

**INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR
GLOBAL CHANGE RESEARCH**



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June 17-19, 2008
Buenos Aires, Argentina

Minutes of the CoP-XIV

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**Minutes of the Fourteenth Meeting of the IAI Conference of the Parties (CoP)
Manaus, Brazil, 14-15 June 2007**

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

**14th Meeting of the IAI Conference of the Parties (CoP)
June 14-15, 2007 – Manaus, Brazil**

Agenda

Thursday– June 14, 2007

Day 1

- Afternoon session (01:00 – 06:00)

01:00 - 01:15 Registration

Opening ceremony

Organizational Issues:

- *Election of the CoP Bureau*
- *Election of the Credentials Committee (3 Parties)*

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of the Report of the 13th Meeting of the CoP

Presentations:

- *Parties to the Agreement*
- *Observers*

Report of the Credentials Committee

04:00 – 04:15 Coffee Break

Report of the IAI External Review Committee

Wrap up Session

Welcome reception

Friday – June 15, 2007

Day 2

- Morning Session (09:00 – 12:00)

Report of the IAI Directorate: *Holm Tiessen*

- *Summary of the presentation made during the 24th EC meeting and Report of the survey of the country priorities;*
- *Annual Program for FY 2007-2008;*
- *Core Budget for FY 2007-2008;*
- *Country Contribution for 2007-2008.*

Report of the EC Chair:

Maria Assunção F. S. Dias

- *Activities charged to the EC by the CoP at its last meeting;*
- *EC activities, actions, and decisions;*
- *Issues brought forward from the 23rd and 24th EC meetings.*

10:30 – 10:45 Coffee Break

IAI Strategic Planning

Lunch

- **Afternoon Session (02:00 – 06:00)**

Donor's session

- *Country contributions to:*
 - *Program and Project Activities;*
 - *Core Budget.*

Report of the Standing Committee for Rules and Procedures

Lou Brown

Initiation of the Review Process of the EC and CoP Standing Rules *Parties*

Approval of the New Contribution Schedule

Approval of the Core Budget for FY 2007-2008 and Country Contribution for 2007-2008.

Approval of the other items forwarded from the 23rd and 24th EC meetings

Renewal of Director's contract

Report of the Committee to recommend candidates for the election of the IAI Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) member

SAC Chair

03:30 – 03:45 Coffee Break

Election of the new SAC members

Future meetings and sites.

Adjourn

Debriefing session – IAI CoP Bureau and the IAI Directorate.

Meetings of Working Groups, as necessary.

1. Opening Session

Participants at the meeting were:

CoP Country Representatives

- Argentina: Alejandro Ceccatto, Carolina Vera, Carlos Ereño
- Bolivia: Alirio Rafael Martinez
- Brazil: Maria Assunção Faus da Silva Dias
- Canada: Brian Gray
- Chile: Raúl Echenique
- Mexico: Andres Flores Montalvo
- Panama: Rolando E. Barrow
- Paraguay: Justo Alfredo González Villalba
- United States: Paul Filmer, Will Smith, Lou Brown, Norman Barth
- Venezuela: Gladys Maggi

SAC Members

Michael Brklacich (Chair)

Observers

- Ricardo Berbara, CRN II
- Edmo Campos, CRN II
- Herbert Otto Roger Schubart (MCT – Coordenacao Geral de Biodiversidade)
- Jean Pierre Ometto (Science Officer - IGBP Regional Support Office in Sao Jose dos Campos)

IAI External Review Committee

Jerry Melillo, Vaughan Turekian, Sarah Banas

IAI Directorate Staff

- Holm Tiessen (Director)
- Gerhard Breulmann (Scientific Officer)
- Marcella Ohira (Training Officer)
- Rafael Atmetlla (Administrative and Financial Officer),
- Luciana O. Queiroz Ribeiro (Assistant to the IAI Director)
- Tania Sánchez (Assistant to the IAI Director)
- Paula Richter

Local Support

Isabel C. Vega de Maldonado, Cristina Botinely, Barbara Kelly, Maria Diana Fernandes da Silva, Márcia Silva de Sousa

2. Election of Bureau

The CoP elected the following members as the Bureau for its Fourteenth Meeting: Maria Assunção F. Silva Dias from Brazil as the Chair, Brian Gray from Canada as the First Vice-Chair, and Gladys Maggi from Venezuela as the Second Vice-Chair.

(Action 1 – Day 1)

3. Election of the Credentials Committee

The CoP elected Argentina, the US, and Panama to be part of the Credentials Committee. The Committee in this composition is appointed for two years and the members are requested to serve in the period between meetings.

(Action 2 – Day 1)

4. Approval of the Agenda

The CoP approved the agenda of its Fourteenth Meeting with the following modifications:

The reports of the IAI External Review Committee, the Directorate and the EC Chair will be presented immediately after the approval of the report of the 13th Meeting of the CoP. These reports will be followed by the:

Approval of the new contribution schedule

Approval of the Core Budget for FY 2007-2008 and country contributions for 2007 – 2008

Approval of other items forwarded from the 23rd and 24th EC meetings.

Renewal of Director's contract

Report of the Committee to recommend candidates for the election of the IAI Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) members

Election of new SAC members

All the other items in the agenda will be addressed after this last point.

(Action 3, Day 1)

5. Approval of the Report of the 13th CoP Meeting

The CoP approved the report of its Thirteenth Meeting with the following modifications:

English version, page 5, Action 2, Day 1

Where it is currently written:

“The CoP elected Panama to replace Jamaica –not present at the meeting- on the **Accreditation** Committee on occasion of the CoP 13.”

It should be revised to read:

“The CoP elected Panama to replace Jamaica –not present at the meeting- on the **Credentials** Committee on occasion of the CoP 13.”

Spanish version, page 5, Action 2, Day 1

Where it is currently written:

“La CoP eligió a Panamá en reemplazo de Jamaica –ausente en la reunión- en el **Comité** de Credenciales en ocasión de la CoP 13.”

It should be revised to read:

“La CoP eligió a Panamá en reemplazo de Jamaica – ausente en la reunión- en de la **Comisión** Credenciales en ocasión de la CoP 13.”

English version, page 6, Action 5, Day 1

Where it is currently written:

“The **Accreditation** Committee informed the CoP that 10 delegations had submitted...”

It should be revised to read:

“The **Credentials** Committee informed the CoP that 10 delegations had submitted...”

Spanish version, page 6, Point 7, Action 5, Day 1

Where it is currently written:

“7. Informe **del Comité de Acreditaciones** – **El Comité de Acreditaciones** informó a la CoP que 10 delegaciones habían enviado...”

It should be revised to read:

“7. Informe **de la Comisión de Credenciales** – **La Comisión de Credenciales** informó a la CoP que 10 delegaciones habían enviado...”

The list of contents of the Spanish version will have to be modified accordingly.

This action modifies the wording of the Action List of CoP13.

(Action 4 – Day 1)

6. Report of the Credentials Committee

The Credentials Committee informed the CoP that 7 delegations had submitted the official credentials to participate in the meeting: Argentina, Bolivia, Canada, Mexico, Panama, the United States, and Venezuela. The credentials of Brazil, Chile and Paraguay have not arrived yet. Ten delegations are present at the meeting.

(Action 6 – Day 1)

The CoP decided to accept the recommendation of the Chair of the Standing Committee on Rules and Procedures to apply the Vienna convention on the Law of Treaties (Articles 31, 7

and 8) in combination with the Rules of the CoP (Rule 3, 24 and 47) to have its sessions continue with the understanding that all decisions and actions will be considered as provisional until the missing credentials are received and evaluated by the Credentials Committee. In addition:

- each national participant whose country has not submitted the Credential declare that he is representing his/her country and undertake to have his/her country submit the credentials for its representative as soon as possible.
- the CoP make every effort to operate by consensus so as to assure that all parties participating in this CoP are satisfied with the decisions/actions taken.
- the EC reconvene immediately following the end of the CoP to consider what actions are necessary for immediate operation.

(Action 7, Day 1)

Representatives of Brazil, Chile and Paraguay declared they were representing their countries and that the competent authorities would send the credentials to the Directorate as soon as possible. The representative of Chile added he would inform the permanent representative of that country on the decisions taken at the CoP.

The representative of Panama thanked the Credentials Committee and the Chair of the RPSC for their efforts in finding a suitable solution for the functioning of this CoP.

7. Report of the IAI External Review Committee

The external review process was requested by the IAI and is funded by the NSF. The terms of reference are: *Review the IAI and its activities with a focus on its institutional and programmatic development. The review of the IAI should be done in terms of the Objectives of the IAI. It should also be forward looking, providing advice and recommendations that will help to define the path or "compass" for the IAI in the next decade...*

Composition of the Committee:

Dr. Jerry Mellilo (Chair)- *Co-Director, The Ecosystems Center at the Marine Biological Center*, Mr. Anthony "Bud" Rock (Co-chair) - *Special Advisor, Strategic Initiatives, Arizona State University*, Dr. Robert J. Swap, Dr. Hassan Virji - *Deputy Director, START*, Dr. Gordon McBean - *Professor and Chair, University of Western Ontario*, Dr. Ed Miles (until Feb 2007) - *Professor & Senior Fellow, University of Washington*, Dr. Mahabir Gupta - *Facultad de Farmacia, Universidad de Panamá*, Dr. Gilberto Gallopin - *Regional Adviser on Environmental Policies UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean*, Dr. Alice Abreu - *Director, ICSU office Brazil*, Mr. James Buizer - *Office of Sustainability Initiatives, Arizona State University*

Timeline

July 2006: External Review Committee (ERC) formed; Review begins with first meeting of the ERC

August 2006: Project Director visits IAI Headquarters, EC Chair

September 2006 – March 2007: Over 100 email, telephone, in-person interviews; Review of IAI documents; EC meets to draft report

May 2007: ERC meets to review advanced draft of report; Report completed June 2007
Report Presented IAI COP - Brazil

The IAI has had notable achievements in the past 13 years:

Promising strides in overcoming operational difficulties

Research program produces high quality science

Greatest regional contribution: building scientific capacity throughout the Americas

The IAI still has a number of unrealized opportunities.

Science and scientific capacity building has been insufficiently translated into policy-relevant discourse and action

Coupling of natural and social sciences

Dialogue with decision makers

The IAI will need the full commitment of the CoP and CoP member states to realize the Institute's goals.

Countries must work to meet their contribution commitments

CoP should take the lead in formulating a strategy for establishing an IAI endowment

CoP, in cooperation with the IAI Director, should guide the development of a comprehensive communications strategy

Raise awareness of the Institute

Encourage dialogue between science and decision-making communities

Promote data sharing and collaboration among participants

Establish appropriate metrics to evaluate IAI's effectiveness

Science and research program

Findings Research is recognized as high quality, especially in the natural sciences

- Science is becoming more regionally relevant
- Latin American scientists are leading more of the research projects
- The Data and Information System (DIS) is important, but not well executed
- Too few projects include links between human activities and environmental change

Recommendations

- Maintain IAI's standard of scientific excellence
- Strengthen regional relevance of research by focusing on risk, vulnerability, and adaptation
- Initiate "across-project" synthesis activities involving both scientists and stakeholders
- Develop and execute a plan to upgrade the IAI DIS
- Encourage new projects that study the feedbacks between humans and global and regional environmental changes

Capacity Building

Findings IAI capacity-building activities are its most valuable regional contribution

- No mechanisms is in place to track capacity building outcomes over the long term
- Recent progress has been made in developing scientific program management capacity

Recommendations Expand range of capacity building activities (eg. apprenticeships with government agencies, NGOs, and industry)

- Develop a tracking mechanism of capacity-building efforts
- Continue building capacity in science program management

Funding

Findings

- Not all member countries have made their agreed upon contributions on a regular basis
- Currently, the IAI funding base for research and capacity-building depends upon only a few donors
- The endowment called for in the Institute's charter has not been developed

Recommendations

- Develop an equitable mechanism to help members meet their commitments and encourage additional participation
- Explore expanding the funding base for the IAI program with multi-lateral and private sector sources
- Plan for the establishment of an endowment

Operations and governance

Findings IAI's goals are still valid, but lack evaluation metrics

- Poor attendance at CoP meetings diminishes its effectiveness
- The SAC is being underutilized
- The Directorate needs more prompt advice on operational matters

- IAI lacks a long-range strategic plan

Recommendations

- The CoP should lead an effort to define metrics to evaluate the IAI's progress
- Participation in CoP meetings by all member states is essential to the future success of IAI
- The SAC should be doing more for IAI as outlined in the IAI charter
- The EC should provide the Directorate with rapid advice on operational matters as requested
- EC should appoint a small working group to initiate a strategic planning process

Communications and dialogue

Findings There is a surprising lack of awareness of the IAI in science and policy communities throughout region

- Policy makers have had difficulty translating IAI science into informed action

Recommendations

- The CoP should see to it that the IAI develops a communications and marketing strategy to effectively disseminate the Institute's work to governmental, NGO, and scientific bodies
- The Directorate, in consultation with CoP members, should develop dialogue events with regionally relevant policy and decision makers to inform the science agenda and enhance communications of IAI science to the policy community

Brazil: As to the representation of countries in the CoP, the EC had been discussing the revision of the rules of the EC and the CoP and how to ensure continuity in the representations from one meeting to the next.

Jerry Melillo: some representatives are very high profile for the IAI.

USA: the external review started in 1998, when starting to draft the terms of reference. Some of the recommendations appear to be under way or have already been discussed.

SAC Chair: how to grow a family beyond a number of nations and international organizations?

Jerry Melillo: part of the regional evolution of the activities was found to be very healthy. The potential for holding regional summits and regional assessments. One of the formal regional assessments of climate change, but particularly focused on regional issues. The region is ready to take on these challenges.

The CoP requested the Directorate to provide all CoP members with a copy of the External Review Committee report.

(Action 5, Day 1)

8. Report of the IAI Directorate

8.1. Summary of the IAI Director's presentation EC-XXIV

The Director reported on the activities since the last CoP. One of the activities the Directorate has been working on the synthesis of the CRN I program. The IAI has been successful in publishing the SCOPE 68 volume: "Communicating global change science to society". This book synthesizes the information of CRN I and communication of results to society at large. The book has been edited by the IAI Director and the SO, the SAC Chair and one of the scientists involved. This is an example of how the IAI is going to work in the future.

A meeting was already held with SCOPE at the headquarters of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) in Costa Rica, to prepare a publication on application

of ecological knowledge to land use decisions. The book is currently under review. These are part of the current initiatives at the IAI to synthesize past IAI activities.

New initiatives are being undertaken with INPE and CPTEC, the MoU is in the process of being signed. However, joint meetings, workshops and training activities were already held. IAI-DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) summer school on global change issues, sponsored mainly with German funding, also for the attendance of Latin American participants. The next one will start in the last week of September 2007.

Contacts and cooperation have been established with the Red Ibero-Americana de Oficinas de Cambio Climatico (RIOCC - Spain). This will allow to establish some joint policies in terms of the UNFCCC SBSTA. The contact has allowed access to information on surveys on country priorities.

The International Council for Science (ICSU), one of the main coordinating UNESCO organizations for scientific unions, has opened recently its Latin American office in Rio de Janeiro. This office has strongly recommended to ICSU to explore topics that could be jointly handled between the IAI and the regional office. Diversitas had been involved in IAI activities sporadically, but has now taken one of the CRN II projects on human and biophysical dimensions of dry forests.

IICA, science synthesis as told before. IICA also invited the IAI Director to give a presentation on the impacts of global change on agriculture at the agriculture ministers of the Americas meeting in July of 2007.

The participation of IAI in the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) will facilitate the dialogue between Parties and regional global change research programs, provide opportunities for political contacts and for improving the participation of member countries in the CoP meetings of the IAI. The International Group of Funding Agencies (IGFA) is a forum to which all global programs report and in which many funding agencies come together in an informal way. Discussions at IGFA allowed the IAI to re-evaluate and reorganize the way the IAI supports global program initiatives avoiding the indirect channelling of funds from agencies which already support such programs and providing greater transparency to funding mechanisms.

Concerning visibility, the IAI has always sponsored various events or participants to events. Lately, the IAI was asked to support the Brazilian Symposium on Remote Sensing, the Director decided to combine sponsorship with visibility, so the IAI sponsored the prizes for the best posters. The same financial investment allowed all the participants to get to know the IAI and its role in promoting science in the Americas. There was also a special IAI prize that was not based on purely scientific criteria, but also on the communication strength and the presentation of the posters.

As to funding, the Director had the strong mandate to broaden the funding basis of the IAI. At the time of the meeting, negotiations were in place with the International Development Research Center (IDRC) to develop a major program on rural development and social and economic implications of land use change. There is also the proposal to the MacArthur foundation for the Andean initiative. The contributions of DAAD were mentioned in the context of the summer schools. The 2007 core income exceeded 100% of the country contributions (past and advance contributions of some countries). There are countries that are still not paying.

In terms of strategy, recent contacts were made with CODATA (ICSU organization in charge of data and information management at international level). The IAI has a mandate to allow free and open exchange of information and data, which has not been successfully implemented for the moment. Contacts have been made with the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF), which will also be involved in the McArthur proposal. These links will help the IAI in developing strategies for data management.

Pyxis is a Canadian company that has developed a global addressing and positioning system, which allows geographic information management by attributing information and data to specific geographic locations. Pyxis is working with one of the CRNs. The agreement with the company is that the IAI will have free of charge licensed access to the program that generates the globe view. This is an opportunity to build a strong platform for geographic information management.

SENSOR is a European program on decision-making aid based on ecological impact assessment. They have decided to apply this on two test areas outside Europe, one of them is in China and the other one in the La Plata basin. The links is with a CRN II PI (Jobbagy). SENSOR invited the Director to join the European Steering Committee for SENSOR and help with the implementation of this decision-making platform in the Americas.

The IAI is an intergovernmental organization, but not all the countries are participating. This is a two way communication problem. The Institute deals with global change research and its socio-economic implications –a component that is getting stronger. The IAI is promoting international collaboration, and is strong in this aspect. The human dimension is being developed in the CRN II through the SGP-HD, proposals to be presented for approval to the CoP. A weakness is observed in the mandate of open exchange of information. In this regard, the Director has called upon the SAC and will call upon the EC and the CoP to consider this. Strategies need to be developed to strengthen this area. The IAI augments scientific capacity. This has been successful and now this information has to be used to guide policy.

The IAI is dealing with climate change and climate variability, issues of biodiversity, and human dimensions, which are all on the science agenda. However, the external review process revealed that policy and decision makers need to address exposure, risk, vulnerability, and regional analysis. Science and application need to be linked more closely. The IAI has held workshops on risk, with the participation of people from other communities than the scientific. Therefore, the gap is starting to narrow.

One step further is moving from decision support to decision, more related to the political arena. For example, land use decisions, based on the impacts of sectoral decisions (agriculture, forestry, nature conservation, transport infrastructure, energy, tourism) on the production, environment, society, etc. Then it is combined with value assessment, which is the decision-making process and come up with the different regions and stakeholders. This is systematized in the SENSOR scenario approach, which is able to provide a dialogue process between science, society and decision makers.

All these are strategic initiatives the IAI is looking at, to address the entire cascade of initiatives: from research to data generation, building models, making information, synthesizing the information into knowledge, hopefully providing judgment and decisions that lead to actions and then monitoring the actions which returns as a feedback to research.

What does it take to move towards policy-relevant science for scientifically informed policy? A crucial question the IAI needs to address. The main challenges to policy and development are related to scientifically informed decisions. The process of integrating political with scientific and technical considerations requires learning and value judgments which harmonize development with the capacity of life-support systems to support present and future societies' needs.

A critical role for the IAI CoP is the engagement of scientists and policy-makers, from the initial framing of the research questions, promote this learning and build trust in the science and policy processes. IAI strategy must interface with 'policy': resource users, research projects, legislative periods all have different time horizons. 'Policy' should create an enabling environment that links these different time scales.

IAI role in capacity building and creating incentives: As to the main challenges to science, societal and policy relevance must be learned and require effort. They are not encouraged by academic rewards and funding.

EC strategy discussions: scientific credibility is based on peer-review, but societal credibility is commonly based on trust. Developing trust depends on scientific messages in understandable and unbiased terms and on responding to new needs as policy and society evolve.

IAI role in bringing governance to this process: GEC science transformation towards greater societal and policy relevance is not linear and planned but random as scientists and institutions react to changes in science funding, societal attitudes and policies.

The IAI's edge: integration of scientific excellence, multinational and multidisciplinary cooperation and capacity-building generate an environment in which policy relevance is developed. Policy relevance is promoted by the exposure of researchers to societal needs as they work across cultures and perceptions in international research.

Critical issues for the IAI strategic discussion: we are in a learning process. Do *not* define scientific priorities (beyond the "Science Agenda") *but* define the mechanism by which shifting priorities can be defined. *Define* how data, information and knowledge should be managed and made public.

The results of the RIOCC country survey in 17 countries on research needs is presented in the following table.

	Declared priority	number of countries declaring LOW knowledge on IMPACT	number of countries declaring LOW knowledge on ADAPTATION	"NEED" RANKING
Energy	37	10	15	62
Biodiversity	38	5	14	57
Hydrology	48	0	8	56
Forestry	38	5	12	55
Urban	25	14	15	54
Health	39	4	9	52
Agriculture	43	1	7	51
Soils	28	3	15	46
Fisheries	26	5	12	43

The combination of the declared priorities with the lack of knowledge on impact and adaptation gives the "need" ranking. This analysis allows having an idea of the needs of scientific research in the different areas.

Brazil: What is the impact of the ranking from the RIOCC survey on future actions and decisions of the Directorate and the SAC?

Director: The information is the first attempt at identifying what is required. The private sector, NGOs, civil organizations have not been consulted. And we know country priorities are determined by much more than climate change offices and the ministries of environment. This is the first step that will guide the process of obtaining research needs, but it will certainly not give final answers.

| Answering the question of the delegate of Mexico on whether the IDRC funding is for evaluating country priorities on global change or make studies on adaptation, the Director explained the agreement is for adaptation studies, but given the importance of biofuels in Latin America in terms of mitigation activities of other regions, the project is at least linked to those mitigation activities.

Excluido: ¶

8.2. Annual Program for FY 2007/2008

- The human dimensions program SGP-HD will be implemented
- CRNII and SGP HD PIs will meet to develop a strong integration between the programs.
- CRN II will be developed further with new linkages in the oceans and climate projects
- Planning for CRNII remaining funds is progressing
- The 2nd IAI-NCAR colloquium will be organized for late 2007/early 2008.
- IAI/NCAR fellows will be integrated into IAI science projects
- The MacArthur foundation assessment.
- A proposal to IDRC on rural development and landuse change
- A proposal to NSF for training activities will be prepared in June 2007
- Development of the IAI Strategic Plan and the assimilation of the external review;
- IAI-UNFCCC side event for SBSTA Bonn 2008 will be prepared;
- Implement IAI-CPTEC Internship Program in 2007;
- Launch IAI-CPTEC Internship Program in 2008;
- Prepare a synthesis for policy makers on Risk Reduction, Disaster Management
- Training institute on use of rivers in semi-arid regions
- Conduct IAI-DAAD summer school
- Information management issues of the IAI

USA (Paul Filmer): Asked the Director to expand more on the activities listed, is the personnel at the Directorate enough for this workload?

Director: The majority of these activities is scheduled, so they are already on the plans. Any additional activity will require additional manpower, which has been informed in the proposals to IDRC and McArthur.

The CoP approved the Annual Program for FY 2007-2008.

(Action 4, Day 2)

8.3. Core Budget Request for FY 2007/2008 and Member Country Contributions for 2007/2008

Core Budget request 2007/2008: Same level as previous 2 years. Salaries and Benefits increased due to adjustments in employees benefits and exchange rate. Same levels for Travel, Equipment, Dissemination and Outreach, and Director's Fund. Savings in Operational Expenses.

Argentina had asked to reduce the increments from 5000 to 1000 US dollars. Paul Filmer (USA) informed that though this issue had already been considered and approved by the CoP, a motion is pending that each of the member countries approve this amendment to the IAI Agreement. Lou Brown explained that it is not sufficient that the CoP unanimously approves this, as it implies a change in the agreement. A letter has to be sent by the IAI to the member countries. The answer from member countries should be submitted to the Directorate within one month after the CoP.

The CoP approved the Core Budget Request for FY 2007-2008.

(Action 2, Day 2)

The CoP approved the unchanged level of Country Contributions for FY 2007-2008.

(Action 3, Day 2)

The CoP approved the Auditor's Report of the Financial Statement as of June 30, 2006.

(Action 5, Day 2)

9. Report of the EC Chair

Activities charged to the EC by the CoP at its last meeting:

- 1) Communication with the External Evaluation Committee, which took place immediately after the last meeting.
- 2) Intense interaction with the Directorate as to the meeting on the La Plata Basin initiative in Buenos Aires. Participation of the Plata Basin countries, the LPB Scientific Steering Committee, IDRC, SENSOR, different stakeholders.
- 3) Close relation with the Directorate.

Issues from the 23rd and 24th EC meetings

- 1) Recommendation to approve the list of SGP-HD projects suggested by the SAC.
- 2) Recommendation to approve the core budget request for FY 2007-2008 and the financial statement as of June 30, 2006.
- 3) Recommendation of the EC to renew the Director's contract.
- 4) Recommendation to approve the Auditor's Report of the Financial Statement as of June 30, 2006.

10. Renewal of the Director's contract

The CoP held a closed session to discuss the renewal of the Director's contract based on his request and the evaluation of the Director's performance.

At the request of the Director, the CoP considered the possibility of offering the Director a second term of 6 years. After analyzing the Agreement and in view of the excellent results of the performance evaluation of the IAI Director and the need for sustaining the positive momentum that the IAI has developed recently with very effective support from the Director and the Directorate staff, the CoP unanimously approved the renewal of his contract for 6 years, considering that the Agreement allows for a renewal for a second term without specifying its length. The CoP also decided that periodical appraisals will be made of the Director's performance during this period. All the Parties to the Agreement will be informed on this decision and will be invited to submit their comments within 30 days after having received the communication.

(Action 6, Day 2)

11. Approval of SGP-HD Projects

The SAC Chair presented the joint motion of the SAC and the Directorate to approve six projects under the SGP-HD program.

The SGP-HD is aimed at improving the human dimensions component in the CRN II. New supplemental funds were obtained from NSF. The call was launched on 26 January 2007, and deadline for proposal submission was 7 March 2007. Besides the usual requirements for proposals, CRN II PI commitment and involvement was requested. The Directorate received 14 proposals.

Review Process

Step 1: Review Panel (16-17 May 07)

- 3 SAC members + 2 other experts
- 10 proposals ranked scientifically good to excellent and carried forward
- 4 proposals removed as scientifically weak
- Step 2: SAC - Directorate Deliberations (18 May 07)
- 3 SAC members + 3 Directorate Staff
- Scientific merit plus funding envelop constraints

•6 proposals recommended for funding under SGP-HD (PIs: Quezada, Varady, Meza, Fraise, Pfaff, Tourand)

Title	PI/CRN2 Link
Adaptation to the health impacts of air pollution and climate extremes in Latin American cities*	Alejandro León Universidad de Chile, Chile <i>CRN 2017, L Gallardo</i>
Coming Down the Mountain: Understanding the Vulnerability	Fernando S. Quezada Universidad de Chile, Chile <i>CRN 2047, B Luckman</i>
Information Flows and Policy: Use of Climate Diagnostics and Cyclone Prediction for Adaptive Water-Resources Management Under Climatic Uncertainty in Western North America	Robert G. Varady University of Arizona, USA <i>CRN 2048, G B de Raga</i>
Climate Change and Irrigated Agriculture: Towards a better understanding of driving forces and feedbacks between decision makers and biophysical environment and their impacts on hydrological cycle and land use	Francisco J Meza Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Chile <i>CRN 2031, E Jobbagy and CRN 2047, B Luckman</i>
Climate change, oceanographic variability and the artisanal fisheries of the SW Atlantic: a human dimensions approach*	Patrizia Raggi Abdallah Universidade Federal do Rio do Grande, Brazil <i>CRN 2076, A Piola</i>
Decision support system for risk reduction in agriculture, Phase II: Soybean DSS for Eastern Paraguay and R G Sul	Clyde Fraisse University of Florida, USA <i>CRN 2031, E Jobbagy</i>
Conservation Policy Impacts in Tropical Dry Forest regional & spatially focused analyses given other social and natural drivers of land use	Alexander Pfaff Columbia University, USA <i>CRN 2021, A Sanchez</i>
Designing a methodology to evaluate local knowledge on global change and its role in the construction of future land use scenarios by local actors	Jean F. Tourrand Universidade Federal de Brasilia, Brazil <i>CRN 2031, E Jobbagy and CRN 2061, M McClain</i>

*: to be funded with CRN II funds

The CoP approved the projects of the Small Grants Program-Human Dimensions (SGP-HD) recommended by the SAC for support.

(Action 1, Day 2)

12. Election of SAC Members

A committee ad hoc was established at EC 24 to evaluate CVs of nominees presented by the CoP to fill the five vacancies in the SAC membership. Members of this committee were Mike Brklacich (SAC Chair), Edmo Campos (local scientist), Paul Filmer (EC Bureau), Carlos Ereño (EC member), Gerhard Breulmann (IAI Directorate).

The SAC Chair presented the motion of this Committee. Members departing in mid 2007: Barros, Capote, Fernandez and Legey. Rana Fine concluding her first term in mid 2007.

Primary science gaps are Biodiversity & ecosystems services, Urban & energy, Environment & economy. Secondary attributes: Links to international development; Balanced geographic coverage; Strong links to the broader GEC community; Interdisciplinary science capacity. Attributes of the Slate of the candidates recommended for election: Fine, Lemos, Mooney, Pichs & Vera

- Cover majority of primary science gaps
- All are enthusiastic
- Balance between senior & mid-career scientists
- Linkages to broader GEC community (WCRP, Biodiversity, IPCC)
- Strengthen science - policy linkages
- In conjunction with returning SAC members, address several balances:

–Geographic (4 LA, 3 NA, 3 LA/NA)

–Gender (5:5)

–Biophysical & social sciences (6:4) In order to achieve the desired balance, the CoP decided to follow the recommendation of the EC that the CoP votes the list of the names suggested as a whole. The election of SAC members was not held on individuals.

The CoP unanimously elected Rana A. Fine (2nd term), María Carmen de Mello Lemos, Harold A. Mooney, Ramon Pichs Madruga and Carolina Vera to be part of the Scientific Advisory Committee, following the recommendation of the ad hoc Committee which had evaluated the CVs of all seven candidates. The vacancies thus filled correspond to positions nominated by the Conference of the Parties.

(Action 7 – Day 2)

13. Adjournment

The CoP empowered the Executive Council to address the problem of quorum for future meetings of the Conference of the Parties and find ways to ensure quorum.

(Action 8, Day 2)

The CoP empowered the EC to address the issues remaining on the agenda of the Conference of the Parties after the closure of its meeting.

(Action 9, Day 2)

Issues remaining on the CoP agenda that will be addressed by the EC are: presentations of member countries and observers; strategic planning; donor's session, report of the Standing Committee for Rules and Procedures, future meetings and sites.

The meeting was adjourned.

ACRONYMS

AAAS	American Association for the Advancement of Science
AFO	Administrative and Financial Officer
AIACC	Assessments of Impacts and Adaptations to Climate Change in Multiple Regions and Sectors
ANAM	Autoridad Nacional del Ambiente (Panama)
ANAM	Autoridad Nacional del Ambiente (Panama)
APN	The Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research
CATHALAC	Centro del Agua del Trópico Húmedo para América Latina y el Caribe
CCSP	Climate Change Science Program (US)
CICESE	Centro de Investigación Científica y de Educación Superior de Ensenada (México)
CODATA	Committee on Data for Science and Technology
CoP	Conference of the Parties
CPTEC/INPE	Centro de Previsão de Tempo e Estudos Climáticos / Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas Espaciais
CRN	Collaborative Research Network Program
CYTED	Programa iberoamericano de ciencia y tecnología para el Desarrollo
DAAD	German Academic Exchange Service
DIS	Data and Information System
EC	Executive Council
EMBRAPA	Empresa Brasileira de Pesquisa Agropecuária
ENSO	El Niño Southern Oscillation
ESSP	Earth System Science Partnership
EU	European Union
FAC	Financial and Administrative Committee (of the EC)
FAPESP	Fundação de Amparo à Pesquisa do Estado de São Paulo (Brazil)
FUMEC	The United States-Mexico Foundation for Science
GBIF	Global Biodiversity Information Facility
GEC	Global Environmental Change
GEF	Global Environmental Facility
GEOSS	Global Earth Observation System of Systems
IANIGLA	Instituto Argentino de Nivología, Glaciología y Ciencias Ambientales (Argentina)
ICSU	International Council for Science
IDRC	International Development Research Center
IGBP	International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme
IGFA	International Group of Funding Agencies
IHDP	International Human Dimensions Programme
IICA	Instituto Interamericano de Cooperación para la Agricultura

INE	Instituto Nacional de Ecología (Mexico)
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IRI	International Research Institute for Climate Prediction
LBA	Large Scale Biosphere- Atmosphere Experiment in the Amazonia
LPB	La Plata Basin
NCAR	National Center for Atmospheric Research (USA)
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
NOAA/OGP	National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Organization/Office for Global Programs (USA)
NSF	National Science Foundation
OAS	Organization of American States
OTCA	Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization
PAHO	Pan American Health Organization
PI	Principal Investigator
RIOCC	Red Iberoamericana de Oficinas de Cambio Climático (Spain)
SAC	Scientific Advisory Committee
SBSTA	Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice
SCOPE	Scientific Committee on Problems of the Environment
SCRIP	Standing Committee for Rules and Procedures (of the CoP)
SENAMHI	Servicio Nacional de Meteorología e Hidrología (Peru)
SGP - HD	Small Grants Program – Human Dimensions
SO	Scientific Officer
START	System for Analysis, Research and Training
TI	Training Institute
TISG	Training Institute Seed Grant
TO	Training Officer
UN	United Nations
UNA	Universidad Nacional de Asunción (Paraguay)
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention for Climate Change
UN-ISDR	United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
UWI	University of West Indies (Jamaica)
WCRP	World Climate Research Program
WMO	World Meteorological Organization