

May 2011

	منظمة الأغذية والزراعة للأمم المتحدة	联合国 粮食及 农业组织	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture	Продовольствен ная и сельскохозяйств енная организация Объединенных Наций	Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Agricultura y la Alimentación
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## CONFERENCE

### Thirty-seventh Session

Rome, 25 June - 2 July 2011

### Application for Associate Membership in the Organization

1. Rule XIX-2 of the General Rules of the Organization (GRO) provides that any application for membership or associate membership “shall be transmitted immediately by the Director-General to Member Nations and shall be placed on the agenda of the next Conference session which opens not less than 30 days from the receipt of the application”.
2. Article II-2 of the Constitution provides that any nation applying for membership shall submit a “declaration made in a formal instrument that it will accept the obligations of the Constitution as in force at the time of admission”.
3. Rule XIX-1 of the GRO provides that this formal instrument may accompany or follow the application, and in the later case “shall reach the Director-General not later than the opening day of the Conference session at which the admission of the applicant is to be considered”.
4. To date the Director-General has received formal application for associate membership from New Zealand on behalf of Tokelau:

### Application for Associate Membership

#### Tokelau

5. The Director-General received a formal application for associate membership from the Minister of Foreign Affairs of New Zealand on behalf of Tokelau on 4 May 2011 in the form of a letter dated 27 April 2011 which included formal acceptance of the relevant obligations of the Constitution of FAO (Appendix). This application was communicated by circular letter ref. C/CA-11/7 Tokelau on 23 May 2011 to FAO Members by the Director-General.

#### Relevant Texts

6. The following texts are relevant to the procedure for the admission of additional Associate Members of the Organization:
  - a) Article II, paragraphs 2 and 11 of the Constitution: the Conference may, by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast, provided that a majority of the Member Nations of the Organization is present, decide to admit additional Associate Members to the Organization.

- b) Rule XII-3 (c) of the GRO: when a two-third majority of the votes cast is required, the total number of affirmative and negative votes cast shall be more than one-half of the Member Nations of the Organization.
  - c) Rule XII-10 (a) of the GRO: admission of additional Associate Members shall be decided by secret ballot.
7. The following provisions are also relevant:
- a) Article XVIII-2 of the Constitution: each Associate Member undertakes to contribute annually to the Organization its share of the Budget, as apportioned by the Conference.
  - b) Article XVIII-3 of the Constitution: each Associate Member shall, upon approval of its application, pay as its first contribution a proportion, to be determined by the Conference, of the budget for the current financial period.
  - c) Regulation 5.8 of the Financial Regulations: any territory admitted to associate membership shall pay a contribution to the budget for the financial period in which its associate membership becomes effective. Such contributions begin with the quarter in which the application was approved.

## Appendix



**Office of Hon Murray McCully**

Minister of Foreign Affairs

27 April 2011

His Excellency Jacques Diouf  
Director General  
FAO  
Rome  
ITALY

Dear Director General,

I have the honour to inform you that the Government of New Zealand hereby applies for the admission of Tokelau to Associate Membership of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in accordance with the provisions of Article II [11] of the Constitution of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

Tokelau is a non-self governing territory of New Zealand.

The Government of New Zealand will accept on behalf of Tokelau the obligations of the Constitution of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in force as at the time of admission. The Government of New Zealand will assume responsibility for ensuring observance of the following provisions of the Constitution of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations with respect to Tokelau: Article VIII[4]; Article XVI[1]; Article XVI[2]; Article XVIII[2]; and Article XVIII[3].

I would be grateful for your assistance in placing this request for Associate Membership upon the agenda of the next Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Murray McCully'.

Hon Murray McCully  
Minister of Foreign Affairs