



12 March 2024

To: Honorable Members of the Conference of the Parties (CoP)  
Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research IAI

From: Omar R. López Alfano, Chair and Alexandra Mallett, Co-Chair,  
IAI Science Advisory Committee (SAC) on behalf of the SAC

Subject: Parties nominations for the SAC

I am writing on behalf of the Science Advisory Committee (SAC), regarding the SAC membership and the need for the Parties to nominate members. In June 2024, two (2) of our SAC members nominated by the Parties (Anahi Urquiza and Omar R. Lopez) first term will expire. Although their eligibility for a single additional term is contemplated under Article VII of the *Agreement*, we invite the Parties to nominate highly qualified candidates for these two (2) vacancies to be elected at the upcoming Conference of the Parties, 22-23 May 2024.

The SAC membership requires expertise in a broad range of scientific areas relevant to the research topics that the IAI promotes on the continent. The scientists should be well-known and recognized internationally for their scientific work in the Americas. Furthermore, the SAC is committed to ensuring balanced and inclusive representation in terms of geography, gender, and ethnicity when soliciting nominations for vacancies. This commitment aligns with the IAI's policy on Gender, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion. With respect to regional representation, currently, there is an underrepresentation of Central America and the Caribbean in the SAC's composition, which the committee aims to address.

The SAC emphasizes the importance of maintaining stringent criteria for scientific excellence in the nomination and appointment processes. Candidates for consideration should exemplify the following qualifications:

- Have high academic and research excellence.
- Have an established, extensive research and publication record.
- Have a Doctorate or equivalent experience.
- Willingness to work in a multi-, inter-, and transdisciplinary environment, collegially, and demonstrate a willingness.
- Have extensive experience directing and managing international scientific projects relevant to the strategic areas of the IAI.
- Understand the social, economic, and ecological realities of the Americas.
- Understand the science policies and priorities of different countries in the continent.

Specifically, for the Natural Sciences, we are seeking a Scientist specializing in Terrestrial Ecosystems. Within the realm of Social Sciences, the need is for a Scientist with expertise in Economics and/or Development Studies to enhance our understanding and address the challenges within these fields.

We cordially invite the Parties to nominate a qualified representative for the SAC at their earliest convenience, but no later than **19 April 2024**.

To ensure a smooth nomination process, we kindly request that each nomination be accompanied by a brief curriculum vitae of the nominee. Please submit this information via email to the IAI Directorate, addressed to Ms. Soledad Noya at [soledad.noya@dir.iai.int](mailto:soledad.noya@dir.iai.int).

We appreciate your timely and thoughtful consideration in nominating candidates who will contribute significantly to the SAC's mission and objectives.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Omar R. López Alfano". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Omar" being the most prominent.

Dr. Omar R. López Alfano  
SAC Chair