



## COUNTRY INVITATIONS TO THE COMMUNITY OF DEMOCRACIES: WHO'S IN, WHO'S OUT?

The Community of Democracies is an association of democratic states dedicated to strengthening democratic values and institutions at home and abroad. Led by a Convening Group made up of ten governments (Chile (Chair), Czech Republic, India, Mali, Mexico, Poland, Portugal, South Africa, South Korea and the United States), the Community of Democracies is the only global forum for democratic and democratizing states to coordinate common approaches to democracy promotion.

For the purpose of determining which governments to invite to the biennial ministerial meetings, the Convening Group relies on the Criteria for Participation <[http://www.demcoalition.org/pdf/CD\\_participation\\_criteria.pdf](http://www.demcoalition.org/pdf/CD_participation_criteria.pdf)> paper which delineates the democratic standards countries must adhere to in order to be invited as a Participant. According to the Criteria Paper, governments that do not meet the criteria may be invited as Observers if they are in a transition to democracy and are making concrete steps toward meeting the standards for participation.

In Seoul, all the member states of the Community of Democracies decided that - "In accordance with the principles articulated in the Warsaw Declaration, the Community of Democracies, through as wide consultations as possible with its participants, will not include those countries where there is currently a disruption of constitutional rule or severe persistent erosion of or lack of essential elements of democracy." The *essential elements of democracy* are defined as being:

- respect for human rights – civil, political, economic, social and cultural – including freedom of expression, freedom of the press, and freedom of religion and conscience
- access to and free exercise of power in accordance with the rule of law
- holding of periodic free and fair elections based on secret balloting and universal suffrage monitored by independent election authorities
- freedom of association including the right to form independent political parties
- separation of powers, especially an independent judiciary; and
- constitutional subordination of all state institutions, including the military, to the legally-constituted civilian authority.

## **Comparison between Invitations Issued to Santiago and Recommendations made in DCP Country Assessments Report**

As part of the invitation process for the Santiago Ministerial meeting, the Democracy Coalition Project (DCP), in conjunction with Freedom House, prepared a Country Assessments report <[http://www.demcoalition.org/pdf/Country\\_Assessments\\_CoD\\_Invitation\\_Process.pdf](http://www.demcoalition.org/pdf/Country_Assessments_CoD_Invitation_Process.pdf)> as part of the non-governmental contribution to the Invitation Process. The Country Assessments report, drawing on a wide variety of reporting, analyzed the performance of 30 countries against the standards for participation the Community of Democracies set for itself.

Of the 30 countries discussed in the DCP report, the Convening Group agreed with the recommendations for 14 countries. With respect to the remaining 16 countries the Convening Group invited 9 Participants and 7 Observers; this is in contrast to the Country Assessments report which recommended of those same 16 countries, 8 be invited as Observers and 8 as Non-invitees. In particular, of the 9 countries the Convening Group chose to invite as Participants, the Country Assessments report recommended 8 should be invited as Observers and 1 as a Non-invitee. Furthermore, of the 7 countries the Convening Group invited as Observers, the Country Assessments report recommended those countries not be invited at all. The most glaring gap between the DCP recommendations and the Convening Group decisions was the case of Russia which, despite the Country Assessments recommending it not be invited, was nevertheless invited as a full Participant.

## **Comparison between Invitations Issued for the 2005 Santiago Ministerial meeting and the 2002 Seoul Ministerial meeting**

There is a clear trend during the most recent invitation process for the Convening Group to upgrade countries from the category they were previously invited, whilst there was clear resistance to downgrading any countries for the Santiago Ministerial. In particular there was a greater tendency to upgrade countries from Observer status to Participant status for Santiago than at Seoul (five governments have been upgraded for Santiago as compared to zero for Seoul). Meanwhile, the Convening Group failed to downgrade any governments from Participant status to Observer status for the Santiago ministerial, as compared to 2002 when they downgraded 12 governments to a new Observer category not activated for the first meeting in Warsaw. A full comparison between the invitations issued for the Santiago Ministerial meeting and the Seoul Ministerial meeting is detailed below.

**Three governments** have been **upgraded** from *Non-invitees* (Seoul) to *Participants* (Santiago). They are:

- Afghanistan
- Kenya
- Zambia

This can be compared to 2002 when 4 governments (Bahrain; East Timor; Ghana; and Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)) were upgraded from Non-invitees to the Warsaw Ministerial meeting to Participants in Seoul.

**Five governments** have been **upgraded** from *Observers* (Seoul) to *Participants* (Santiago). They are:

- Fiji
- Georgia
- Madagascar
- Malaysia
- Ukraine

This compares to 2002 when no governments were upgraded from Observers to the Warsaw Ministerial meeting to Participant in Seoul as the category only came into effect for the Seoul ministerial meeting.

**Three governments** have been **upgraded** from *Non-invitees* (Seoul) to *Observers* (Santiago). They are:

- Djibouti
- Gambia
- Iraq

This compares to 2002 when 7 governments (Burkina Faso; Cote d'Ivoire; Fiji; Malaysia; Oman; Sierra Leone; and Singapore) were upgraded from Non-invitees to the Warsaw Ministerial meeting to Observers in Seoul.

**One government** has been **downgraded** from *Participant* (Seoul) to *Non-invitee* (Santiago). It is:

- Nepal

This is the same as 2002 when one government (Kenya) was downgraded from Participant to the Warsaw Ministerial to a Non-invitee in Seoul.

**One government** was **downgraded** from *Observer* (Seoul) to *Non-invitee* (Santiago). It is:

- Cote d'Ivoire

This compares to 2002 when no governments were downgraded from Observer to the Warsaw Ministerial to a Non-invitee in Seoul.

**Zero governments** have been **downgraded** from *Participants* (Seoul) to *Observers* (Santiago).

This compares to 2002, when 12 governments (Algeria; Armenia; Azerbaijan; Egypt; Georgia; Haiti; Kuwait; Madagascar; Qatar; Tunisia; Ukraine; and Yemen) were downgraded from Participants to the Warsaw Ministerial to Observers in Seoul. It should be noted again that, for the Warsaw meeting, no observer category existed.

NOTE: Any country not listed denotes status as a non-invitee for all three ministerial meetings.

INVITATIONS TO SANTIAGO MINISTERIAL MEETING				
COUNTRY	WARSAW	SEOUL	SANTIAGO	MOVEMENT FROM SEOUL TO SANTIAGO
AFGHANISTAN	Non-invitee	Non-invitee	<b>Participant</b>	↑
ALBANIA	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
ANDORRA	Invited	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
ANTIGUA & BARBUDA	Invited	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
ALGERIA	Participant	Observer	<b>Observer</b>	↔
ARGENTINA	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
ARMENIA	Participant	Observer	<b>Observer</b>	↔
AUSTRALIA	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
AUSTRIA	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
AZERBAIJAN	Participant	Observer	<b>Observer</b>	↔
BAHAMAS	Invited	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
BAHRAIN	Not invited	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
BANGLADESH	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
BARBADOS	Invited	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
BELGIUM	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
BELIZE	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
BENIN	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
BOLIVIA	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
BOTSWANA	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
BRAZIL	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
BULGARIA	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
BURKINA FASO	Not Invited	Observer	<b>Observer</b>	↔
CANADA	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
CAPE VERDE	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
CHILE	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
COLOMBIA	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
COSTA RICA	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔

COUNTRY	WARSAW	SEOUL	SANTIAGO	MOVEMENT FROM SEOUL TO SANTIAGO
COTE D'IVOIRE	Not invited	Observer	<b>Non-invitee</b>	↓
CROATIA	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
CYPRUS	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
CZECH REPUBLIC	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
DENMARK	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
DJIBOUTI	Non-invitee	Non-invitee	<b>Observer</b>	↓
DOMINICA	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
EAST TIMOR	Not Invited	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
ECUADOR	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
EGYPT	Participant	Observer	<b>Observer</b>	↔
EL SALVADOR	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
ESTONIA	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
FIJI	Not Invited	Observer	<b>Participant</b>	↑
FINLAND	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
FRANCE	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
GAMBIA	Non-invitee	Non-invitee	<b>Observer</b>	↑
GEORGIA	Participant	Observer	<b>Participant</b>	↑
GERMANY	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
GHANA	Not invited	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
GREECE	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
GRENADA	Invited	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
GUATEMALA	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
GUYANA	Invited, later endorsed the Declaration	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
HAITI	Participant	Observer	<b>Observer</b>	↔
HONDURAS	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
HUNGARY	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
ICELAND	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔

COUNTRY	WARSAW	SEOUL	SANTIAGO	MOVEMENT FROM SEOUL TO SANTIAGO
INDIA	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
INDONESIA	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
IRAQ	Non-invitee	Non-invitee	<b>Observer</b>	↔
IRELAND	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
ISRAEL	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
ITALY	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
JAMAICA	Invited	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
JAPAN	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
JORDAN	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
KENYA	Participant	Not invited	<b>Participant</b>	↑
KIRIBATI	Invited	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
KUWAIT	Participant	Observer	<b>Observer</b>	↔
LATVIA	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
LEBANON	Invited	Observer	<b>Observer</b>	↔
LESOTHO	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
LIECHTENSTEIN	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
LITHUANIA	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
LUXEMBOURG	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
MACEDONIA	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
MADAGASCAR	Participant	Observer	<b>Participant</b>	↑
MALAWI	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
MALAYSIA	Not Invited	Observer	<b>Participant</b>	↑
MALI	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
MALTA	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
MARSHALL ISLAND	Invited	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
MAURITIUS	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
MEXICO	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
MICRONESIA	Invited	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
MOLDOVA	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
MONACO	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
MONGOLIA	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔

COUNTRY	WARSAW	SEOUL	SANTIAGO	MOVEMENT FROM SEOUL TO SANTIAGO
MOROCCO	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
MOZAMBIQUE	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
NAMIBIA	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
NAURU	Invited	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
NEPAL	Participant	Participant	<b>Non-invitee</b>	↓
NETHERLANDS	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
NEW ZEALAND	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
NICARAGUA	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
NIGER	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
NIGERIA	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
NORWAY	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
OMAN	Not Invited	Observer	<b>Observer</b>	↔
PALAU	Invited	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
PANAMA	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
PAPUA NEW GUINEA	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
PARAGUAY	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
PERU	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
PHILIPPINES	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
POLAND	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
PORTUGAL	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
QATAR	Participant	Observer	<b>Observer</b>	↔
ROMANIA	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
RUSSIAN FEDERATION	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
SAINT KITTS & NEVIS	Invited	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
SAINT LUCIA	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES	Invited	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
SAMOA	Invited	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
SAN MARINO	Invited	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔

COUNTRY	WARSAW	SEOUL	SANTIAGO	MOVEMENT FROM SEOUL TO SANTIAGO
SAO TOME & PRINCIPE	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
SENEGAL	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO (formally Yugoslavia)	Non-invitee	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
SEYCHELLES	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
SIERRA LEONE	Not invited	Observer	<b>Observer</b>	↔
SINGAPORE	Not invited	Observer	<b>Observer</b>	↔
SLOVAKIA	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
SLOVENIA	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
SOUTH AFRICA	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
SOUTH KOREA	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
SPAIN	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
SRI LANKA	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
SURINAME	Invited, later endorsed the Declaration	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
SWEDEN	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
SWITZERLAND	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
TANZANIA	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
THAILAND	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO	Invited	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
TUNISIA	Participant	Observer	<b>Observer</b>	↔
TURKEY	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
TUVALU	Invited	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
UGANDA	Non-invitee	Non-invitee	<b>Non-invitee</b>	↔
UKRAINE	Participant	Observer	<b>Participant</b>	↑
UNITED KINGDOM	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
URUGUAY	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔

COUNTRY	WARSAW	SEOUL	SANTIAGO	MOVEMENT FROM SEOUL TO SANTIAGO
VANUATU	Invited	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
VENEZUELA	Participant	Participant	<b>Participant</b>	↔
YEMEN	Participant	Observer	<b>Observer</b>	↔
ZAMBIA	Non-invitee	Non-invitee	<b>Participant</b>	↑