

Eighth Meeting of the IAI Executive Council (EC)
November 23-24, 1998 - Montevideo, Uruguay

ACTION LIST

1. The EC approved Dr. Carlos Gay from Mexico to be the second Vice-Chair at the 8th EC Meeting in the absence of Dr. Carlos Tenorio.
2. The EC approved the agenda of the eighth meeting of the Executive Council.
3. The EC approved the report of the seventh meeting of the Executive Council, subject to modifications in the Spanish version indicated by Cuba on pages 8 and 11, by Costa Rica on pages 8, 10 and 12, and by Panama on page 8. The Representatives of these countries were asked to provide the new wording of the minutes. The English version should be modified accordingly.
4. The EC Chair and the Director will represent IAI at the design meeting on the Pan American Climate Information System (PACIS) to be conducted in Chile during March 1999.
5. A preliminary PESCA working group composed of Cuba, Costa Rica, Mexico, Panama, Venezuela, USA, and the IAI Director was set up to define during the EC meeting the implementation of PESCA.
Based on the discussions hold during the EC meeting, it was agreed that:
 - a) A working group composed of Cuba, Costa Rica, Mexico, Panama, Uruguay, Venezuela, USA, the SAC Chair (or his designee) and the IAI Director meet in the 1-3 months ahead for one or two days to produce a proposal on PESCA for the next five years. This proposal should then be circulated by the EC Chair to all the EC members for comments and mail endorsement. Next, the EC Chair will charge the Director to implement the program.
 - b) However and because of the time needed to accomplish this task, the EC gives authority to the Director to use funds (in the range of USD 300,000) during the first year or up to the approval of the guidelines by the EC, in order to expedite the initiation of the Program.
 - c) The USA made a commitment to support PESCA at the level of 300K/year for the next five years.
6. The EC approved the CRN program for the next five years, as being composed of the fourteen research proposals recommended by the SAC and the Directorate, and gave authority to the Director to do the necessary arrangements to fund all the 14 projects with the available resources.
The EC recognized the paramount importance of adequately managing the evolution and development, the coordination and the connections between the various components of the CRN and consequently authorized the Director to do a detailed analysis of each project and to determine if funds can be derived (in addition to any funds the Director might find in the Core Budget) to support a Science Assistant to the Scientific Officer which can specifically work on this coordination activity.

The EC finally encouraged that actions be taken by the EC Chair and the IAI Director to search for additional funds through negotiations with national funding agencies in the member countries.

7. The Executive Council will consider at its next meeting the formal approval of the IAI Conflicts of Interest and Standards of Ethical Conduct contained in the document distributed during this EC meeting by the US delegation.
8. The terms of reference and composition for the GEF Working Group were approved.
9. The terms of reference and composition for the Fund Raising Working Group were approved.
10. The EC approved the new membership of the Finance and Administrative Policy Working Group for a two-year period starting January 1999. The members will be Mexico (Chair), Cuba, USA and Uruguay, with the IAI CFO being the Secretary. The representative from Brazil, Antonio MacDowell agreed to be available for consultation, particularly on issues related to Brazilian regulations.
11. Regarding unpaid contributions and in order to communicate to all EC and CoP representatives about the fundamental importance of member countries to contribute to the institution's core budget, the EC recommended that the Director will now sign the letters following up unpaid contributions, mentioning that the EC has strongly endorsed this communication.
12. Because of the definite importance to IAI nations and to the entire regions to have a clear understanding of the substantive progress that is being made in IAI, the Executive Council encourages the EC Bureau to work closely with the Communication Task Force in the months ahead and look at some of the results emerging from IAI activities which might be essential to IAI nations interest in responding to global changes issues.
13. The EC approved the setting of a special task group on IAI education, training and capacity building. The EC Chair and IAI Director are charged to develop the terms of reference and to appoint this group which will prepare for the next EC a document including the vision and strategy of IAI in this matter as well as an implementation plan.
14. In a recognition ceremony the EC and the IAI Directorate acknowledged the outstanding institutional and scientific contributions of Federico Garcia Brum, the first EC Chair and formal representative of Uruguay, and of Eduardo Banús, Director of the IAI-GEF-WMO project, for their work and commitment to IAI.
15. The EC approved a resolution recognizing the outstanding contributions of Mr. Christopher Hill in his role as the first Financial Officer and his guidance and efforts in establishing the financial and accounting procedures of the Institute.
16. The EC welcome Brazil's and USA's offer to support Eduardo Banús' work through a one-year contract to continue assisting the IAI in the submission and approval of a second IAI-GEF project and other fund raising activities.

17. Dr. Gordon McBean, Canadian representative, will seek authority from his Government to host the next meeting of the EC and CoP in June 1999. Costa Rica's and Venezuela's representatives will investigate if their countries can host future meetings.
18. The EC approved the suggestion of Brazil that at the next EC/CoP a session be organized to show the scientific developments, progress and achievements of the IAI.
19. The EC formally thanked Uruguay for hosting the meeting.