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Asunción, Paraguay

Minutes of the CoP-XVII

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Minutes of the Seventeenth IAI Conference of the Parties (CoP)
Brasilia, Brazil, 9-10 June 2010

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Note: This report is not strictly a chronological record. For completeness, greater clarity and readability the IAI Directorate has grouped discussions of each agenda item together.

17th IAI Conference of the Parties (CoP)
9-10 June 2010 – Brasilia, Brazil

Agenda

Wednesday– 9 June 2010	Day 1

- Morning session (08:30 – 12:30)

08:30 - 09:00 Registration

Opening ceremony
- *Welcome by Brazilian Representative*

Organizational Issues:
- *Election of the CoP Bureau*
- *Election of the Credentials Committee (3 Parties)*

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of the Report of the 16th CoP

10:30 – 10:45 Coffee Break

Presentations:
- *Parties to the Agreement*
- *Observers*

11:00 Conference call with Timothy Killeen (NSF)

12:45 Lunch break

- <u>Afternoon Session</u> (14:00 – 18:00)

Report of the Credentials Committee

Progress Report by the IAI Directorate:
- Activities and funding in 2009-2010;
- Annual Program for FY 2010-2011;
- Core Budget for FY 2010-2011;
- Country Contribution for 2010-2011

Progress Report of the IAI Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) *SAC Chair*

Progress Report of the EC: *EC Chair*
- Activities charged to the EC by the last CoP;
- EC activities, actions, and decisions;
- Issues brought forward from the 29th EC meeting.

15:30 – 15:45 Coffee Break

Report of the Standing Committee for Rules and Procedures *Lou Brown*

Welcome reception

Thursday – 10 June 2010	Day 2

- <u>Morning Session</u> (09:00 – 12:00)

Scientific event "Hydrology, society and environment " - organized by the host

- <u>Afternoon Session</u> (14:00 – 18:00)

Approval of the Action List of day 1

Approval of the Core Budget for FY 2010-2011 and Country Contribution for 2010-2011

Approval of the other items forwarded from the 29th EC meeting

Review of CoP items for action by EC-30

Donor's session
- Country contributions to:
  - Program and Project Activities
  - Core Budget

03:30 – 03:45 Coffee Break

IAI Mission and Strategic Plan

Election of five SAC members

Election of EC members (*)

Future meetings and sites

Adjourn

Debriefing session – IAI CoP Bureau and the IAI Directorate

Meetings of Working Groups, as necessary

(*) After the CoP meeting, the new EC will meet to elect its Bureau

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Participants at the meeting were:

CoP Country Representatives
- Argentina: Carlos Ereño, Paulo Zappia
- Bolivia: Maria Cristina Linale de Aparicio
- Brazil: Maria Virginia Alves, Simone Redivo, Hilcéa Ferreira
- Canada: Brian Gray, Lynn Whelpdale
- Chile: Jorge Beals
- Colombia: Ricardo Lozano Picón, Sergio Humberto Dias Aguilera
- Costa Rica: Carolina Fernández Álvarez, Claudia Wandega A. Santos
- Cuba: Alexis Bandrich Veja, María Emilia Cabrera

- Mexico: Bruno Ríos Sánchez
- Paraguay: Fernando J. Mendez Gaona
- Peru: Raúl F. Menezes Bendezú
- United States: Paul Filmer, Lou Brown
- Venezuela: Guillermo Barreto, Tibisay Pérez, Dirk Thielen

Brazilian Ministry of Science and Technology
José Monserrat Filho, Adriano Santhiago de Oliveira

SAC Members
Juan Valdes (Chair)

Observers
Germán Gomez, Marilyn Aparicio Effen (OTCA)

IAI Directorate Staff
- Holm Tiessen (Director)
- Christopher Martius (Assistant Director for Science)
- Marcella Ohira (Assistant Director for Capacity Building)
- Rafael Atmetlla (Assistant Director for Finance and Administration),
- Tania Sánchez (Executive Assistant to the IAI Director)
- Ana Claudia Rosa (Executive Assistant to the IAI Director)
- Elvira Gentile
- Paula Richter

Local Support: Patricia Marciano Leite, Valeria Ribeiro G. Fernandes

1. Opening Session

The representative of Brazil, Dr. Maria Virginia Alves welcomed all participants to the Conference of the Parties of the IAI. She introduced the representatives from the Ministry of Science and Technology of Brazil, Mr. Adriano Santhiago de Oliveira, Secretariat for Research and Development of Policies and Programs, and Dr. Jose Monserrat, Deputy Coordinator of the International Cooperation Area.

Dr. Monserrat conveyed the enthusiastic and positive statement from the Ministry of Science and Technology (MCT) as to the function and further development of the IAI in the INPE headquarters. Great efforts are being made to amend the Host Country Agreement in order to facilitate the functioning of the IAI in Brazil, which is of greatest importance to Brazil.

Dr. Holm Tiessen gave the welcome to all participants and thanked the MCT and the National University of Brasilia for hosting the meeting.

2. Election of Bureau

The CoP elected the following members as the Bureau for its Seventeenth Meeting: Maria Virginia Alves from Brazil as the Chair, Paul Filmer from USA as the First Vice-Chair, and Carlos Ereño from Argentina as the Second Vice-Chair.

(Action 1, day 1)

3. Approval of the Agenda

The CoP approved the agenda of its Seventeenth Meeting without modifications.

(Action 2, day 1)

4. Approval of the Report of the 16th CoP

The CoP approved the report of its Sixteenth Meeting with the following modification:

a) English version, page 30, item 11.3, Quorum of CoP 16, final paragraph, add the following sentence at the end of that paragraph: "*The session was reassumed after achieving quorum, with the presence of the delegation from Peru.*"

b) Spanish version, page 32, item 11.3, Quórum de la CoP 16, final paragraph: "*Se reinició la sesión luego de haber logrado el quórum con la presencia de la delegación del Perú*."

c) Other minor modifications would be sent directly to the Secretariat.

(Action 3, day 1)

5. Credentials Committee

The Credentials Committee was elected at the CoP 16 in Bogotá. Members are Mexico, Brazil and the USA.

The Credentials Committee informed the CoP that eleven delegations had submitted the official credentials to participate in the meeting: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Mexico, Paraguay, the United States, and Venezuela. Required number of accredited Parties to constitute quorum is nine.

(Action 4, day 1)

6. Presentations by member countries and observers

Argentina: In the framework of the Interdisciplinary Program for Climate Change of the University of Buenos Aires (PIUBACC) and with the participation of the Ibero-American Program of Development Science and Technology (CYTED), the VI International Symposium-Workshop on the "Effect of global changes on Ibero-American wetlands" was held in August 2009. The event addressed several issues such as the effect of global changes on natural and socioeconomic systems, impacts on environmental services, health, social and human well-being indicators, national and sectoral prevention policies, mitigation, rehabilitation or adaptation to global change, or alternatives for sustainable management, risk management and sustainable development. The Regional Science Office of UNESCO for Latin America and the Caribbean organized the "Workshop for the Development of a Regional Project on Integrated management of Coastal areas in the western south Atlantic which was held Montevideo on 1-3 December 2009. The workshop was aimed at exploring possibilities for a joint project proposal to GEF to promote a regional approach to climate change adaptation in Brazil, Argentina and Uruguay. The Ministry of Agriculture will hold the IV Event on Risk Management and Agricultural and Livestock Insurance. Issues addressed will be assessment and management of climate risks to agricultural and livestock production, as well as the development of the agriculture insurance market in Argentina and innovative experiences from the insurance sector in other American and European countries. Argentina has just defined the 3 components of its Third National Communication: 1) Strengthening of the National Potential for Climate Change Mitigation, the objective of which is update the national inventory of greenhouse gas emissions by source, design tools and procedures to improve data collection and management, assess and plan mitigation measures and policies; 2) Strengthening of the National Agenda for Adaptation to evaluate the impacts of climate change; identify the most vulnerable sectors and areas in Argentina as well as the priorities for adaptation actions, including cost estimations and strengthening of adaptive capacity and resilience, implementation of adaptation measures; and integrate the issue of climate change

into development strategies and sectoral programs; 3) Institutional Strengthening, Capacity Building and Information Management.

Brazil: Dr. Adriano Santhiago gave an overview of the initiatives of the Brazilian government in the area of climate change. The Ministry of Science and Technology is the technical focal point for the implementation of the Climate Change Convention and the Kyoto Protocol in Brazil. Brazil is preparing the second national inventory of greenhouse gas emissions, which also involves the scientific community. The inventory is part of the Second National Communication, in preparation. It includes a public consultation on different themes. Clean Development Mechanisms are also being considered by a committee composed of eleven Brazilian ministries. In Brazil, only 5 CDM projects for the reduction of industrial nitrous oxide emissions made it possible to practically reduce those emissions to zero. INPE is using remote sensing to study the changes in landuse and forests. Developing countries should strengthen their adaptation capacities, historically, the least considered aspect of climate change mitigation. Brazil is allocating financial resources to support efforts in priority areas.

Canada reaffirmed their commitment to the IAI. Canadian funding to the IAI used to come from two different ministries, but this has been solved and now Environment Canada is in charge of those payments. The IAI will be informed in advance when payments will be made so it can plan its budget and expenses. Canada supports the practice of scientific research networks to advance knowledge of global change. In Canada, those research networks are funded by federal moneys, but they are generally led by the university system with partnerships with federal and provincial scientists, NGOs, and often the private sector. Canada needs to link their research networks with the existing research networks in America, especially those that are linked with the IAI. Canadian priorities related to global change research: downscaling global climate models to regional climate models and building in the terrestrial biospheric aspect of these models to better predict a changing climate. Related to this is the development of seasonal weather forecasts, in order to provide information to decision makers well in advance (agriculture, crop choices, insurance). Seasonal forecasting may also help to look at the impact of global change on hydrological systems, especially those that are feeding into agricultural and semi arid areas. Another priority is predicting severe weather (24-hour or less predictions). Other issues are clean energy development and bioenergy mapping to identify resources that may be available. Finally, the translation of the information coming from the research networks into plain language that decision makers (from individual farmers to the Prime Minister) can use. Greater effort is needed across the Western Hemisphere to translate the excellent science that is being done to provide input to decision making.

Chile: no presentation

Colombia: On June 24 Colombia will present the second national communication, which is much more complete and robust than the first one, mainly in relation with important aspects such as the national greenhouse gas inventory, the potential of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, particularly in the energy and agricultural sectors. In terms of adaptation and vulnerability, Colombia has also been implementing major pilot projects. Another theme addressed is sea level rise in the Caribbean and the Pacific. The representative and the vice-President of the country visited areas vulnerable to sea level rise to raise awareness amongst people and local authorities on impacts and promote the initiation of actions and implementation of territorial ordering plans. Excess in rainwater from extreme events is being used for household supply. Thanks to this, poor neighborhoods are receiving water for half the price. Besides taking care of the environmental aspects and reducing risks, this kind of projects helps to improve live quality of people. Agreements have been signed in several municipalities to include the climate change component in territorial ordering plans (floods, landslides, etc). The Ministry of Agriculture has created a fund to implement climate change adaptation measures in the sector. As a result five projects have been approved for the coffee, flower and livestock sectors, with emphasis on information and knowledge generation as a basis for adaptation measures. The IPCC methodology for determining vulnerability has been adjusted to the country needs and is included in the second national communication. Each country has its own experience in adapting to climate change and

this has to be taken into consideration for risk management and to identify and map vulnerability. Agricultural and energy vulnerability models were run and education and awareness raising activities are being carried out. Colombia is increasingly aware of global change related problems thanks to dissemination activities at different levels and among different institutions and governmental bodies. The most important priorities identified by the country are research, capacity building and information for decision-making.

Costa Rica has submitted the Second National Communication to the UNFCCC, which includes all the actions that the country has undertaken in the area of climate change, as well as the greenhouse gas inventory with baseline in years 2000 and 2005. Follow-up of the National Strategy on Climate Change, which in 2010 will realize the National Plan for Climate Change. To achieve this, the Environment Council has been reactivated at the highest political level, to ensure the compulsory observance of any decisions taken by governmental organizations. The fundraising process for the Third National Communication was initiated, as well as for the greenhouse gas inventory with baseline in 2010, to continue meeting the commitment to the UNFCCC. A rule was designed for carbon neutrality, since the country aims at being carbon neutral by 2021. The idea is that all institutions, geographic regions or products that wish to have carbon neutral certification may have a methodology for baseline analysis and for the institutional or geographic inventory of carbon emissions. In this sense, the Ministry of the Environment, Energy and Telecommunications has created the National Office for Climate Change. Work is ongoing within the project “Improving national capacities for the assessment of vulnerability and adaptation of the water system to climate change in Costa Rica” as a mechanism to reduce climate change related risks and increase the Human Development Index. The products of that project will be a methodology that will make it possible to implement all the adaptation measures fro which financial support can be obtained from the Convention adaptation fund or other funding agencies.

Cuba: Despite no presentation has been submitted from the country, the representative expressed the commitment of Cuba to the IAI. The country will look for ways to pay the debt off and maintain this collaboration in the future. There is much to be done in the Caribbean islands in terms of global change research and mitigation of the effects of climate change.

Mexico: The IAI is a crucial component of regional collaboration in the area of global change to Mexico and INE in particular. Therefore it is important to Mexico, that the IAI develop and enhance capacity building activities, and the exchange of information among others. In 2009, the country achieved important results in terms of climate change mitigation in the mid and long term. The study on the economy of climate change was also concluded, the results of which are being analyzed and discussed by several institutions, including the Treasury and the President’s Office. Mexico has strengthened capacities in scientific and technological climate change research. These efforts are carried out mainly through universities, public and private institutes and research centers, as well as NGOs in association with private consultants and local authorities, among others. A register has been created of experts and scientific and technical institutions involved in climate change research. The database was initiated by UNAM in 2001, and updated in 2005 and 2008 under the coordination of INE. Since its establishment in 2005, the Inter-Ministerial Commission for Climate Change has coordinated the activities of the federal government related with the formulation and implementation of national policies for the mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions and adaptation to climate change effects. Mexico will be the venue of the UNFCCC CoP16. Coordination of risk disaster management and adaptation to climate change: Mexico has recognized that territorial planning and ordering are a good means for risk reduction. Vulnerability to some aspects of climate change can be significantly reduced with adequate conservation of ecosystems and good management of hydrologic basins. Among relevant actions by the government is the advice provided to federal institutions and municipalities in terms of including adaptation criteria in their development strategies and territory ordering actions, to prevent disasters and implement risk reduction measures in the framework of urban development and territorial planning. Plans are also being put in place for preparedness to face droughts, floods, extreme weather events and sea level rise in a context of climate change.

Mexico recognizes the need of contributing to mitigation actions of the international community. The country has presented the Climate Change Program 2009-2012, which shows that greenhouse gas emissions can be reduced without compromising development. This program will result in a reduction of 50 million tons in annual CO_2 emissions (6% of the baseline for that year), in the areas of energy production, agriculture, forestry, among others. The long term goal of this program is to reduce emissions by 50% in 2050 with respect to the emissions of 2000. Several diagnostic studies have identified research needs for the future, which can be grouped in 5 categories: national inventory of greenhouse gases; observation, information & scenarios; impacts, vulnerability & adaptation; greenhouse gas emission mitigation; and legal, economic and international studies.

Paraguay: The country's debt with the IAI is 70,000 USD. In 2010 a 13,000 USD payment to the IAI was finally included in the national budget. The IAI agreement has not been ratified by the Government of the country yet. Paraguay plans to pay their debt with the IAI in the next two years, and requests that the amount be reduced by at least 20,000 USD. The country receives external funds for training, capacity building, research and development. In terms of research, the Atmospheric Research Lab of the University of Asuncion is acquiring several weather and hydrological stations. It is also developing a radiative model for the assessment of current scenarios.

Venezuela: The country reiterates their commitment with achieving a fair and ambitious agreement in the area of global change that reflects the will of all the Parties and has expressed itself together with other ALBA countries against the so-called "Copenhagen agreement" while urging for the honoring of the Kyoto Protocol as the legal framework for negotiations that are multilateral and based on transparency, inclusiveness and equity. The geographic, geological and biodiversity characteristics of Venezuela, put the country under great climate change pressure. It is only recently that the country has recognized the urgency of understanding how those changes are taking place and what their effects are. Despite financial limitations for Earth science research in developing countries such as Venezuela, a growing critical mass of researchers and projects funded by the National Fund for Science, Technology and Research (FONACIT) and international agencies (such as the IAI) has contributed to achieving significant progress in recent years. This has favored the strengthening of capacities and scientific progress in the area. In 2009, the Ministry of the Popular Power for Science, Technology and Intermediate Industry has established an inter-institutional and interdisciplinary working group to work in the global change area. They have identifying the country's priorities in global change research, i.e., 1) water resources, including a) assessment of the most vulnerable hydrographic basins, and b) propose sustainable development plans that do not affect national water resources; 2) Focus efforts on regional climate modeling and include socio-economic changes in the climate projections for the next 100 years. For instance, generate scenarios that would include the sustainable development of developing countries and domestic reduction of emissions in industrialized countries, among others, given that such kind of models does not exist; 3) need to model the zones at highest risk to endemic diseases, enhanced by climate changes; 4) assessment of land use changes in terms of carbon storage and greenhouse gas emissions. Venezuela recognizes the importance of the IAI and is taking the necessary steps to fulfill its commitment to the Institute.

USA: The presentation was given by Dr. Tim Killeen, Assistant Director for Geosciences, NSF via Skype conference. Dr. Killeen was nominated Vice-chair for Strategic Planning for the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. The US is currently very involved in the UNFCCC Convention and the SBSTA in Bonn. Action report of the US, submitted in May 2010 speaks of the greenhouse gas inventory, policies and measures, projected emissions, vulnerability assessments, climate change impacts, adaptation, and systematic observation, education, training and outreach. The US administration has strong and growing interest in climate change assessments and the research that will underpin the adaptation to global change. Efforts in international assistance: partnership with Argentina, Chile and Mexico in clean energy and climate in the Americas, which followed the Summit of the Americas process. In the country budget for FY 2011 there is a strong new emphasis for research in renewable energy. Domestic policy and programs: domestic energy and climate legislation, during the next year the new

strategic plan for global change will be developed. It will not be limited to scientific research but will include issues of adaptation and research and technological pathways associated with mitigation strategies. The plan will also put emphasis on the interface between the natural and the social sciences. The budget for these activities has been expanded. Some of the new money is going to NASA to the Orbiting Carbon Observatory and other remote sensing activities. The NSF has received 200 mln dollars augmentation for climate research in this year and a total of 5 new solicitations on biodiversity, water, climate and sustainability issues associated with the water system; regional and decadal climate system modeling as well as education and outreach activities. The US will renew its support to IAI-sponsored science. The US believes that this end-to-end approach of science integrated with the societal impacts and the basic mechanistic processes and fundamental science aspects reflects the future of science in support of policy. The country is committed to the full payment of arrears to the IAI.

OTCA is an intergovernmental organization of eight countries in the Amazonia devoted to science and technology activities in that area. Projects are in the areas of tourism, health, native populations and environment. Resources to OTCA come from member countries and funding agencies. The scientific agenda is being re drafted to make it more cross-cutting. OTCA works as a very active forum for cooperation, where all actions are agreed on by consensus. An important project on climate change in the Pan-Amazonic area is being carried out to address vulnerability and other issues. The project on Development of a surveillance system in environmental health and climate change is carried out in the framework of OTCA and funded by the IADB. Countries included in the project are Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Surinam, Guyana and Venezuela. There are three priority areas, water, chemistry and climate change, and within the latter priority has been given to impacts of extreme climate events on health and vector-borne diseases. The objectives of this part of the project in particular are to support the strengthening of climate change adaptation activities and plans in the Ministries of Health and the National Health Systems of the participating countries. It also seeks to promote capacity building for human resources within the ministries of health, which is an urgent issue considering the high vulnerability to the impacts of climate change and variability. The third objective of this component is to support the development of the bioclimatic surveillance system, a system that takes advantage of all data from systematic information associated to the national epidemiological surveillance systems. Some epidemics forecasts were presented for Bolivia, Brazil and Colombia. OTCA representatives thanked the IAI for the training of human resources in climate change and health research.

7. Report of the Committee for the recommendation of SAC candidates

Members of the Committee (appointed by EC) were Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Venezuela and the SAC Chair. During 2010, two SAC members (Rana Fine, who has served 6 years and Maria Carmen Lemos, who is not seeking re-nomination) need to be replaced. Three members (Hal Mooney, Ramon Pichs and Carolina Vera) have been renominated to SAC for a second period.

This year, 13 nominations were received, including the 3 renominated SAC members.

The first criterion analyzed by the Committee was the recommendations of the SAC in terms of expertise areas to be covered:
-Climate Science – Climate modeling
-Ecosystems and climate – ecosystems biodiversity and climate
-Policy and human dimensions of global changes – vulnerability assessment; mitigation and adaptation; and science policy interaction
-Integration and modeling – resilience (social ecological systems (SES); and SES modeling)

Member	IAI Science theme	Priority areas

Walter Baethgen	Human dimensions and policy	
Telma Castro	Climate, ocean, atmosphere	
Rana Fine (end of second period)	Climate, ocean, atmosphere	
Maria Carmen Lemos (end of first term, not willing re-nomination)	Human dimensions and policy	
Luis José Mata	Ecosystems, DB, LU, WR	
Hal Mooney (candidate for new term)	Ecosystems, DB, LU, WR	Ecosystems and climate
Frank Müller Karger	Climate, Ocean, Atmosphere	
Ramon Pichs (candidate for new term)	Human dimensions and policy	Policy and human dimensions of global change
Juan B. Valdes	Ecosystems, DB, LU, WR	
Carolina Vera (candidate for new term)	Climate, Ocean, Atmosphere	Climate science

The committee recommended the election of the following candidates: Hal Mooney (Ecosystem & Climate); Ramon Pichs (Policy & Human Dimensions); Carolina Vera (Climate Science – Climate Modeling); Claudia Natenzon (Human Dimensions); Silvio Pantoja (Ecosystems and Climate)

The committee noted that all nominees had very high qualifications, and that those who were not recommended for election on this occasion should be considered for re-nomination in the future, when new openings are available.

Mexico thanked the committee for the work done, and asked that the presentation be uploaded on the Twiki site.

Brazil: the criteria were those recommended by the SAC: The main aspects were scientific excellence and expertise areas; followed by geographic and gender distribution.

IAI Director: The voting will include all the candidates. What the EC Committee is recommending is a slate that would represent a good team considering the members that are already on the SAC. This approach was consolidated for several meetings now because it became clear that without such a recommendation, the SAC might not have all the disciplines represented in its composition.

Argentina: The Colombian candidate as several others has been discarded because their disciplines are already represented on the SAC (Colombian candidate's area of expertise is the same as the SAC Chair's).

SAC Chair: The disciplines are in the table of candidates. The SAC had prepared a 4-page document indicating the disciplines that would need to be represented in order to maintain balance on the committee. The document also indicated the specific area expected to be covered in the broad theme of Atmospheric and Climate Sciences. A similar document will be prepared for the next Conference of the Parties, when there will be at least one new vacancy. The information was available two months prior to these meetings, and will be available for the next one. A letter will be sent to SAC members and the CoP informing the service periods of each of the SAC members. SAC members are appointed for one three year period, and may be re-elected once for another term.

IAI Director: The complete list of candidates and the CVs are available to anyone that may want to have a copy.

8. Report of the Credentials Committee

The credentials committee is composed of Brazil, Mexico and the US. It was elected at CoP-16, Bogotá in 2009.

The Credentials Committee informed the CoP that eleven delegations had submitted the official credentials to participate in the meeting: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Mexico, Paraguay, the United States, and Venezuela. Required number of accredited Parties to constitute quorum is nine.

(Action 4, day 1)

9. Progress report of the IAI Directorate

9.1 Activities in FY 2009-2010 and Annual Program for FY 2010-2011

The IAI Director gave an overview of the science and capacity building activities of the IAI over the last twelve months. The science program has taken wing and has become interesting for both the science community and the policy applications. The CRN is one of the active programs, funded by the NSF to about 11 million dollars. The SGP-HD is waiting for an extension of the grant, but the teams are still together and they have just produced an interim report. The Canadian IDRC finances a program that deals exclusively with land use changes, hydrology and biofuels in the La Plata Basin. That program was designed to combine a number of CRN projects in a context of science and development. This project has involved some of the producers in the La Plata Basin, and is reaching out to governments and the private sector in order to apply the science directly. Finally, the assessment of the effects of climate change on biodiversity in the Andean countries includes an analysis of the capacity for research into adaptation in future grants to be given by the MacArthur Foundation.

CRN and SGP leveraged funding of US$ 13.6 million by 2009 from national funding agencies where the projects are based. So as in the past, these projects have demonstrated that besides being relevant to the IAI, they are relevant to the countries and the countries are willing to pay into these programs, support them and extend them. Particularly outstanding is SGP-HD005 which received US$ 4 million from NOAA for "Integrating climate science for decision support, mitigating risk and promoting resilience: climate assessment for the southwest".

In the past, the scientific publications produced by IAI programs were buried in the project reports or scientific literature. A link has been instituted to the site CiteUlike, which has now 297 peer-reviewed journal articles and 77 books or book chapters. This gives visible and public access to the publications of IAI funded research.

The IAI web page has also been updated, and new products have been added, such as syntheses, scientific publications, books, policy briefs and shorter notes that are very useful to translate science into understandable language, which is one of the main tasks of the IAI. Some examples can be found in the quick links. One of the documents is the policy brief on changes in seasonality. Following the discussion on glaciers disappearing in the Himalayas, the IAI science networks were able to come up with a statement on the glaciers in the Americas, within one week of the story breaking. A very balanced assessment on the glaciers (disappearing, disappeared, threatened, growing) was presented. Scientists also warn policy makers and the IAI not to focus on glaciers alone, but to consider snowfall, snowmelt, seasonal changes in snowmelt with huge impact on the water availability and water management in the region. The complete hydrological system has to be analyzed.

A manual was produced at IVIC (Venezuela) for studying dry forests, together with a project that is based in Canada and that not only looks at the ecological measurements in the field but also at socio-ecological, and sociological investigations that are associated with the human use of that biome. The manual is available at the IAI site in pdf format. IVIC has paper copies that are available by mail.

A project with headquarters in Argentina has developed a software that allows scientists to synthesize their results on functional biodiversity in a coherent, comparable way across the entire continent. The web page has been made available by the University of Cordoba (statistical software for the analysis of functional biodiversity, www.fdiversity.nucleodiversus.org). This software is now used to develop a database on functional biodiversity in collaboration with the global Land Project and the global program of Diversitas. The project also plans to produce some policy briefs on their work.

The project on urban contamination based in Santiago, Chile and the associated human dimensions project on health implications of urban contamination has spawned a web site based in Colombia for the city of Medellin. It provides very extensive emission data of that city for municipal planning. Medellin has adopted the methodology of this project and has integrated it into its municipal policies. Santiago de Chile has adopted the contamination project as well, and now provides chemical weather forecasting, which is a standard in many countries, e.g., ozone concentration in urban areas, which has direct health impacts. Before this project, there were no such forecasts for this region of Latin America. They are being exported by the project into Lima (Peru) and Buenos Aires.

Another project in La Plata Basin is looking at carbon sequestration and land use change. The Basin has undergone tremendous land use change in the last 15 years, converting grasslands and natural vegetation into agriculture lands, particularly for soybean, soybean-maize and soybean-wheat production. This is one of the most intensive, extensive and fastest land use changes that humanity has ever seen. It covers an area that is greater than the western productive Canadian prairies. This study is now combined with climate modeling because the magnitude of changes on the earth surface is affecting climate by changes in evapotranspiration by vegetation (periods of the year when there is no transpiration by plants in agricultural lands), which affects the hydrology of the region to a major extent. This is also available on a public web site (http://lechusa.unsl.edu.ar/)

Scenarios and case studies were prepared for decision support. Sometimes scientific research gives unexpected conclusions. In the Argentinean region of the La Plata Basin, an increase in rainfall has been observed over the last 15-20 years. That increased rainfall is increasing the demand for irrigation water. The long-term increased rainfall has caused the expansion of arable land, particularly for summer crops. Many of these are cash crops and they introduced into the Argentinean plains a tremendous jump in technology (zero tillage, agrochemicals, new varieties), increased yields and export of agricultural commodities from Argentina. However, they are suffering from the variability between El Niño and La Niña years. Once such kind of investment is in the field, rainfall shortfalls in the La Niña years need to be compensated by investing in irrigation in order to stabilize the yields. In terms of long-term planning of water partitioning between cities, industries and different sectors of society, this kind of surprising science result is extremely important because it will provide guidance to water managers and planners as to where they need to pay attention in the decision making process.

The pairing of the human dimensions projects and the CRNs, which were mostly natural science based has also produced interesting results. The project based in Arizona in the border area between the US and Mexico has clearly identified that in 2008 the communication structures that were giving early warning of potential hurricane damage were insufficient. Information of extreme events did not arrive in time and was not accurate enough to help the target population and that increased the cost of post-disaster support. At the same time, the natural scientists were working on the modeling of SST (sea surface temperature), anomalies that allow track prediction of hurricanes. IAI Snapshot 2 shows the different tracks that were predicted for a hurricane along the Pacific coast of Mexico that finally devastated Baja California. Shortfalls were pointed very clearly (model shortfalls and inadequate atmospheric sounding). Devastation was tremendous, with heavy rainfall, landslides, and loss of life. In this case, the combination of minor adaptations could have significant remedial impact.

Many US cities have a concept of assured water supply, and they have to act and plan accordingly in terms of storage. They are actually pumping water into the ground to store it as groundwater reserves, to bring it up again when it is needed. In Chile, the approach to water rights is very different. Water is a tradable commodity. Water rights are assigned to individuals or corporations and are transferable. The only concept that used to limit these water rights was a rule of minimum streamflow, which was defined as a streamflow that is exceeded in 85% of the years. Here, resource availability is the crucial context. Chile has introduced the concept of minimum ecological streamflow. Limits now are defined not only on the total amount of water for potential human use but also in terms of maintaining the ecosystems of the watershed intact. The assessment from the project is that ecological streamflow does not cause currently major conflicts with the 85% minimum rule, because there seems to be enough water in the system.

The Director sees the role of the IAI in exchanging the scientific knowledge as well as the legal and administrative implications of the science. This dialogue should be held across the continent in order to learn from each other and to improve management. A lawyer with knowledge on Latin American Napoleonic law indicated that laws will not longer be on water availability, since this will remain unknown. Rather than codifying how much water must be available for each sector, goals will have to be formulated. The British tradition of common law has a much easier way to deal with these uncertainties. There would be an opportunity for dialogue between the different legal cultures to try to define how we deal with climate change uncertainties in the future.

Another project on decision support looked at payments for ecosystem services, which preserve ecosystems. Very often, we are preserving ecosystems that would have been preserved anyway (too far from the markets, on steep slopes). If we ask a farmer to set aside some land for the preservation of ecosystems, he is not going to pick the area that is most productive or close to his farm but . He will set aside something that is on a sandy soil and possibly on a slope. Looking at a case study in Costa Rica (and they are now going to apply this in the Brazilian Amazon), this project concluded that the impact of payments for ecosystem services and conservation is only half of what we think would be. This conclusion needs to be verified in different environments, because that truly affects decision-making on conservation policies. The team has been able to quantify their conclusion in terms of how far from roads conservation has an impact. The reverse has long been documented: roads initiate deforestation. The process of analyzing avoided deforestation or forest degradation will move the policy process further.

IAI training events try to link science also to capacity building. A workshop was held in Costa Rica with NCAR on the application of geographic information systems (GIS) to communicating science in a policy relevant way. After an introduction to GIS, the group was asked to provide examples applying GIS to decision making, making it visible in a way that anyone can understand it. Special need areas or vulnerable areas are identified in Costa Rica. The location of roads is also known as well as the location of geologically vulnerable areas for landslides, earthquakes, volcanic activity. Participants overlaid the vulnerability map based on geological risk, with the road maps and with the vulnerable areas. The result shows that if anything happens there will be no access to one of the vulnerable areas because roads would be interrupted. The recommendation was that in those areas, government people need to be located or local people need to be trained in disaster first aid, because they cannot rely on outside help to be there rapidly. If a two-week course produced such findings, how much can knowledge and science be made useful in the societal context?

A continent-wide project on tropical dry forests, based in Canada, Costa Rica, Brazil and Venezuela is amassing a lot of data and information, making it available on the internet and publishing it. This project has brought together a number of disciplines that are looking at vulnerabilities, degrees of protection at use, ecological parameters, etc.

The IAI is looking forward to driving the synthesis of its science program to look at hydrology and climate modeling, biodiversity and ecosystem function, and the oceanography of the Patagonian shelf. The synthesis meetings are scheduled for August 2010. IAI is also following-up on a proposal for the Pan-American Advanced Study Institute, for ethical conduct of research. The

discussion of the IPCC, the reliability of data, the crisis of confidence in some of the global change data has led the IAI to realize that we need to address not only the science but also the way scientists are motivated and the way they present results. Responsible science is needed in order to maintain credibility.

From the institutional perspective, the IAI has advanced the science. Science outputs are more oriented to influence the decision making process at many levels, from the government to municipalities. In order to go farther in this direction, the IAI needs broader support from its member countries.

In August 2009, total of contributions not received was US$ 2.7 million, equivalent to nearly 3 years of operation of the IAI (annual budget of the Directorate is about one million dollars). The Director and the Assistant Director for Finance and Administration volunteered to run without salary for one month in order to have enough money to pay for the other salaries. That debt is settled now, but it is not a comfortable situation to run an organization. By the time of the meetings in Brasilia, the shortfall was 1.75 million (23% of the US, 14% of Venezuela, and 8% of Mexico). The IAI has no financial buffer, which is needed for effective operations across programs and countries. Tim Killeen from the US has informed that he was working very hard to solve the situation of the US contribution, and Venezuela has the long-standing problem between two ministries committed to pay the contributions, one of which is not paying. Mexico's arrears are due to the crisis that has hit the country very hard over the last two years. When big countries don't pay, the budget is affected. No IAI staff traveled during the past year because of the lack of funds and there is no representation from the IAI at the SBSTA meetings in Bonn. The Scientific Advisory Committee, which plays a crucial role for the IAI, had no funds to travel and meet. This means that the smooth operations and the quality of science have become endangered under the financial stress. The positive statements from the countries present at the Conference make it possible to think that the problem will be solved.

Last year, rather than informing beforehand, some countries simply did not pay, and that resulted in the IAI spending its financial buffer to continue functioning. In the past having 600-700 thousand dollars available as a buffer meant that the IAI could keep functioning even if a country paid six months late. This can no longer be done.

At the last meeting of the Executive Council in Bogota, there were a number of action items and statements produced by the Executive Council. Representatives recognized that they have dual roles (representing their countries to the IAI and the IAI within their countries); that they had committed to help the directorate in strengthening member country relations and would disseminate information on the IAI beyond environmental institutions in member countries; that they would request the Strategic Planning Committee redouble its efforts. In addition, Costa Rica would approach Guatemala regarding its IAI membership and disseminate IAI activities within SICA. None of these has been followed up. Today Cuba has stated their interest in expanding IAI activities in the region of the Caribbean.

The Director asked country representatives not to forget the IAI between this Conference of the Parties and the next one. The Directorate staff is 13 people in Sao Jose dos Campos working for the entire continent, and they need support, not only financial, but also real input and networking. The Directorate and the scientists involved in the IAI have now reached a level that is worth the effort of the countries to maintain that kind of activities.

The IAI had requested countries to inform a focal point person to the UNFCCC. The IAI is an observer at the UNFCCC. As observer, the Institute was the first of the international/regional organizations to present a science brief to the UNFCCC. Two more briefs were presented since then. The Director attended the SBSTA meeting in 2009, when the Body instituted a science session as part of its program. In the room was one person from one IAI member country. The IAI became involved in the UNFCCC to bring its science together with the political mandate. So, the scientists are there, but we need the policy part now. This is why the IAI had requested countries to provide IAI – UNFCCC focal points. The IAI can provide the science and introduce UNFCCC

focal points to the work of scientists on this continent for them to take the message to the international political fora.

IAI scientists and the Directorate are beginning to realize the goal of "excellent science for informed decision making". That effort now needs member country support through scientific and political dialogue, financial commitments, broad integration of science efforts across the continent and mutually agreed-upon strategies. If we want to support science and policy in the Americas, we need to do this together.

Document 12 contains the annual plan proposed by the Directorate for the coming year. The Directorate will be essentially engaged in one activity: looking for opportunities to synthesize science and to consolidate networks, and following through on these opportunities. This also includes capacity building events which are integrated with the science program and further the scientific capacity of the IAI networks. Specifically, there will be several training institutes, some of which are already organized. One of them will be on seasonal climate prediction and downscaling, to be held in Buenos Aires. Another one will be on cities' responses to climate change and will be held in Santiago, Chile. Other institutes will be planned during the year. As to the science program, the Directorate is working on an extension of the IDRC La Plata Basin program, which will involve an economic analysis of the results that have been achieved so far. A proposal is being prepared to the IDRC and candidates have been identified for the economic component. The work will be concluded early in 2011. The MacArthur Foundation grant is ending in the coming 3-4 months. Progress has been made in the synthesis, with several white papers that have been produced for the governments of the Andean countries. A scientific book is also being edited, with over 20 chapters on various aspects of biodiversity and climate change in the tropical Andean region.

The biggest task is looking for opportunities for synthesis of IAI science programs and to develop ideas for the next science program. Several country representatives have already voiced interest in a greater involvement of their countries in the science program, not only in the funded grants but also in terms of becoming part of the networks. This has to be discussed as part of the strategic discussion for the next years of the IAI. The idea is to discuss the strategic plan in very concrete steps to see how we can build on the capital that we have collected in the scientific effort and how to make the best next program based on that accumulated capital.

Joint programs with Conservation International, REDD and other organizations will depend on the financial situation of the IAI, but there are possibilities to develop them.

Colombia congratulated the Director for his presentation, which made ir possible to see the impact of IAI science across the continent and the situation of the Institute. It also allows representatives to see the weaknesses that need to be addressed.

Mexico and Canada also congratulated the Director.

Canada: the problem of the financial buffer needed to be addressed during the Conference.

The Assistant Director for Science, Christopher Martius, informed the Conference that a proposal had been submitted to the Pan American Advanced Study Institute for Responsible Conduct of Research in Global Change Science (PASI-RCR) for a training activity in RCR. Themes to be addressed are transparent and replicable data handling, responsible science communication and ethical scientific behavior. This would be a 2-week course with 10 lecturers and 35-40 participants, to take place in March 2011, Buenos Aires. The level of funds needed is US$ 100,000, part of which will be provided by IAI projects and the rest was requested to PASI.

The IAI is exploring different opportunities for additional funding for its activities. One of these is the International Climate Initiative for research and training in support to REDD+ in Latin America (LA-REDD). The idea is to build on the ample and profound expertise available in the IAI

networks and support to countries in Latin America that wish to engage in REDD+ activities. Targeted funding: 3.6 million Euros over 3 years for research and training.

The REDD program (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation) was expanded to include conservation of carbon stocks and the role of native communities as “owners” of forests (REDD+). The principle is that countries that reduce emissions from deforestation will be financially compensated. This is seen as one of the most cost-effective mitigation mechanisms (Stern Report). Tropical rain forests contain ~25% of all carbon in terrestrial biosphere. ~20% of global greenhouse gas emissions are from deforestation and forest degradation. They are the second largest contributor to global warming.

Why should the IAI become involved in REDD+? There are already 3 Latin American countries (Bolivia, Panama and Paraguay) in the UN-REDD Program. Four LA countries (Argentina, Costa Rica, Ecuador and Mexico) are observers on the UN-REDD Program’s Policy Board. In addition, 17 IAI countries have rainforests and tropical dry forests. One of the possible benefits is addressing REDD problems in a different way and establishing additional resources for IAI research.

Ecological and socio-economic aspects of REDD (to be addressed by the research component)
–How to generate measurable, reportable and verifiable (MRV) REDD credits
–How to define reference levels (the reference period and scale against which REDD activities are measured)
–How to optimally design REDD mechanisms, conservation units (parks) and schemes of payment for ecological services
–How to optimally manage forests (carbon vs. biodiversity)
–How to assess functional biodiversity
–Forest hydrology
–Modeling of carbon and of different carbon benefit schemes
–How to allocate/distribute the benefits generated by REDD
–How to finance REDD

The training component in ecology, hydrology, biodiversity, social and economic analysis; principles of conservation and reserve/PES management, community-based management; participatory development and management of equitable land use schemes. These would be specialization courses in three 2-3-week blocks. IAI will negotiate academic credits for such courses with forestry faculties on the continent.

Requirements of the International Climate Initiative are the suitability of projects for achieving the goals of the International Climate Initiative; projects must be based on the wishes and/or policies of the partner countries; projects can be implemented jointly by several organizations/institutes under one coordinating institution; documented implementation in cooperation with local / regional partners; clearly defined, verifiable goals; appropriate participation in the costs by the applicant and the mobilization of additional funding is a precondition for approval. In order to apply for a grant a 6-page proposal has to be submitted before 31/12/2010.

It is worth remembering however, that this kind of additional funding also represents additional work for the IAI staff, since grants are awarded for new activities that need to be carried out and not to the core budget of the Institute.

Colombia: Why is Colombia not included in the list of countries interested in REDD?

Assistant Director for Science: The list includes countries currently active in a specific program of the UN. The idea is to apply for participation. Countries should contact their focal points for this. It would also be good to have the information of those focal points.

USA: How should wishes of interest in participating in REDD be expressed? Can a statement come out from a multinational forum or from a particularly associated ministry? Does an

expression of interest imply appropriate participation? What are the conditions that exist if a country expresses a wish to be involved, what are the implications for commitments to future contributions?

Assistant Director for Science: Apart from expressions of interest by the IAI, the appropriate ministries in each country will have to declare their interest and their financial contribution. But, the idea was to present the application to the Climate Initiative for a research and training initiative that supports REDD, not an application to the REDD program.

Director: The Directorate is offering to coordinate the activities with member countries and use the contacts in the German government, to include a proposal in this specific program together with German partners. The directorate will coordinate the proposal including all member countries that are interested in participating.

Brazil is interested in participating in the project.

The CoP approved the Annual Program for FY 2010-2011.

Action 4, day 2

9.2 Core Budget & Country Contribution for FY 2010-2011

The Assistant Director for Finance and Administration presented the Core Budget Request for 2010/2011 and the Preliminary request for 2010/2013. The budget amount has been increased (by about 10%) from the previous fiscal year. The new budget will require changes in the contributions by some member countries and maintains the participation percentages as per the OAS Schedule of Country Contributions.

The proposed budget allows IAI to maintain operational expenses at a minimum despite an increase in activities related to the science program synthesis and future planning. The budget reflects incremental costs in the operations due to a weaker US dollar in comparison to the Brazilian Real. The request includes the creation of a “Known Liability Fund” to cover contractual liabilities already incurred. This fund will be completed in the next two years and will allow meeting the incurred commitments even if the IAI runs out of budget and needs to close.

Table I: Budget Comparison 2010/2011 - 2009/2010

Amounts in US$	Fiscal year 2010-2011	Fiscal year 2009-2010	Differences
Salaries & Benefits	904,485	777,477	127,008
Travel	83,180	74,510	8,670
Equipment	14,200	14,200	-
Operational Costs	174,135	187,930	(13,795)
Dissemination & Outreach	49,000	49,000	-
Director’s Fund	54,000	60,000	(6,000)
Total	**1,279,000**	**1,163,117**	**115,883**

Table 2: Budget by Year - 2010/2011 - 2011/2012 - 2012/2013

Amounts in US$	Fiscal year	Fiscal year	Fiscal year

	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013
Salaries & Benefits	904,485	898,488	917,106
Travel	83,180	87,583	87,583
Equipment	14,200	15,000	10,000
Operational Costs	174,135	172,522	211,754
Dissemination & Outreach	49,000	40,000	40,000
Director's Fund	54,000	60,000	70,000
Total	**1,279,000**	**1,273,593**	**1,336,443**

Budgets for 11/12 and 12/13 are for reference and planning purposes. Each year a three-year budget will be presented, however approval for each one is made yearly.

Current Contribution to Core Budget by country

Country	% (*)	Current US$	Proposed US$
Argentina	5.01%	57,000	63,000
Bolivia	0.07%	5,000	5,000
Brazil	8.73%	100,000	110,000
Canada	12.63%	143,000	159,000
Chile	0.55%	6,000	7,000
Colombia	0.96%	11,000	12,000
Costa Rica	0.13%	5,000	5,000
Cuba	-	5,000	5,000
Dominican Republic	0.18%	5,000	5,000
Ecuador	0.18%	5,000	5,000
Guatemala	0.13%	5,000	5,000
Jamaica	0.18%	5,000	5,000
Mexico	6.21%	70,000	77,000
Panama	0.13%	5,000	5,000
Paraguay	0.20%	5,000	5,000
Peru	0.42%	5,000	5,000
United States	60.75%	691,000	762,000
Uruguay	0.27%	5,000	5,000
Venezuela	3.27%	37,000	41,000
FUND TOTAL	**100.00%**	**1,170,000**	**1,286,000**

(*) This percentage represents the participation of each member country in the distribution of the operational costs of the Directorate according to the OAS Table of Contributions for 2001. The 26th EC requested contributions in multiples of US$1,000 implemented in 2007

Except for the biggest countries, contributions remain the same. For small countries, the percentages are different but the amounts to be paid are the same, because besides considering the OAS table a minimum contribution of US$ 5,000 was set. Consequently, some small countries are paying more than their percentage indicates, therefore their contributions remain unchanged.

Canada: If the Conference approves the proposed core budget, and empowers the Directorate to spend the money as described in the request, a windfall of money in the course of the year (e.g. some late payment) would go toward the reserve fund or it could go toward the next fiscal year

budget to make up for the difference of not being in this 10%? How is management proposing to deal with that?

Director: Principally because of the situation in Mexico and in Venezuela, the directorate has no operating funds for the 12 months of this year, so the US windfall will help operations run through the year. In addition, there is a continuing accrual of unpaid obligations related with living allowances, repatriation costs and bringing in new staff. That fund has been depleted for operation of the Directorate. These are obligations the IAI has entered into and that are very difficult to cover under the present financial situation. That alone will imply some 250,000 USD. Beyond that, there would be truly a reserve that would allow operations of the directorate throughout the year, even if a country pays several months late.

Canada: What is the plan for the budget next year? How will the directorate replenish the commitment and the reserve, spending the operation money that has been increased by 10%?

Director: The 10% increase is partly to cover a real increase in expenditures because of exchange rate fluctuations. There is also a built-in buffer for uncertainty in contributions. The lesson from the last two or three years is that the expected contributions from countries have decreased from what the directorate had assumed to be expected contributions two or three years ago. In effect, a 10% increase allows the directorate to comfortably operate under the potential danger of not receiving a 100% of the contributions. The IAI has always operated under the assumption that not a 100% of contributions would be received and that safety margin has been increased, so that is where the other part of the additional 10% goes. In Copenhagen, many of the countries made commitments of substantial financial contributions towards global and climate change activities, which include research, mitigation and adaptation measures and capacity building. Depending on how the commitments of each country have been made, this could include the operations of the IAI. This is a take-home message, for representatives to look at the details of those commitments. That would help countries to cover their obligations with the IAI.

USA stated that the country participated in the discussions that led to the proposed contribution table. The country agrees to pay the increased amount and recognizes the use it will be given within the context of the other amounts and names in that table.

The CoP accepted the Auditor's report for the years ended June 30, 2008 and 2009. *Action 5, day 1*

The CoP approved the Financial Statements of FY 2009-2010. *Action 6, day 1*

The CoP approved the Core Budget Request for FY 2010-2011. *Action 2, day 2*

USA expressed their satisfaction with the continuing series of clean audits and the prudent manner in which the Directorate operated under very difficult circumstances.

Chile maintains its commitment to the IAI. They will continue paying contributions. However, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs states that because of the earthquake that affected the country in February 2010, some payments are being re-evaluated. In this context, the representative is allowed to approve the level of contributions, though making clear that the issue will be revisited by the government. However, this should not be a problem, also because Chile has contributions paid in advance.

Venezuela is interested in continuing supporting the IAI. They are taking steps to pay their arrears. The increase in the level of contributions is being reviewed by the Government.

Canada: The representative informed that the country has committed to the current level of contributions, but he cannot say whether it will commit to the new contribution in the present year.

Argentina is in a similar situation. Because of the way budgets are prepared, the new contribution level will only be reflected in next year's budget. However, the new level of contributions approved today will probably not be reached, since efforts are still being made to get to the level previously approved.

USA expressed gratitude for countries that will allow the Director to better plan a budget knowing that there may be contributions at the level from previous years, and that there is a possibility of an increase to the level just approved. The representative encouraged participants to look at the draft minutes of the CoP, when they appear, to ensure that they properly reflect the statements made by the countries.

The CoP approved the level of Country Contributions for FY 2010-2011. *Action 3, day 2*

10. Report of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC)

The Chair of the SAC, Juan Valdes presented an update of SAC activities and the needs on the SAC for the renewal of members. Half of the SAC members will have to be elected at this Conference. It is very important that the SAC composition be such that the committee can meet its mission.

The SAC used to have two meetings in person per year. The last meeting in-person was in Montevideo in June 2009. At that meeting, the SAC made an analysis of its function and came up with a list of requests to the Directorate. These requests have been addressed by the Directorate. Some of the requests were:

-Request that the Directorate, in advance, produce a preliminary report on the performance and findings of the CRN II and SGP-HD projects based on the results of the Montevideo PI meeting
-Request that the Directorate produce a report on the performance and findings of the training institutes. The Assistant Director for Capacity Building should present this report in SAC-30
-Request to the Directorate, in advance to the meeting, an update of the progress of the IAI Strategic Plan including the current draft
-Organize special sessions for the next SAC-30 meeting to begin the discussion on the long-term science agenda.
-Invite experts/international scientific programs (ESSP, IPCC) to provide a perspective of the specific scientific challenges related to the IAI science agenda
-Nomination criteria for new SAC members

SAC-30 was not carried out due to lack of funding, instead of it, the members held a conference call in January 2010, when they decided to write a letter to the CoP on the financial situation of IAI and to review the science needs for the SAC. Unfortunately, because of technical problems, not all members were able to participate in that conference call.

It is very difficult to have an active SAC, whose members work ad honorem, if there are no facilities for them to meet and carry out their work. In person-meetings are important for the smooth operation of the Committee.

SAC renewal: The CoP election enables the SAC, and the SAC identifies needs and provides guidelines for selection of new members.

Areas of priority for SAC renewal

1) Climate Science: an essential part of the IAI research agenda, it focuses on the physical aspects of climate change, climate forcing and feedbacks. Potential disciplines and research focii (but not limited to): atmospheric sciences, atmospheric chemistry, physical oceanography, paleoclimate, climate modeling, climate and impacts projections, etc.

Areas of priority: climate modeling

2) Ecosystems and Climate: focusing on the interaction of climatic change and ecosystems sustainability (including diversity and governance). It includes (but it is not limited to) the areas of biodiversity, ecosystem management, carbon cycle, hydrology and water resources management, land use and change.

Areas of priority: Ecosystem biodiversity and climate

3) Policy and Human Dimensions of Global Change: seeks to understand climate drivers, potential impacts, response (mitigation and adaptation) of human systems and how to improve the interaction between environmental science (including physical and social aspects) and decision-making (public and private). Includes the social sciences (political science, economics, geography, anthropology, etc), behavioral sciences and decision sciences.

Vulnerability Assessment
Mitigation and Adaptation
Science-policy interaction

4) Integration and modeling: cross-cutting research seeking to integrate across human and ecological systems (SES) and across science and policy. Seeks to understand the iterations and feedbacks between different systems and the diverse actions that can be taken to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

Resilience (social-ecological systems)
Social Ecological Systems (SES) modeling

Basic criteria for selection

1) Scientific excellence
-The pursuit of scientific excellence is a hallmark of the IAI and a critical marker of its success. Scientific excellence includes research of high intellectual merit (which seeks to advance the frontiers of science using robust methods) and high societal impact (which has the potential to harness such research in innovative ways to help solve society's problems and improve well being of ecosystems and livelihoods). Scientific excellence is usually assessed through well-tested ways such as peer-reviewed publications in prestigious scientific magazines, sponsored research, service to the profession and society, number of citations, awards and recognitions.

2) Geopolitical balance

-SAC nominations should seek to strike regional balance and fairness (for example between North, Central and South America & the Caribbean) as well as between countries with more or less developed research/institutional apparatus to better distribute interests and decision-making power across the continent.
-Gender balance: SAC nominations should strive to achieve gender balance

Secondary criteria

1) Ability to engage in interdisciplinary research. Many recent documents focusing on global change science have highlighted the criticality of integrated and interdisciplinary research not only to better understand global changes in their many facets (physical, human and environmental) but also to support sound decision-making. Understanding positive and negative

feedbacks between different systems and decisions is vital for the sustainability of Earth as a social-ecological system.
2) Representation of science in the Americas: SAC members' foci and research output should represent the best science available in the Americas as a means to advance science and support decision-making across national, regional and global scales.
3) Ability to cross science-policy barriers and interact with stakeholders and ability to create and maintain research networks with high policy-relevant output. Given the urgency of many of the decisions necessary to mitigate and adapt to global change, SAC members should strive to straddle the science-policy divide and work diligently to facilitate and support the production of science that is relevant, credible, legitimate and usable by decision-makers in the Americas.

Members ending first or second period in 2010
Rana Fine: ending second term, needs replacement
Maria Carmen Lemos: ending first term, not willing re-nomination
Hal Mooney, Ramon Pichs and Carolina Vera are ending their first terms and asked for re-nomination.

Members ending first or second period in 2011
Telma Castro, Luis Jose Mata, and Juan Valdes, ending second period, need replacement.
Frank Muller and Walter Baethgen ending first period, possibility of re-nomination.

11. Progress Report of the Executive Council

Issues brought forward from the 28th and 29th EC

1) Interaction with member countries, with possibility of joint demarches
2) Progress of the discussion of the agreement with the host country
3) Auditors report for the years ended June 30, 2008 and 2009
4) Financial statement FY 2009-2010
5) Core Budget Request for FY 2010-2011and level of country contributions for FY 2010-2011
6) Report of the committee for the recommendation of SAC candidates (already presented)

No activities were charged to the EC by the last Conference of the Parties.

The EC Chair highlighted that an important issue to be addressed was the development of the strategic plan and the future of the IAI. The Director and Paul Filmer will prepare a basic document for the strategic plan to be presented at the next Conference of the Parties.

12. Report of the Standing Committee for Rules and Procedures

During the year, the committee was asked only one question: Is a country's internal process for deciding on national positions linked to the obligations and responsibilities of that country's accredited representative to the IAI? The answer is that neither the agreement nor the rules of procedure deal with a country's internal decision-making process. Each country implements its own procedures. It is the responsibility of a country's accredited representative to represent that country's position regarding specific issues before the Conference of the Parties. Some of those issues are evident from the agenda or Article V in the Agreement Establishing the IAI, which refers to the CoP, and are the long-range plans, the annual program and the budget of the Institute.

13. IAI Mission and Strategic Plan

The strategic planning process has been quite intermittent in the two and a half years since it started. At EC-29, Paul Filmer and the Director agreed to review the material available to that moment and present the CoP with a strategic plan proposal, at the latest within six months of the CoP. At this point it is probably not useful to go back to the material that was presented in Bogota and previous occasions. There was a vote three years before that the Director should not take a lead role in the process. That was formally accepted by the CoP. Therefore, the Director requests the CoP to endorse his participation in the strategic planning process.

The Director explained that two different focal points are needed. One should be a member of the delegations that countries send to UNFCCC and SBSTA events. These members will be knowledgeable about the political process and about the role that science plays in the political process. IAI country representatives will have to consult with their respective governments to find out who might be available to enter in a dialogue about the role of the IAI. The second is a focal point by the country for the IAI. It may be the representative attending IAI meetings or it may be another person of some permanence in the government structure. The focal point for the IAI would most usefully be someone who knows the IAI and has a stake in participating in planning and communications with the IAI, someone that can be reached easily in case of need and is in the position to regularly inform the delegates to IAI meetings. The delegates from embassies for instance may well have benefited from such a focal point. The purpose of the event in Cancun would be to bring these two groups together, and have a fruitful discussion on how to bring the goals of the global negotiations to bear on the program of IAI activities and possibly enrich the science program of the Institute as well.

USA: The strategic plan has to be formulated together with the Conference of the Parties and the Scientific Advisory Committee as stated in the Agreement Establishing the IAI. The initial draft of the plan will have the input from the SAC. That product will be then circulated back to the Executive Council, eventually to the CoP itself. The plan may be then approved within one year.

Chair of the SCRP: Article 8 of the Agreement Establishing the IAI makes it very clear that the Director shall play a major role in long-term planning or strategic planning.

Canada: Countries have a focal point that coordinates their participation in the IAI, but that person does not necessarily attend IAI meetings. A focal point function would be very important as part of the strategic plan, because part of the reason that the IAI has not been as successful as it could be, is the lack of continuity in country representation in different meetings. An example of activity of the focal point would be linkages with the Copenhagen Green Fund. The representative agreed that the Director be part of the strategic planning process.

Brazil agrees that the Director -and even the Directorate as a whole- be part of the strategic planning process. The strategic plan has to consider the science but also the interactions with decision makers, an issue that needs clearly defined strategies, since it is a weaker point than science. The IAI has been asking member countries to nominate focal points, with no success. In the case of Brazil, since the IAI and INPE are in the same place, although there is no official focal point, INPE acts as one.

Colombia: Maybe the IAI can have a meeting during the UNFCCC CoP in Cancun, to introduce the IAI to key policy makers of the member countries. The proposal is that country delegations invite their policy makers to a brief informal meeting with IAI representatives, maybe lunch or breakfast. IAI and UNFCCC focal points in each country must be in contact and keep each other informed. This is something that should have happened long ago.

Director: SBSTA was selected for participation, because there the impact of the IAI is substantial. The IAI expects that the information it provides at SBSTA is taken to the big convention meetings. To do this, political support is needed. Having the meeting between policy makers and the IAI in the way it is proposed by the representative of Colombia is an excellent idea. Particularly if the

two ideas are combined: the IAI has asked countries to nominate focal points for the interaction of the IAI with SBSTA and the UNFCCC. If a focal point for the IAI is also established, an event like this will be an excellent opportunity to establish the communication between those two groups and make sure that the political process that countries undergo within the UNFCCC is linked to the work of the IAI. If countries present at the Conference agree with this, the Directorate may help with the logistics. This needs strong input from member countries.

The Director proposed that the strategic planning be considered in two different processes. There are a number of strategically important decisions to be made very quickly: in the coming year a new science program will have to be designed, because CRN II will end by mid 2011, and the synthesis activities will be finished by the end of that year. Continuity of the science program requires that a new CRN be agreed on, and the proposal for funding be submitted late 2010 or at most early in 2011. The CoP has to decide whether it wants an event at the UNFCCC CoP in 2010 and what the role of the IAI in SBSTA and the UNFCCC process will be. Actions related to the more general aspect of the strategic planning have already been outlined.

Canada: The focal point for the IAI would be the more permanent representative from the country that could look after the needs of IAI within the country in between Conferences of the Parties. The representative agrees with the recommendation for a side event in Cancun, but has no authority to approve that, without consulting with his government. The idea of the informal meeting in Cancun is to contact other countries to introduce the IAI and its regional science to other countries in the Americas and other continents, looking for new collaborations and funding sources.

Director: The focal point of the IAI will probably be the country representative. The focal point of the IAI should be knowledgeable about the IAI, have commitment to the IAI and be accessible.

USA: Countries have a representative for the IAI and an internal mechanism for designating the representative and how they are going to deal with the IAI. The Conference should not interfere with countries' internal procedures. The US representative will identify the people who deal with the UNFCCC within his country. Rather a focal point, we need a target who will have information about the IAI. So, it becomes a responsibility of the representative or his or her alternate to contact the appropriate person on the UNFCCC delegation and try to inform her or him about the IAI.

Director: Although the way representatives are nominated is internal to countries, the external evaluation of the IAI two years before this CoP, found that country representation is one of the weakest points of the operations of the IAI. The Director would still favor a statement by this Conference even if it is just to describe an ideal case: IAI's representatives in each country are aware that he or she should be the representative of the country to the IAI and the representative of the IAI to the country. This is a two-way dialogue, and it could benefit from networking within the country and potentially forming a support group for IAI activities within the country. In some countries, representatives did not disseminate information and therefore research proposals came from a very limited group of people from that country. But a mode of operation may be found to facilitate the cross-disciplinary and cross-ministerial dialogue the IAI is looking for.

Mexico informed that representatives from Embassies did not have enough background information or instructions on how to proceed at this CoP.

Director: One of the successes of the IAI has been establishing functional networks between scientists, and a complementary functional resilient network amongst the country representations and decision makers would be most desirable. What is the mechanism to achieve that? How can country representatives start acting to generate such network? The representative of a country can designate other persons to attend IAI meetings or to maintain contacts with the Directorate during the year. The Director requested that the CoP issue a statement about this.

USA: Having consistent contacts with the governments is necessary for the IAI and is central to the Director's vision of trying to establish a parallel network to the scientific one, amongst the governments of the member countries of the IAI.

Mexico: The wording as proposed by the USA seems to be the most appropriate and it would make it possible to most of the Parties attending the Conference to try to respond to the request of the Director. Mexico recognizes actions are necessary in this regard.

CoP Chair: The CoP approved the statement as expressed by the USA and supported by Mexico.

The *Director* asked member countries to identify the appropriate people and suggest them to have the informal meeting in Cancun.

The CoP decided that the IAI Director lead the Strategic Planning process.

Action 7, day 1

The CoP charged the EC to actively participate in the strategic planning process and in particular, the planning of the next scientific program. The CoP also indicated that the SAC should be fully integrated into those discussions.

Action 5, day 2

14. Review of CoP items for action by EC-30

The CoP charged the EC to actively participate in the strategic planning process and in particular, the planning of the next scientific program. The CoP also indicated that the SAC should be fully integrated into those discussions.

The *Director* requested that action items from the previous EC be carried through and repeated the request that the Conference and the EC look at these again.

USA: From the discussion and interventions of countries during day one of the CoP, there seems to be a renewed commitment to follow up with those actions.

15. Donor's session

This session has been included in the agenda of each of the Conferences of the Parties. It is an opportunity for any country or participant to make an additional contribution to program or project activities and/or the Core Budget.

Mexico recognizes the efforts of the IAI in fundraising. He congratulated the Director and the EC Chair for the work done. Mexico is aware of their debt with the IAI, and conversations were held with the Director and the EC Chair in Mexico. Unfortunately, Mexico cannot inform when they will be able to pay their 2010-2011 contribution. However, they maintain the commitment to the IAI and they will inform when the internal situation is solved.

16. Election of SAC Members

There has to be one ballot per Party enabled to vote. Each Party has to check exactly five names, which is the number of vacancies to be filled. Fewer than five checks on a ballot will mean the ballot is invalid.

The CoP elected Carolina Vera, Claudia Natenzon, Ramon Pichs, Silvio Pantoja and Harold Mooney as members of the Scientific Advisory Committee. Tellers of the election were Canada and Paraguay.

Action 6 – day 2

17. Election of EC members

Valid ballots will have exactly 9 checkmarks, which is the number of vacancies on the Executive Council. However, two countries have no representative, they are Uruguay and Guatemala, so those should not be considered in the election.

A second round was run among the two tied Parties, Venezuela and Colombia.

The CoP elected the members of the EC for the next two years: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Mexico, Paraguay, and USA. Tellers of the election were Canada and Paraguay.

Action 7, day 2

18. Approval of the Action List of Day 1

The CoP approved the Action List of Day 1, with some modifications already included in it.

Action 1, day 2

19. Future sites and meetings

Brazil: The country hosting an IAI meeting needs to provide a meeting room, translations, social event, coffee-breaks and a scientific event, transport from/to hotel and travel expenses of speakers at the scientific event. Cost of the meeting in Brasilia was around 15,000 dollars. If the meeting had been held at the Hotel, renting meeting room and other items, the cost would have been USD 30,000.

Colombia: The costs in Colombia were similar to the second figure, this includes internet connection and other costs.

20. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned. The Chair of the CoP thanked country representations for their attendance and work during the meeting, the translators, the local support staff and the IAI Secretariat.

Colombia: Thanked the CoP Bureau, country representatives and observers for their work during the meeting and the host country for organizing the meetings in Brasilia. The country hopes to host another IAI meeting in the future.

Annex I – Action List

Seventeenth Meeting of the IAI Conference of the Parties (CoP)
Brasilia, Brazil, 9-10 June 2010

Action List
Day 1: June 9

1. The CoP elected the following members as the Bureau for its Seventeenth Meeting: Maria Virginia Alves from Brazil as the Chair, Paul Filmer from USA as the First Vice-Chair, and Carlos Ereño from Argentina as the Second Vice-Chair.

2. The CoP approved the agenda of its Seventeenth Meeting without modifications.

3. The CoP approved the report of its Sixteenth Meeting with the following modification:
    a. English version, page 30, item 11.3, Quorum of CoP 16, final paragraph, add the following sentence at the end of that paragraph: "*The session was reassumed after achieving quorum, with the presence of the delegation from Peru"*
    b. Spanish version, page 32, item 11.3, Quórum de la CoP 16, final paragraph: "*Se reinició la session luego de haber logrado el quorum con la presencia de la delegación del Perú*."
    c. Other minor modifications would be sent directly to the Secretariat.

4. The Credentials Committee informed the CoP that eleven delegations had submitted the official credentials to participate in the meeting: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Mexico, Paraguay, the United States, and Venezuela. Required number of accredited Parties to constitute quorum is nine.

5. The CoP accepted the Auditor's report for the years ended June 30, 2008 and 2009

6. The CoP approved the Financial Statements of FY 2009-2010.

7. The CoP decided that the IAI Director lead the Strategic Planning process.

Seventeenth Meeting of the IAI Conference of the Parties (CoP)
Brasilia, Brazil, 9-10 June 2010

Action List
Day 2: June 10

1. The CoP approved the Action List of Day 1, with some modifications already included in it.

2. The CoP approved the Core Budget Request for FY 2010-2011.

3. The CoP approved the level of Country Contributions for FY 2010-2011.

4. The CoP approved the Annual Program for FY 2010-2011.

5. The CoP charged the EC to actively participate in the strategic planning process and in particular, the planning of the next scientific program. The CoP also indicated that the SAC should be fully integrated into those discussions.

6. The CoP elected Carolina Vera, Claudia Natenzon, Ramon Pichs, Silvio Pantoja and Harold Mooney as members of the Scientific Advisory Committee. Tellers of the election were Canada and Paraguay.

7. The CoP elected the members of the EC for the next two years: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Mexico, Paraguay, and USA. Tellers of the election were Canada and Paraguay.

Annex II – Resolutions

INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL CHANGE RESEARCH (IAI)
SEVENTEENTH IAI CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES (CoP)
9-10 June 2010 – Brasilia, Brazil

The IAI Conference of the Parties, at its seventeenth meeting held on 9 and 10 June 2010, in Brasilia, Brazil, adopted the following resolutions:

RESOLUTION 1

The CoP approved the Core Budget Request for FY 2010-2011.

RESOLUTION 2

The CoP approved the level of Country Contributions for FY 2010-2011.

RESOLUTION 3

The CoP approved the Annual Program for FY 2010-2011.

RESOLUTION 4

The CoP elected Carolina Vera, Claudia Natenzon, Ramon Pichs, Silvio Pantoja and Harold Mooney as members of the Scientific Advisory Committee.

RESOLUTION 5

The CoP elected the members of the EC for the next two years: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Mexico, Paraguay, and USA.

Chair of the Executive Council

1st Vice-chair of the Executive Council

2nd Vice-chair of the Executive Council

ACRONYMS

BID	Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo
CDM	Clean Development Mechanism
CE	Consejo Ejecutivo
CMNUCC	Convención Marco de las Naciones Unidas Sobre Cambio Climático
CoP	Conference of the Parties / Conferencia de las Partes
CPRP	Comité Permanente de Reglas y Procedimientos
CRN	Collaborative Research Network Program
EC	Executive Council
ESSP	Earth System Science Partnership
FMAM	Fondo para el Medio Ambiente Mundial
GEF	Global Environmental Facility
IADB	Inter-American Development Bank
IDRC	International Development Research Center (Canada)
INE	Instituto Nacional de Ecología (Mexico)
INPE	Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas Espaciais (Brazil)
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IVIC	Instituto Venezolano de Investigaciones Científicas
MDL	Mecanismo de Desarrollo Limpio
NASA	National Aeronautics and Space Administration (USA)
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
NSF	National Science Foundation (USA)
OAS	Organization of American States
OEA	Organización de los Estados Americanos
ONG	Organización no Gubernamental
OSACT	Órgano Subsidiario de Asesoramiento Científico y Tecnológico
OTCA	Organización del Tratado de Cooperación Amazónica / Amazon Cooperation *Treaty* Organization
PASI	Pan American Studies Institute
REDD	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation / Reducción de Emisiones de la Deforestación y Degradación
SAC	Scientific Advisory Committee
SBSTA	Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice
SCRP	Standing Committee for Rules and Procedures
SGP-HD	Small Grants Program – Human Dimensions
SICA	Sistema de Integración Centroamericana
UNAM	Universidad Autónoma de México

UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization / Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Educación, la Ciencia y la Cultura
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change