

Research and Independent NGO Constituency to the UNFCCC

RINGO

RINGO Submission to Arrangements for Intergovernmental Meetings

23 June 2025

RINGO appreciates the opportunity to provide this submission for the Arrangements for Intergovernmental Meetings Agenda item under discussion at the June 2025 subsidiary body meetings.

Party Delegations

To provide context to the discussions, RINGO evaluated data provided on the Final List of Participants for COP 28 and COP 29 to evaluate the impact of a Party decision to limit the size of their delegations to 200.

From analysis of COP 28 registration data (see Annex 1 for more detail):

- 63 Party delegations have more than 200 total delegates
- 44 of these 63 Party delegations are from developing countries and 19 are from developed countries
- 13 of these 63 Party delegations badged more than 200 delegates each on Party and Party overflow.
- 9 of these 13 are from developing countries and 4 are from developed countries.
- Taken together, these 63 Party delegations held 33,624 total badges, 76.5% of all Party badges at COP28.
- The Host Country held 4,159 badges, 9.5 % of total Party badges.

For analysis of COP 29 (See Annex 2 for more detail)

- 34 Party delegations have more than 200 delegates
- 24 of these 34 Party delegations are from developing countries and 10 are from developed countries.
- 4 these 34 Party delegations badged more than 200 delegates each on Party and Party overflow.
- 3 of these 4 are from developing country Parties and 1 from a developed country Party.
- These 34 Party delegations averaged 496 total delegates per delegation, 215 Party delegates per delegation and 281 Party overflow delegates per delegation
- Taken together, these 34 Party delegations held 16,862 total badges, 63% of all Party badges at COP 29
- The Host Country held 3,113 badges, 12% of total Party badges.

Observer Delegations

Number of NGO Delegations - The Secretariat highlights in its AIM pre-session note (14 April 2025) that the number of NGO delegations accredited by the Parties for COP29 has grown to 3,956, a 58% increase from COP25. However, the number of NGO delegations that requested badges and attended COP29 was 1,776. When analyzing the constraints on NGO delegation quotas, RINGO focuses on the number of badges allocated to attending NGO delegations.

Geographic Balance - RINGO appreciates the efforts of Parties and the UNFCCC towards achieving a more diverse and balanced representation of observer organization participants. Challenges to becoming an admitted observer organization can include: 1) compiling the necessary documents, 2) translating the necessary documents and 3) the time delay between submission and acceptance (currently upwards of ~18 months). These challenges cause some organizations to pursue attendance via Party and Party overflow badges. **Thus an analysis of observer engagement is incomplete without assessing observers who attend under party or party overflow badges.**

While the current registration portal requires additional details of all registrants, determining the status of organizations that attend under Party and Party overflow requires a line by line analysis, which RINGO was not able to complete for this submission. As such, **RINGO requests the Secretariat to add a dropdown under Home Organization that categorizes the type of organization for all delegates.** We suggest categories as follows: NGO, IGO, private sector, media, government, and negotiating bloc.

Observer Quota - While Parties do not have a limit on the number of delegates they may bring, observer organizations are assigned a quota limited by available space. Observer space is determined by several factors, including size of venue and available spaces after Party nominations are clear. Size of Party delegations materially impacts the available space for observers. Many observers, in fact, pursue badges via Parties or Party overflow due to limited observer space.

Once total observer space is determined, each individual organization that puts forward nominations is assigned a quota. This assignment of quota is determined by the Secretariat. For context, there were 1,776 NGO observer organizations in attendance at COP29 with an average of 4.7 badges per delegation and a total of 8,356 delegates. Because NGOs are able to “share a badge,” given daily and weekly badging options, more than one observer may attend on a quota of “one badge.” This indicates that the actual badges per NGO observer organization are lower than the average of 4.7. For example, if each NGO observer organization had shared one badge between two people at COP29 (one person on week 1 and one person on week 2), the average observer badge per delegation would have been 2.35.

Annex 1 COP 28 Party Delegations with more than 200 Total Delegates

*Party Delegations with more than 200 Party delegates **and** more than 200 Party overflow delegates

	Country	Total Delegates	Party Delegates	Party overflow
1	UAE*	4159	3491	668
2	Brazil	2301	1264	1037
3	China	1296	1075	221
4	Indonesia	1126	920	206
5	Nigeria	1056	630	426
6	India	1020	212	808
7	Japan	960	722	238
8	Turkey	896	476	420
9	US	839	525	314
10	France	764	505	259
11	UK	674	602	72
12	Morocco	663	252	411
13	S Korea	637	524	113
14	Canada	636	460	176
15	Malaysia	613	456	157
16	Kenya	610	318	292
17	KSA	591	542	49
18	Ghana	520	429	91
19	Egypt	488	346	142
20	Italy	474	347	127
21	Uganda	471	196	275
22	Russia	452	0	452
23	Tanzania	450	241	209
24	Senegal	444	108	336
25	Germany	427	168	259
26	Jordan	420	232	188
27	Iraq	402	150	252
28	Ethiopia	393	172	221
29	Australia	389	284	105
30	DRC	385	172	213
31	EU	363	243	120
32	Oman	359	199	160

	Country	Total Delegates	Party Delegates	Party overflow
33	Singapore	352	292	60
34	Philippines	346	99	247
35	RSA	337	206	131
36	Colombia	335	268	67
37	Kazakhstan	331	1	330
38	Zambia	325	138	187
39	Vietnam	316	117	199
40	Cote d'Ivoire	311	77	234
41	Qatar	310	120	190
42	Azerbaijan	307	94	213
43	Greece	300	238	62
44	Kuwait	289	234	55
45	Chad	287	169	118
46	Somalia	283	88	195
47	Zimbabwe	270	49	221
48	Thailand	268	176	92
49	Uzbekistan	267	0	267
50	Denmark	249	119	130
51	Sweden	245	189	56
52	Portugal	232	142	90
53	Chile	232	193	39
54	Benin	224	98	126
55	Nepal	217	111	106
56	Angola	216	28	188
57	Finland	216	162	54
58	Israel	215	123	92
59	Pakistan	215	141	74
60	Spain	215	140	75
61	Bulgaria	212	133	79
62	Netherlands	212	172	40
63	Sri Lanka	212	146	66
	Total Parties w/ >200 Averages	33,624 534/delegation	13,100 208/delegation	20,524 326/delegation
	Total delegates (n=196)	43,978	20,204	23,774
	% delegates from Parties w/>200	76.5%	65%	86%

Annex 2 COP 29 Party Delegations with more than 200 Total Delegates

*Party Delegations with more than 200 Party delegates **and** more than 200 Party overflow delegates

	Country	Total	Party Delegates	Party Overflow
1	Azerbaijan*	3313	1130	2183
2	Türkiye*	1302	395	907
3	Brazil*	1138	649	489
4	China*	924	194	730
5	Russian Federation	759	757	2
6	United Arab Emirates	746	379	367
7	Indonesia	607	172	435
8	Japan	552	140	412
9	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	448	54	394
10	Kazakhstan	418	143	275
11	Republic of Korea	412	116	296
12	Pakistan	404	109	295
13	Italy	395	140	255
14	United States of America	383	234	149
15	Nigeria	351	170	181
16	Australia	316	90	226
17	Germany	315	177	138
18	Uzbekistan	305	304	1
19	Israel	303	190	113
20	Canada	271	62	209
21	Iraq	259	189	70
22	Singapore	256	41	215

			Party Delegates	Party Overflow
	Country	Total		
23	Kyrgyzstan	253	142	111
24	Uganda	247	153	94
25	Ukraine	247	49	198
26	Ghana	238	103	135
27	Kenya	225	165	60
28	Malaysia	224	64	160
29	United Republic of Tanzania	219	156	63
30	Thailand	211	86	125
31	Zimbabwe	209	181	28
32	Malawi	205	203	2
33	Morocco	205	128	77
34	Saudi Arabia	202	51	151
	Total delegates of Parties w/ >200 Averages	16,862 496/dele gation	7,316 215/dele gation	9,546 281/delegati on
	Total All Parties (n=193)	26,858	14,074	12,784
	% delegates from Parties w/>200	63%	52%	75%