

INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH ADVISORY BOARD



Constitution of IRAB

I. About IRAB

The international research advisory board (IRAB) was founded in May 2020. IRAB comprises experts in climate law, energy law, climate science and health science, with expertise in academic research and legal practice.

IRAB offers needs-based and demand-driven research to develop targeted legal tools to strengthen climate action and to support long-term capacity building in addressing the needs of developing countries as defined by them. IRAB's work includes research on making financial instruments accessible for developing domestic climate governance frameworks.

The overall long-term objective is to strengthen the position of developing countries domestically, through improved climate governance in national frameworks; and internationally, at the level of international law-making. A continued stakeholder engagement and close collaboration form part of the entire research process.

Members of IRAB have expertise in international law, climate law and governance, as well as climate and health science. Members hail from leading universities, the judiciary of common law and civil law jurisdictions, individual contributors with private sector experience and think tanks around the world. IRAB research is conducted collaboratively with developing countries and relevant institutional partners, with IRAB members contributing in their own personal capacity. This work is supported by legal advisers who work closely with developing countries within the UN climate change framework.

IRAB's approach to climate research is interdisciplinary. Members are working at the intersection of law, health science and climate science with a view of finding new legal solutions for the strategic implementation of international law on climate protection. IRAB is a non-profit organisation and does not provide consultancy services. Instead, our objective is to establish equitable partnerships, to enable developing countries to access and utilize existing research and to conduct research collaboratively, in a continuous dialogue that can contribute to answering pressing questions on climate governance, broadly construed.





II. Objective and Functions

IRAB is a non-profit network of leading professionals that has philanthropic, scientific and pedagogical objectives.

1. The aims of IRAB are in particular to:

- Provide needs-based and long-term capacity building through research;
- Develop and improve legal frameworks consistent with latest scientific evidence;
- Build strong and equitable partnerships with collaborating countries and institutions;
- Develop and contribute to the climate change research agenda;
- Encourage co-operation and understanding between disciplines in the climate change context.

2. IRAB shall pursue its objectives by:

Co-operating with other institutions, organisations and networks, to broaden the understanding of best practices in the context of climate change capacity building support.

IRAB aims to be inclusive and transparent throughout its entire work cycle.

III. Constitutional Bodies of IRAB and Membership

1. The Constitutional Bodies of IRAB are:

- The Steering Committee (SC)
- The Working Groups (WG)
- The General Board Assembly (GBA)

2. Membership

Membership can be acquired upon invitation of the SC and new members must be approved by all members of the GBA.

3. The Steering Committee

The function of the SC is to discuss and adopt strategic and management decisions, about the focus of the work and the projects that are accepted. The SC can draft proposals for work.

The SC consists of not more than five IRAB members, representing a balance of IRAB's expertise.

SC members are elected in a GBA meeting. IRAB members can self-nominate or nominate other members. Membership in the SC will be for three years initially, with the option to be



re-elected for three years after the first period. No SC committee member may serve for more than six consecutive years.

The SC meets on a monthly basis.

The SC will oversee and facilitate the communication between the working groups and with the SC.

If the SC receives a request for a new project, the proposal will be circulated to all members of IRAB to seek input and expressions of interest.

Decisions to accept a project will be made based on available expertise, capacity and resources, and according to the objectives of IRAB.

4. Working Groups

A WG consists of IRAB members and can include members who are not IRAB members.

WG are established and led by a member of IRAB that the SC identifies. The WG lead will manage the project and the communication with the SC.

Members of IRAB can express an interest to contribute to any WG.

Members of a WG will meet with the SC to identify if there are gaps in expertise to carry out a project, and how the gap could be closed to assure successful completion of the project.

- WGs are temporary, they are formed to deliver specific projects.
- Draft reports will be sent out to the WG and all IRAB members.
- Each WG will define their own working timeline, internal processes and publication strategy.
- Each WG will update the GBA on progress during the regular GBA meetings.
- If required, documents can be exchanged between meetings for additional input and feedback from other members of IRAB.

IRAB will publish outcomes of the work at the conclusion of the original term of the WG. The purpose of this requirement is to assure transparency and to assure that IRAB's fulfils its objectives.



5. General Board Assembly

- All members of IRAB are part of the GBA.
- The GBA meets twice per year.
- The function of the GBA is to exercise general oversight and to give inputs into WG reports.

IV. Outcomes, Outputs and Funding

Outcomes from IRAB's work can be policy reports, academic publications or training material. All outputs will be published in accordance with best academic practice, and include the names of every WG member who has substantially contributed to the output, in their own personal capacity. It will be clarified in a reference how the work relates to IRAB and, if applicable, funding through IRAB.



