC project agreed between CERN and Japan, amounting to a total estimated core value of 23 MCHF;

The letter dated 8 August 2024 from the Director-General of the Research Promotion Bureau of the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) to the Director-General expressing the interest of Japan in being granted Observer status in respect of the HL-LHC project;

The letter dated 26 August 2024 from the Director-General of KEK to the Director-General reaffirming Japan's interest in being granted Observer status for the HL-LHC project and confirming that, in addition to the agreed in-kind contributions set out in the letter of the Director-General of 19 June 2023, KEK would make a financial contribution to the HL-LHC project with a core value of 2 MCHF to be paid fully in cash;

Japan's total pledge of 25 MCHF to the HL-LHC project;

DECIDES

To grant Japan Observer status in respect of the HL-LHC project, for the duration of the construction and operation of the HL-LHC, in addition to the Observer status Japan already holds in respect of the LHC;

Japan will therefore be entitled to attend all agenda items in Open Council and those items in Restricted Council that relate to the HL-LHC project, as well as those relating to the LHC, during which it will have the right to take the floor but not to vote.