

Report from Ad hoc Committee on the Implementation of the IAI Tripartite Governance

The 23rd Conference of the Parties (CoP) in Lima approved the renewal of the term of the Implementation Committee for the Tripartite Structure of the IAI until the next CoP. The committee will maintain its terms of reference and membership: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador (Vice-chair), USA (Chair) and Uruguay. The committee shall be open to all the Parties.

The Implementation of the IAI tripartite governance continues. As the IA Directorate reported the Montevideo office is operational. Both assistants have been provided by the Uruguayan government and have integrated well with the team.

As of May 2015, a director has been hired in the Science-Policy liaison office in Buenos Aires and the IAI is proceeding to develop the capacity for this office. In March 2016, representation of Argentina to the IAI changed. In March, the representation from Argentina to the IAI changed. Lino Baraño and Miguel Blesa (Alternate Delegate) are now serving on the IAI Executive Committee and on the Director Search Committee, respectively. Due to the change in government, a few commitments from the host country agreement are still under development but much progress has been made in the establishment of the office. Through its current leadership, the office is beginning to make a strong impact on the region for the IAI and we look forward to continued success with this group.

The revised host country agreement for the Science Development Directorate with Brazil was received and reviewed by the committee and the IAI Directorate. The efforts of the representative from Brazil to try and resolve concerns from both the IAI and the Government of Brazil are greatly appreciated. Unfortunately, challenges still remain. The issues arise from how all international organizations, not just IAI, are governed under Brazilian law with respect to privileges and immunities for organization staff. The current suggestions would make it difficult for the IAI to operate in the same manner that it operates in Uruguay and Argentina. The Science Development function is critical to the IAI and we must all work together to find a workable solution that is beneficial to the IAI activities and takes advantage of the science leadership and excellence in Brazil. This should be a conversation with the Executive Council and the CoP to come to a resolution understanding that IAI operations are subject to host country laws.