



INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL CHANGE RESEARCH

**Minutes of the 40th Meeting of the IAI Executive Council (EC)
26 June 2015– Lima**

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Note: This report is not a chronological record. For completeness, greater clarity and readability it grouped discussions of an agenda item together under the first occurrence of the topic.

Approved – June 2015

**40th Meeting of the IAI Executive Council (EC)
26 June 2015– Lima
AGENDA**

Approval of the Agenda
Approval of the Action List of EC-39
Review of CoP-23 items for action by EC-40 and implementation strategies for action items from EC-39 and
Other decisions arising
Future meetings and sites
Adjourn

1. Opening Remarks

Maria Ulhe opened the meeting and welcomed the members of the Executive Council. After the introductory remarks, the EC determined that the quorum was present.

Participants at the meeting were:

EC Country Representatives

Argentina:	Carlos Ereño (Vice Chair)
Brazil:	Jean Pierre Ometto, Sergio Carvalho de Toledo Barros
Canada:	Eric Gagné (Vice Chair), Rebecca Plumadore
Chile:	Gladys Santis
Paraguay:	Fernando Méndez Gaona
Peru:	Claudia Figallo de Ghersi
United States:	Maria Uhle (EC Chair),

Observers:

Panamá:	Anselmo MacDonald
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IAI Directorate:

Holm Tiessen (Executive Director), Rafael Atmetlla (Director, Finance and Administration), Elma Montaña (Director, Science Programs), Ana Murgida, (Director, Science-Policy Liaison Office), Jorge Grandi (Advisor), Soledad Noya (Assistant to the IAI Director), Tania R. Freire Sánchez (Assistant to the IAI Director), Paula Richter (IAI Publications Editor), Elvira Gentile (IAI Directorate support).

IAI SAC Chair

Frank Muller-Karger

2. Approval of the Agenda

The EC approved the Agenda of its Fortieth Meeting. (<i>Action 1</i>)

3. Approval of the Action List of the EC-39

The EC approved the list of decisions and actions of the EC-39 (*Action 2*).

4. Review of CoP-23 items for action by EC-40 and implementation strategies for action items from EC-39 and CoP-23

Regarding the new elected SPAC Members, *Canada* asked who was going to contact them and when. The Executive Director answered that notifications would be sent out (with copy to the Executive Council) the following week from the Directorate.

Canada developed a nomination process for the SAPC candidates and shared it with IAI member countries. The process included specific criteria developed in collaboration with Government of Canada stakeholders and a network of science policy professionals. The EC decided to include these criteria as a suggestion along with the SPAC ToRs.

The EC decided that a template for the nomination of SPAC candidates be prepared based on the criteria suggested by Canada. This template would be distributed with the Terms of Reference of the SPAC (*Action 4*).

Action 8 of CoP 23, day 1

The CoP 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 Committee will continue working with the Directorate and the representative from Brazil to move the Host Country Agreement forward. The *Executive Director* explained that the IAI had reviewed the final draft and there were still some discrepancies in the Brazilian version of the Agreement and the needs of the IAI. These issues include the competency of the Science Development Director to negotiate with the Brazilian Government. The Tripartite Agreement foresees that the Brazilian Government hires a person. As it will be an employee of the Brazilian Government seconded to the IAI, it would not be appropriate that that person be the negotiator with the Brazilian Government.

Executive Director: The job description that is in the Agreement specifies a task of integration of the science. Brazil has strong capacity for synthesis, for modeling, for science integration, has volunteered many times within the context of the IAI to do such tasks and personally I am of the opinion that in addition to the scientific qualifications that are in the job description we should perhaps indicate that this person needs to be a networker and a diplomat in outlook because the main task will be to motivate other institutions and to help synthesize other people's science.

Brazil: We will have to pursue someone that has all qualifications included in the job description of the tripartite document. The latest information that we have is that that document we have been working on Monday is already at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and we hope to have news soon.

Executive Director: before we receive the reply from Brazil we should alert the entire Implementation Committee for the Tripartite Structure of the IAI, that there will be action required and that they will be asked to review the agreement with Brazil. Secondly, once we have an Agreement we will have to find

a suitable candidate or a suitable mode of basing the Director in the IAI office. The agreement states the Director will be selected by the IAI Directorate in consultation with Brazil, and the Committee will also have to give its opinion especially if there is any difference in opinion between the IAI Directorate and Brazil.

The EC charged the IAI Directorate with contacting the members of the Implementation Committee for the Tripartite Structure of the IAI to indicate that the Host Country Agreement for the Science Development Office in Brazil would soon be ready for review. (*Action 3*)

AL 9 CoP23, day 1:

The CoP endorses the participation of the IAI in Future Earth as long as this participation implies an equitable association between regional and global entities and provides also considerable flexibility for future design and redesign.

USA: my suggestion is to write a letter to FE Secretariat saying that we are very interested in serving as regional node but reminding that IAI is a separate entity and will have priorities and actions that will undertake by itself or with other groups as well.

Executive Director: FE is still taking shape and one of the most difficult points is how it relates to the regions. An equitable arrangement is envisioned now. The IAI stated that it is not a regional representation but it will help to establish a regional representation and act on behalf of the regional representation. Our proposal was to engage the wishes of the region through the funding agencies. There are many other alternatives; we probably should involve industry, agriculture, and public health representation as well. We have a big task ahead.

USA: ask the SAC and the SPAC and the CoP to look at identifying those potentially interested groups especially through the SPAC.

The EC decided that its Bureau and the IAI Directorate would send a letter to Future Earth to express that IAI wishes to participate in the program under equitable association between regional and global entities and providing considerable flexibility for future design and redesign. (*Action 5*)

The SAC chair suggested IAI engaging with the Group on Earth Observations (GEO).

EC Chair: we have to think about what GEO has to offer but also about what IAI has to offer to GEO. For example, IAI's capacity building program should be promoted to potential partners.

Brazil: APN is part of geo. Perhaps IAI can be a regional partner as well.

SAC Chair: Going through the reports of the CRNs, some of them could be implemented with GEO, such as the CRN group on Climate Services. Also a geophysical data center for the region could be implemented in collaboration with GEO entities.

The EC decided to request the SAC to identify ways of interaction with the Group on Earth Observations (GEO). (*Action 7*).

Action 6 CoP23, day 2

The CoP decided to prepare a list of funding agencies interested in subscribing a Belmont-like agreement to fund global change research projects in the IAI and in the continent for September.

Once the Directorate receives the funding agencies suggested by the Parties, it will contact such agencies with copy to the national representative to tell them of the possibility of joint funding and will send them a model of multilateral agreement.

Action 7 CoP23, day 2

The CoP decided to ask for nominations for candidates for the Standing Committee for Rules and Procedures. Nominations are due by September.

The EC requested that the IAI Directorate prepare a list with the necessary qualifications for the members of the Standing Committee of Rules and Procedures and send it to the Parties. (Action 6)

AL8 CoP 23, day 2

The CoP decided to create a working group to define an open science work plan for the IAI. Members of this committee will be Argentina, Brazil, Canada, the USA, and the Directorate. The group will draft their initial terms of reference.

The EC accepted the offer from Canada to draft the terms of reference for the working group on open science and send it to the group's members, including the SAC and SPAC. (Action 9)

AL9 CoP23, day2

The CoP decided to charge the EC with creating a committee that would analyze member country participation in the IAI in terms of participation in IAI meetings, payment of contributions and participation in IAI science projects. The group would establish a strategy to contact inactive countries and would send letters to those countries. All the Parties will sign the communications from the group.

The EC established a committee to work on the participation of member countries in the IAI. Members of the committee are Argentina, Canada, Chile (Chair) and Paraguay. (Action 8)

5. Other issues arising

Energy

The SPAC in their Report to the EC identified a need for IAI to look into the field of *energy* in order to incorporate it into the science portfolio.

Canada: what areas are the most important for the IAI to consider?

Argentina: I agree that the recommendation is too broad to take an action. It has to be more specific. It has been CoP policy in the last year not to modify the IAI Agenda because it is broad enough. Even if an issue it is not specifically in the agenda, it can be included as well in any project.

IAI Science Policy Office Director: The SPAC suggests the energy issue because it was not present in current projects and it is relevant for countries' strategic policies. It could be suggested for projects that study hydrological planning or the impact of global change in hydrological planning, among others. As the Science Agenda is open, we could stimulate that kind of topic.

Argentina: A good start for this theme could be a training event since many projects have been derived from these initiatives.

Executive Director: the IAI has increasingly started research from capacity building. I agree with Argentina it is a good opportunity to explore a new theme through a training event but at the same time I have to realize that we have one single funded capacity building program that currently has events scheduled for the funding available until 2017, therefore, exploring a new theme would imply finding member nations interested in the theme and in hosting such an event, and working with in kind contributions.

Brazil: in the consortium of funding agencies in which we are participating with Argentina now there is a call on water, food and energy, that would be of high interest to the IAI. Could these kind of calls be explored?

USA: The Belmont Forum will launch another call focused in food, energy and water in the context of urbanization. I would be willing to open up the developing countries in Latin America to be partners in this through the IAI. I have a budget set-aside right now for the Belmont Forum and I would be willing to reserve part of it for the developing countries participants. This may be the first potential partnership between the Belmont Forum and the IAI.

Executive Director: That fits in wonderfully with the discussions that we have been having with funding agencies. They saw an opportunity to use a group of funding agencies in order to interact as a consortium with the Belmont Forum. The individual countries usually do not have enough weight or funding capacities but as a consortium of Latin American countries and funding agencies they will be able to participate.

SAC Chair: these calls will be similar to those of the CRNs?

USA: For Belmont Forum calls you need a minimum of 3 countries. For example an IAI member country would have to partner with at least two Belmont Forum countries. That has worked very well in the past.

Executive Director: Could I ask the USA or NSF or maybe together with FAPESP to come up with the concrete offer or plan by September because that would be the time when we would be contacting the funding agencies and it would be good to come with a concrete action.

USA: That is definitely possible. I will be happy to provide all the information.

Other issues:

The *SAC Chair* informed the EC that his term will expire next June. He would attend the next CoP and hopefully by that time the SAC would have a new chair.

Canada suggested including in the next CoP agenda an item about CRN 4 and how the SAC and SPAC participate in the process.

The EC decided to set up a topic for discussion at the CoP 24 regarding potential research directions for CRN 4. The SAC, the SPAC and the Directorate will send their input. (*Action 11*)

5. Closed session on Director's election process

The Executive Council (EC) took the following decisions regarding the IAI Director election process:

- Extend the current Executive Director's contract by 6 months to allow for hiring procedure and approval by CoP 24.
- Establish a Selection Committee composed of Argentina (chair), Brazil, Canada, Peru and USA.
- In September, the Selection Committee will be proposing its Terms and Reference, time table and initiate the international call for nominations. Deadline for nominations application will be 2 months following the call. (*Action 10*)

6. Future Meetings & Sites:

No offers were received from member countries to host the next EC-CoP meetings at the moment of the meetings.

7. Adjourn

The EC Chair thanked Peru for its hospitality. He also thanked all the delegates, the IAI staff, and the interpreters. The meeting was adjourned.

**40th Meeting of the IAI Executive Council
26 June 2015, Lima, Peru**

Decisions and actions

1. The EC approved the Agenda of its Fortieth Meeting.
2. The EC approved the list of decisions and actions of the EC-39.
3. The EC charged the IAI Directorate with contacting the members of the Implementation Committee for the Tripartite Structure of the IAI to indicate that the Host Country Agreement for the Science Development Office in Brazil would soon be ready for review.
4. The EC decided that a template for the nomination of SPAC candidates be prepared based on the criteria suggested by Canada. This template would be distributed with the Terms of Reference of the SPAC.
5. The EC decided that its Bureau and the IAI Directorate would send a letter to Future Earth to express that IAI wishes to participate in the program under equitable association between regional and global entities and providing considerable flexibility for future design and redesign.
6. The EC requested that the IAI Directorate prepare a list with the necessary qualifications for the members of the Standing Committee of Rules and Procedures and send it to the Parties.
7. The EC decided to request the SAC to identify ways of interaction with the Group on Earth Observations (GEO).
8. The EC established a committee to work on the participation of member countries in the IAI. Members of the committee are Argentina, Canada, Chile (Chair) and Paraguay.
9. The EC accepted the offer from Canada to draft the terms of reference for the working group on open science and send it to the group's members, including the SAC and SPAC.
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11. The EC decided to set up a topic for discussion at the CoP 24 regarding potential research directions for CRN 4. The SAC, the SPAC and the Directorate will send their input.

Acronyms

CoP	Conference of the Parties / Conferencia de las Partes
CRN	Collaborative Research Network Program//Programa de Redes de Investigación Cooperativa
EC/ CE	Executive Council / Consejo Ejecutivo
FE	Future Earth
GEO	Group on Earth Observations
INPE	Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas Espaciais
NSF	National Science Foundation – USA
SAC	Scientific Advisory Committee / Comité Asesor Científico
SPAC	CoP Science-Policy Advisory Committee
ToRs	Terms of Reference