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**CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE
INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL
CHANGE RESEARCH
Twenty-ninth meeting
Videoconference
22-23 June 2021
Agenda item 13**

Associates of the Institute

Decisions XXVIII/7 and XXVIII/8: Invitation to Mitacs to become an Associate of the IAI

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

Background

2. Article I of the *Agreement establishing the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research* states:

The Parties hereby establish the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research, as a regional network of cooperating research entities, hereinafter referred to as the "Institute".

3. Article XI, *Associates of the Institute*, states:

The Conference of the Parties may invite States outside the region, regional or international intergovernmental organizations, and industries and other nongovernmental and private organizations interested in supporting the Scientific

Agenda and programmatic activities of the Institute, to become Associates of the Institute.

4. The Conference of the Parties, at its 28th meeting, adopted Decisions XXVIII/7 and XXVIII/8 inviting Mitacs Canada to become an Associate of the IAI.

Implementation of Decisions XXVIII/7 and XXVIII/8

1. In support of Decisions XXVIII/7 and XXVIII/8, a letter of invitation to become an Associate of the Institute was sent by the IAI Directorate to Mitacs on 14 September 2020.
2. Discussions were held with Mitacs on its possible role as an Associate of the Institute, especially with regard to the IAI's Science, Technology, Policy (STeP) Fellowship Program and science-diplomacy activities.
3. A Memorandum of Understanding between the IAI Directorate and Mitacs has been agreed on specifying areas of collaboration and possible joint work.
4. The IAI Directorate and Mitacs will finalize signature on this Memorandum of Cooperation prior to the 29th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP-29, Videoconference, 2021). The IAI Directorate will provide an oral report on the results of this effort at CoP-29.
5. The program of work established under this MoU is described in the Report of the IAI Directorate: Capacity building (no. IAI/COP/29/14, section (b)). The IAI Directorate acknowledges the contributions by Mitacs in the development and organization of IAI STeP and other capacity building activities on science-diplomacy.

Recommendation

6. The Conference of the Parties is invited to take note of this document.