



**INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL CHANGE RESEARCH
IAI DIRECTORATE**

F o r u m

***IAI: Moving forward - 10th Anniversary of the entry into force
of the "Montevideo Declaration"***

Buenos Aires, 1st July 2004

Background

In its 18th session, Costa Rica, December 4-5, 2003, the EC " endorsed the proposal of the IAI Director to "use the next CoP to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the entry into force of the Agreement of Montevideo (1994) to organize, instead of a Science Forum, a day for high-level representatives and delegates from IAI member countries to take stock of the IAI activities during the last decade and to propose/discuss priorities for the future, taking into account national and regional needs", and asked the Director to study its implementation ".

Structure

Participants:

The Forum is addressed to country member Representatives, and when possible a higher level authority with decision power (policy-makers). In addition observers and representatives of other institutions/agencies funding or supporting IAI activities, non-member countries and international organizations will also be invited.

It is expected that participants should freely express their views regarding the value of IAI and its present relevance and usefulness in responding to the members needs. Presentations and statements should be addressed to review the IAI mission/objectives from the point of view of the member governments and the outcome they would like to have from IAI activities/programs.

| |
|---------------|
| Agenda |
|---------------|

The Forum to consist in three sessions:

Session 1: *Taking stock*
(08:00 – 09:00)

Consisting of two invited lectures of 30 minutes addressing the history of the first decade of IAI activities, the value of the IAI accomplishments for different communities and the strengths and weaknesses of the present IAI structure.

Invited lecturers: Ing. Federico Garcia Brun (Uruguay), Dr. Jose Boninsegna (Argentina)

Basic documentation for this session: IAI 10th Anniversary Book "Responding to the challenge of global change in the Americas", IAI Annual Report 2002-2003, CD-ROM 3rd CRN PI/ IAI IGBP Meeting "Building global change networks in the Americas" and recently released IAI Info-sheets.

Session 2: *Moving forward*
(09:00 – 12:00 and 14:00 – 15:00)
(10:00 – 10:15 coffee break)
(12:00 – 14:00 lunch)

Consisting in short statements from Member Representatives or high-level authorities (up to 10 minutes) on their position regarding IAI present and future, based on written statements presented and circulated beforehand.

After more than a decade of IAI effort it would be then appropriate in these presentations to assess, in a very concise and focused way, issues such as

- Is IAI achieving the proposed objectives?
 - o If yes, how to strengthen them?
 - o If not, how to improve them?
- Are the present IAI structures and mechanisms adequate to reach the objectives?
 - o If yes, how to strengthen them?
 - o If not, how to improve them?
- Are the present IAI funding mechanisms adequate?
 - o If yes, how to strengthen them?
 - o If not, how to improve them?
- What should IAI pursue in the future to the benefit of Member countries?
 - o In producing, assessing and disseminating scientific results on global change and coordinating it responses
 - o In developing collaboration through partnerships and networks (North-South and South-South)
 - o In synthesizing and communicating information to help in building a more scientifically literate and informed citizenry in the region
 - o In developing regional capacity to cope with global change (and its impacts on socio-economic areas such as health, energy, food production, tourism, etc.)
 - o In serving as an effective interface between science and the policy process.

Session 3: Round table

(15:00 – 18:00)

(16:00 – 16:15 coffee break)

A moderator will guide a round table aiming at the identification of the major lines of actions resulting from the input provided by participants of the previous session. The outcome should be a summary of the Forum suggestions, proposals and recommendations aiming at immediate and mediate actions to assure the sustainability of IAI, for consideration of the CoP during its last session, to be held just after the Forum. Two Rapporteurs will produce the summary.

Moderator: Dr. Adrian Fernandez (Mexico)

Rapporteurs : Dr. Thelma Krug (Brazil), Dr. Osvaldo Canziani (Argentina)

Timeframe:

Session 1 - Two invited lectures 30 min. each -> 1 hour

Session 2 - 19 statements up to 10 min. each + observers -> 4 hours

Session 3 - Two and half hours discussion + ½ hour summary -> 3 hours