

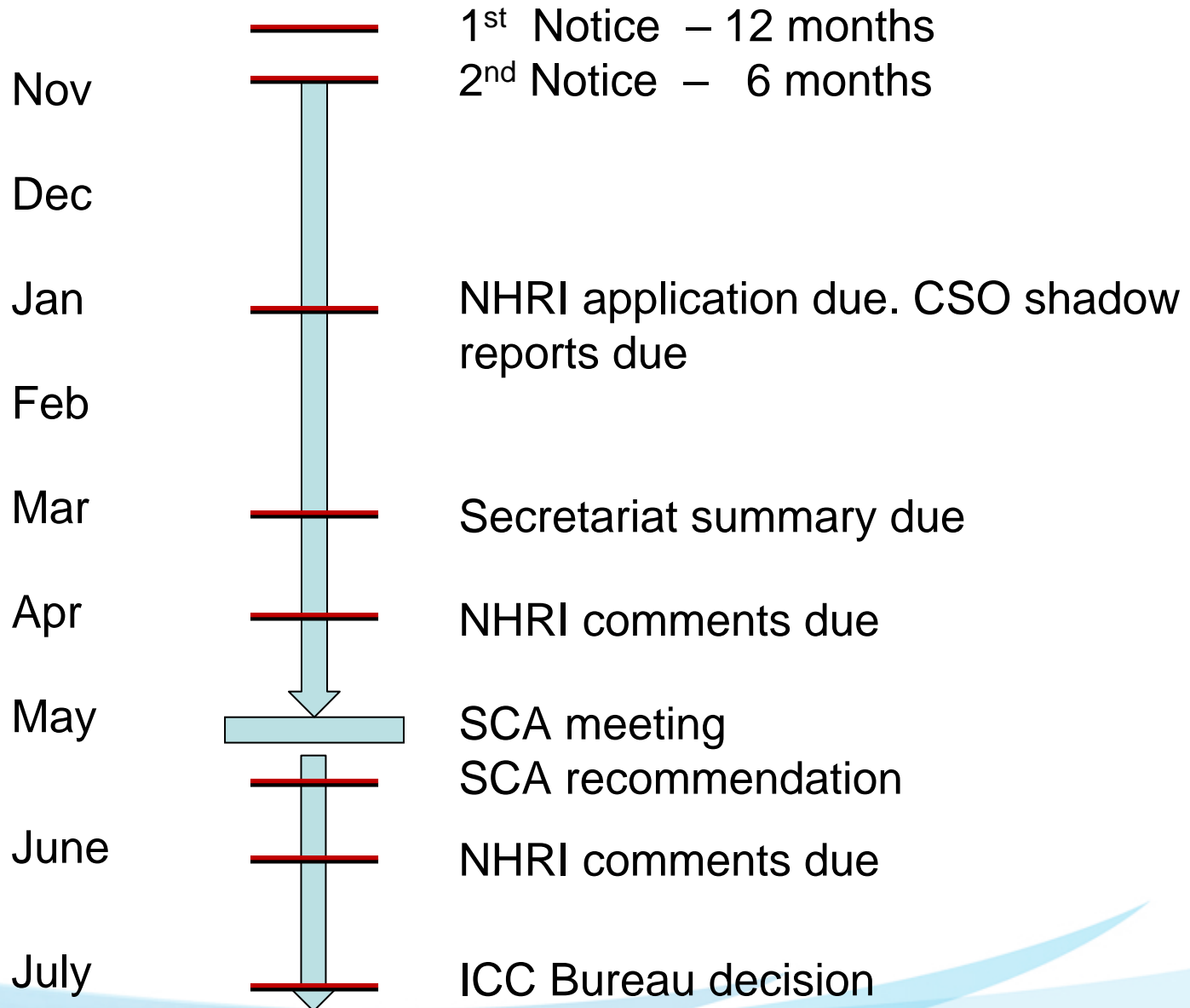
The logo consists of two concentric blue circles. The outer circle is a thick blue line, and the inner circle is a thin blue line. The text is centered within the space between these two circles.

ASIA PACIFIC FORUM
ADVANCING HUMAN RIGHTS IN OUR REGION

ICC Accreditation

March 2011

Timeline



Documentation

1. ICC Statute
2. Guidelines for Accreditation Application
3. Application Form
4. Paris Principles and General Observations
5. SCA Recommendations

ICC Statute

1. Process
2. Timeframes
3. Documentation
4. Classifications
5. Grievances

Guidelines

1. Background
2. How to make an Application
3. Deadlines
4. The Application Process

Application Form (excerpt)

Organisational infrastructure:

The Paris Principles state that: The national institution shall have an infrastructure which is suited to the smooth conduct of its activities, in particular adequate funding. The purpose of this funding should be to enable it to have its own staff and premises, in order to be independent of the Government and not be subject to financial control which might affect its independence.

Organisational Structure

Please provide:

- An outline of the organisational structure of the NHRI and explain whether the Institution has an infrastructure which allows it to function according to its mandate;
- A list of the staff of the NHRI or, if provided in another document, refer to the organisational chart illustrating the staffing structure of the NHRI;
- Any information relating to the budget of the NHRI, its accounts and financial records including whether or not the NHRI has the control and management of its own budget, i.e. if the NHRI is financially independent from the government in how its budget is spent.

Paris Principles (excerpt)

Pluralism: The composition of the national institution and the appointment of its members, whether by means of an election or otherwise, shall be established in accordance with a procedure which affords all necessary guarantees to ensure the pluralist representation of the social forces (of civilian society) involved in the promotion and protection of human rights, particularly by powers which will enable effective cooperation to be established with, or through the presence of, representatives:

- (a) Non-governmental organizations responsible for human rights and efforts to combat racial discrimination, trade unions, concerned social and professional organizations, for example, associations of lawyers, doctors, journalists and eminent scientists;*
- (b) Trends in philosophical or religious thought;*
- (c) Universities and qualified experts;*
- (d) Parliament; and*
- (e) Government departments (if these are included, their representatives should participate in the deliberations only in an advisory capacity).*

General Observations (excerpt)

The Sub-Committee observes that there are different ways in which pluralism may be achieved through the composition of the National Institution, for example:

- a) Members of the governing body represent different segments of society as referred to in the Paris Principles;*
- b) Pluralism through the appointment procedures of the governing body of the National Institution, for example, where diverse societal groups suggest or recommend candidates;*
- c) Pluralism through procedures enabling effective cooperation with diverse societal groups, for example advisory committees, networks, consultations or public forums; or*
- d) Pluralism through diverse staff representing the different societal groups within the society.*

The Sub-Committee further emphasises that the principle of pluralism includes ensuring the meaningful participation of women in the National Institution.

SCA Recommendations (excerpt)

Although Article x of the founding law states that the institution shall perform in complete independence, the . . . legislation also contains the following provisions that may compromise its independence:

- The governing body . . . is not vested with the authority to appoint all staff and to determine the required skills and human rights expertise. The Director, the Deputy Director and the four thematic coordinators of the governing body are appointed by the Federal Government. The SCA refers to General Observation 2.7 “Staff of an NHRI”.
- . . .

The Role of the APF Secretariat

- Advice to members on the Accreditation Process
- Advice on drafting applications for accreditation and re-accreditation
- Assistance to the Asia Pacific regional representative on the SCA during the SCA meeting
- Assistance to members in responding to SCA recommendations
- Legislative and other advice to address Paris Principles compliance issues.