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**CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE
INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL
CHANGE RESEARCH**
Twenty-sixth meeting
Antigua, Guatemala, 20-21 June 2018
Agenda item 18d

Report of the IAI Directorate

Decision XXV/29: 25th anniversary publication

1. This document has been prepared by the IAI Directorate.

Background

2. The IAI Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC), at its meeting of 11 June 2017, which was held back-to-back with the 25th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Bogota, 2017) (CoP-25), discussed the possible contents of a 25th anniversary publication, noting that funding was not available for this activity¹.
3. The SAC also recommended the publication of a special volume in a journal with scientific, peer-reviewed articles on interdisciplinarity, science-policy integration, and co-design projects supported by the IAI.
4. The Conference of the Parties, at its 25th meeting (Bogota, 2017), adopted Decision XXV/29 which states:

¹ IAI Scientific Advisory Committee. *Report to the Conference of the Parties* (Bogota, 2017). See: <http://www.iai.int/wp-content/uploads/IAI-SAC-Report-to-CoP-10-JUNE-2017-EC.pdf>

At the request of the SAC Chair, the CoP directed the Directorate to prepare a proposal for the content of the 25th anniversary publication and editorial responsibilities.

5. At the Collaborative Research Network (CRN3) researchers meeting, which was held in Cancun, Mexico, from 29 November to 1 December 2017, a draft plan² for a special issue of a peer-reviewed policy and/or development journal was presented and discussed with participants. This publication would compile papers on the results of the CRN3 projects. Participants suggested several revisions to the proposal and reached consensus on moving the initiative forward. Paper selection will be based on a competitive call. The timeline for publication is expected to be between 12 to 18 months.

Activities in support of the recommendations and Decision XXV/29

6. The IAI Directorate has discussed internally and analyzed the possible contents of the two publications, including potential authors, the necessary management, the human resources required, the financial costs, and, importantly, the possible impact of the publications.
7. The results of this internal analysis showed that the 25th anniversary publication, targeted to the general public, and lacking a well-defined message, would constitute a significant effort. Moreover, there is no guarantee of potential benefits arising from this effort. Also, the publication would not report on impacts in the areas in which the IAI needs to focus its work: results of the CRN3, and their dissemination, the upcoming CRN4, implementation of the current Small Grants Program, enhanced public awareness, fund-raising, and capacity building.
8. In light of the above, a more viable approach may be to consolidate the two publications, i.e., the *25th anniversary publication and the special issue in a peer-reviewed journal*, while simultaneously meeting the goals of both efforts: raising awareness of the IAI and its 25 years of achievements and highlighting the priority activities which make such achievements possible.
9. This combined publication would appear in a peer-reviewed scientific journal and contain scholarly analysis of the results of the CRN projects supported by the IAI. In this manner, the publication would:
 - a. Raise public awareness of the IAI generally;
 - b. Increase awareness of its scientific activities and projects;
 - c. Provide a resource for presentation to policy makers to reach informed decisions; and,
 - d. Provide an archive of information on activities by the IAI.

² See IAI/COP/26/Info.9: *Information document CRN3 special issue in peer-reviewed journal: Draft plan.*

10. The information products achieved by participants at the Collaborative Research Network (CRN3) researchers meeting, namely, summaries of results of the CRN3, could potentially provide the seed to begin drafting of this publication.

Recommendation

11. The IAI Directorate proposes to the Conference of the Parties to consolidate plans for the publication of an IAI 25th anniversary publication with the publication in a peer reviewed journal on results of the CRN3, and their dissemination, the upcoming CRN4, a history of the CRNs, implementation of the current Small Grants Program and capacity building activities.
12. The Conference of the Parties is invited to consider adopting the draft decision contained in the Annex to the present document.

Annex

Draft decisions of the Conference of the Parties

IAI publication in a peer-reviewed journal

Directed to the IAI Directorate

XXVI/xx. The IAI Directorate is instructed to communicate with editors of relevant peer-reviewed journals for the publication of a special issue on the IAI, subject to the availability of financial resources, focusing on past and current scientific projects under the Collaborative Research Networks, among other projects, capacity building activities, the Small Grants Program, and the potential impact of these projects and activities on national and regional policies and decisions.