INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL CHANGE RESEARCH

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14-17 June 2011

Asunción, Paraguay

Minutes of the CoP-XVIII

Minutes of the Eighteenth IAI Conference of the Parties (CoP)
Asuncion, Paraguay, 15-16 June 2011

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Note: This report is not strictly a chronological record. For completeness, greater clarity and readability the IAI Directorate has grouped discussions of each agenda item together.

18th IAI Conference of the Parties (CoP)
15-16 June 2011 – Asuncion, Paraguay

Agenda

Wednesday– 15 June 2011	Day 1

- <u>Morning session</u> (08:30 – 12:30)

08:30 - 09:00 Registration

Opening ceremony
- *Welcome by Paraguayan Representative*

Organizational Issues:
- *Election of the CoP Bureau*
- *Election of the Credentials Committee*

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of the Report of the 17th CoP

10:30 – 10:45 Coffee Break

Presentations:
- *Parties to the Agreement*
- *Observers*

12:45 Lunch break

- <u>Afternoon Session</u> (14:00 – 18:00)

Report of the Credentials Committee

Progress Report by the IAI Directorate:
- Activities and funding in 2010-2011;
- Annual Program for FY 2011-2012;
- Core Budget for FY 2011-2012;
- Country Contribution for 2011-2012
- Strategic Plan
- Centers for Global Change Research
- Directorate operation and location

Progress Report of the Executive Council: *EC Chair*
- Activities charged to the EC by the last CoP
- EC activities, actions, and decisions
- Issues brought forward from the 31st EC meeting
- Member country relations

- Host country relations

15:30 – 15:45 Coffee Break

Progress Report of the IAI Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) *SAC Chair*

Report of the Standing Committee for Rules and Procedures *Lou Brown*

Welcome reception

Thursday – 16 June 2011	Day 2

- <u>Morning Session</u> (09:00 – 12:00)

Scientific event "Global Changes in Regional Environments" - organized by the host

- <u>Afternoon Session</u> (14:00 – 18:00)

Approval of the Action List of day 1

Approval of the Core Budget for FY 2011-2012 and Country Contribution for 2011-2012

Approval of the other items forwarded from the 31th EC meeting

Review of CoP items for action by EC-32

Donor's session
- Country contributions to:
  - Program and Project Activities
  - Core Budget

03:30 – 03:45 Coffee Break

Adoption of Strategic Plan

Election of four SAC members

Other decisions arising

Future meetings and sites

Adjourn

Debriefing session – IAI CoP Bureau and the IAI Directorate

Meetings of Working Groups, as necessary

Participants at the meeting were:

CoP Country Representatives
- Argentina: Carlos Ereño, Sebastián Lucas Nicolino
- Brazil: Maria Virginia Alves
- Canada: Marjorie Shepherd
- Chile: Álvaro Castellón

- Colombia: Ricardo Lozano Picón
- Costa Rica: Marco Aurelio Peraza Salazar
- Cuba: Bertha Alasá Quintana
- Dominican Rep: William Fermín Gómez
- Guatemala: Luis Ricardo Álvarez Girón
- Paraguay: Fernando J. Mendez Gaona
- Peru: José Luis Gonzales Donayre
- United States: Paul Filmer, Maria Uhle, Lou Brown
- Uruguay: María Laura Fernández

SAC Members
Juan Valdes (Chair)

Observers
Armando Rabuffetti (Universidad de la Empresa, former IAI Director)
Lou Brown (APN)
Hernán Chiriboga (IICA)
Fabrizzio Zucchini (ECLAC)

IAI Directorate Staff
- Holm Tiessen (Director)
- Christopher Martius (Assistant Director for Science)
- Marcella Ohira (Assistant Director for Capacity Building)
- Rafael Atmetlla (Assistant Director for Finance and Administration),
- Tania Sánchez (Executive Assistant to the IAI Director)
- Luciana Londe (Assistant to the Assistant Director: Capacity Building)
- Elvira Gentile
- Paula Richter

Local Support: Blanca Patricia Vazquez, Cristian Ramón Britez Osorio, Nelly Figueredo, Victor Ariel Ayala Rojas

1. Opening Session

The representative of Paraguay, Dr. Fernando Mendez Gaona welcomed all participants to the Conference of the Parties of the IAI.

2. Election of Bureau

The CoP elected the following members as the Bureau for its Eighteenth Meeting: Paul Filmer from the USA as the Chair, Fernando Mendez Gaona from Paraguay as the First Vice-Chair, and Maria Virginia Alves from Brazil as the Second Vice-Chair.

(Action 1)

3. Approval of the Agenda

The CoP approved the agenda of its Eighteenth Meeting with two modifications: presentations of Argentina and the observer from ECLAC will be made in the afternoon session of day 1.

(Action 3)

4. Approval of the Report of the 17th CoP

The CoP approved the report of its Seventeenth Meeting without modifications. *(Action 4)*

5. Credentials Committee

The CoP elected the new members of the Credentials Committee: Colombia, Costa Rica and the USA. The committee in its composition is appointed for two years and the members are requested to serve in the period between meetings. *(Action 2)*

6. Presentations by member countries and observers

Argentina: An Area for the Environment and Sustainable Development has been created within the Ministry of Science and Technology to address issues related with sustainability, environmental protection, and science, technology and productive innovation policies. Its main task is to assist the minister in the decision making on environmental issues related to science and technology. The Ministry has signed an agreement with UNEP to provide funding for consultation on climate change issues. Priority was given to the development of technologies to optimize the use of nitrogen in agriculture and animal production, heat and electric power co-generation in small and medium industries, observing and measuring climate variables, use of urban, agriculture, and industrial waste for energy, improvement in transportation of agricultural and livestock products and urban waste. Steps are being taken to implement a sectoral fund aimed at funding technological development projects that will include adaptation to and mitigation of climate change and a sectoral fund for renewable energies. The two science funding agencies, ANPCyT and CONICET are funding numerous research projects related with the environment, climate change and all natural sciences. In the social sciences projects are funded on climate change mitigation and adaptation. Training activities are also being supported. A meeting was held in March this year, convened by the Ministry of Science and Technology and the IAI. Participants at the event were diplomatic representations of IAI member countries, the IAI Director and the Assistant Director for Science and representatives from the Ministry of Science and Technology and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. During the meeting IAI researchers showed the achievements of IAI funded projects.

Sebastian Nicolino from the Embassy of Argentina in Paraguay spoke on behalf the Ambassador who was unable to attend the meeting. In recent years, the country has shown great commitment with the science. Last week Argentina has launched the fourth satellite for scientific research with the collaboration of INPE, NASA and other agencies. To Argentina it is important that the IAI can be hosted in the Scientific and Technological Center that is being built in Buenos Aires.

Brazil: In 2009, the country established the National Climate Change Plan, and a Climate Change Act. An Executive Order was released in December 2010 setting ambitious targets for GHG emission cuts by 2020, placing the country in the forefront of countries effectively committed to climate change mitigation. Furthermore the climate change act established a national climate change fund as a mechanism for implementation of mitigation and adaptation policies and for funding the generation of new knowledge. The country has several virtual institutes devoted to spatial research, chemistry, and nanotechnology. INPE is responsible for the coordination of the virtual center for climate change.

Canada: The federal government has given priority to adaptation to climate change. An adaptation policy framework was approved for mainstreaming decision-making to reduce vulnerabilities to climate change impacts. Canada has continued its efforts in global and regional

climate modeling, including the development of an Earth system model, which now includes cryospheric processes and carbon cycle. This forms the basis for further developments of regional climate change models. Currently we have targeted the domains of North America, the Arctic Polar region and Africa for detailed downscaling studies. We also have a very strong program looking at downscaling and scenarios, which is supporting regional to local scale decision-making. One of the challenges of model downscaling is improved understanding of terrestrial ecosystem processes and their linkage with the atmosphere. It is becoming increasingly clear that climate change has other impacts; we continued monitoring and researching persistent organic pollutants such as those coming from the use of pesticides, their relation with increasing temperatures, and reemission of these from open water and terrestrial surfaces. We recognize the increasing need to understand sector-specific information. There has been a focus on the agricultural sector with the development of agro-climatic indices for temperature and precipitation. We have seen clear changes in these trends over the last 50 and 100 years. That has implications for crop selection in terms of crop hardiness and the ability to grow these species in a changing climate. Work with Health Canada and municipal public health agencies has also led to improvements in air quality forecasting and the air quality health index program, which allows the public not only to understand the impacts of these but to take steps to avoid their own exposure. Recently we have seen the success of our research programs judged by the action that society takes to adapt to climate change and increase the resiliency or reduce vulnerability. We find that there is a limited and variable ability in the sectors to understand climate change and its potential impacts and therefore use the information that we provide on future climates to ensure that resiliency. Building on the statement that was made by Canada last year, which encouraged the IAI to translate excellent science to the use of those making decisions, now adds the necessity of increasing the literacy of that decision making community so that they understand the tools and data that science is able to provide to them, and focus on that aspect of capacity building, as well as the translation of science for that community.

Chile: no presentation.

Colombia: Great support was given to the IAI in organizing the informal meeting during the UNFCCC meetings in Cancun. That event was very complicated because of the distance between the many meeting venues. However, such exercises are crucial to the IAI, for member countries to have up to date information on climate change in the region. It is also important that other countries know the IAI and its research and capacity building efforts. The representative suggested that the IAI continue in the process of increasing the visibility of the IAI, maybe in South Africa by the end of this year. A workshop was held in Colombia organized by IDEAM, which was very successful in promoting the IAI, and integrating the Colombian scientific community and academic institutions, as well as public and private organizations. In Colombia, climate change is related with development because of events such as La Niña of this year, which caused damages that exceeded the capacity of the government to assist in the social, economic and environmental emergency. Floods have destroyed almost 80% of the road structure. Almost 90% of the country has been affected. Rainfalls were greater than the historical records ever; it rained more than 5 times the annual rainfall. More than 3.5 million people were affected and more than 500 died. The country has now a new risk scenario. The NOAA and other scientific institutions have considered this La Niña event the most extreme in the history of climatology. Climate variability is becoming more extreme. The first half of 2010 was so dry that many municipalities ran out of water, and one month later they were under water. Adaptation measures became very urgent and an adaptation fund was created to face these new situations. The country needs to be rebuilt, but now based on ecosystem, climate and hydrological up-to-date information. Countries in the region need to speed up river modeling efforts to improve knowledge on flow dynamics and move forward the research on El Niño and La Niña. More regional collaboration is necessary with other institutions such a CIIFEN. Workshops on extremes through the IAI would be desirable. Colombia was the first country in the region to inform on the onset of La Niña, and IDEAM sent early warnings. Unfortunately, the measures taken were not sufficient because the impact was too strong. Downscaling also needs to be enhanced, so to know exactly what will happen locally and be able to help marginal populations.

Costa Rica: The country has long tradition in environmental efforts. The National Development Plan was put in place some years ago to strengthen the capacities to cope with climate change. An Office for Climate Change has been established within the Ministry of Environment, Energy and Technology. Costa Rica maintains its commitment to be Carbon Neutral by 2021. An interdisciplinary group of experts was established to draft the necessary regulations to achieve this goal. An economic study was made of the potential mitigation measures in the major productive sectors, and priorities were set for those measures. Studies were carried out for adaptation measures in biodiversity and water resources. Another study is under way on vulnerability and adaptation of the hydrologic system at the national level, aimed at improving the response to hydrometeorological events, given that similarly to what happens in Colombia the country has suffered many winter rainfall excess events. A project on the analysis of carbon stored in the forests is ongoing. The quality of fuels has been improved, as a measure to reduce atmospheric pollutants. Alternative energy generation is being explored and implemented such as hydropower, wind or gases from volcanoes.

Dominican Republic: This island country is located on the path of hurricanes and has been always subject to climate changes and extreme events. As from 2000, when the Ministry of the Environment was established, the government began to take measures to avoid air pollution from cars. Two communications were submitted to the UNFCCC, the second of which studied the tourism industry, which is one of the most affected by climate change as well as the country's major source of income. Agriculture is also crucial, since it produces 80% of the food consumed in the Dominican Republic. Therefore, floods are a great problem. Other issues to be addressed are soil erosion, biodiversity, as well as vector-borne diseases after floods and the forestry sector. The country will receive 4 mln USD for reducing emissions as the UN has recognized the project on biogas of the Duquesa waste disposal site. These are new benefits, resulting from the increasing awareness of global change and its effects. International training is crucial for the country. Rising sea level will transform the peninsula of Samana in an island. This implies a large loss of territory in an increasingly densely populated country. Regulations have been put in place to control GHG emissions to the atmosphere. Since 2000, companies have to report on their emissions to the Ministry of the Environment.

Guatemala is very pleased to participate in these IAI meetings, and hopes it will be able to maintain active participation. Guatemala established a National Plan for Science, Technology and Innovation, for 2005-2014. In the framework of this plan, a climate change policy was approved at the end of 2010. This policy is a basis for improving understanding of climate change in an integrated fashion, which includes capacity building, training, research, innovation as well as knowledge and technology transfer. As stated at the UNFCCC CoP XVI, Guatemala is one of the 10 most vulnerable countries in the world. Water and climate change offices were established at the highest level (ministries and secretaries of State as well as related institutions). Environmental issues are trying to be addressed from the education side, starting from primary school.

Paraguay: Several activities were carried out in 2010 and 2011 with the support of the IAI. A scientist of the School of Natural and Exact Sciences of the University of Asuncion participated in the IAI-INPE internship program. She developed her work on climate in Paraguay from October 2010 to March 2011. An IAI training institute on land use changes, water and food security in the La Plata Basin was held in Asuncion in April 2011, participants came from several IAI member countries. In the framework of the TI, a Science Forum was held with over 300 participants. The TI was declared of national interest by the President of Paraguay and of Municipal interest by the major of Asuncion. This highlights the importance that policymakers are giving to global change research and training activities in the country. The University now participates in a national program on water and air quality and is member of the National Climate Change Commission. The Senate has a National Committee for Natural Resources where the University also participates. All these are outcomes of the TI that was held in April.

Peru: no presentation.

Uruguay: It is very important for Uruguay to reengage in the IAI. The Government has explicitly expressed its interest in the Institute through the Minister of the Environment. A Committee has been established to address adaptation and impacts of climate change. It is chaired by the Minister of the Environment and aims at articulating the activities of the academia, policy makers and funding agencies. Simultaneously, a National Plan for Science, Technology and Innovation has been put in place to address issues of natural resources, clean energies and adaptation to climate change. The National Plan is carried out at the highest government level. The government has made available funds to address these multilateral initiatives, as well as national projects. The National Agency for Research and Innovation is a funding agency for scientific and innovation research projects and synergies between them. The Agency is also in charge of sustaining the National Scholarship Program, whose priority areas include capacity building in climate change and the National Researchers System. The country now has access to international peer reviewed journals.

USA provided examples on global change research and potential opportunities for collaboration. The NSF is developing the Science, Engineering and Education for Sustainability (SSES), which looks at supporting basic research at the nexus of environment, energy and economy. PIRE (Partnerships for International Research and Education) is a new program whose goal is to support high quality research and education projects where international collaboration enables key advances that neither partner could accomplish alone. The next solicitation will be available in August/September, and will have a SEES focus. IAI is one of the contributing partners. With the support of other US agencies such as the Department of Energy, the NSF through its office of International Science and Engineering has supported several Pan American Advanced Studies Institutes (PASIS) in Panama, Argentina, Costa Rica and Ecuador, ranging a wide variety of subjects. A workshop was held in Costa Rica in conjunction with USAID on Geophysical hazards and plate boundary processes in Central America, Mexico and the Caribbean. It focused on strengthening the regional infrastructure and science community for seismological research; and generating products with immediate regional societal benefits. The US has been working with SERVIR, a program on Earth observations that helps develop predictive models for timely decision-making. Institutions involved are NASA, CATHALAC, among others. NASA and USAID have just signed a MoU for five years to continue supporting this program. A MOU between the U.S. Department of Energy and the National Energy Commission of the Republic of Chile is founded on the shared interest in developing energy efficiency and clean, sustainable and renewable energy sources. Technical areas of cooperation include solar energy; tidal and wave energy; energy efficiency; microalgae; biomass; wind energy; and biofuels. There is a conglomeration of US federal agencies which participate in the US global change research program (USGCRP). The USGCRP is developing a new strategic plan to be delivered in December 2011 that will give an end-to-end approach for the program to provide science for informed policy decisions in global change issues, similar to the IAI. The US is heavily involved in a new effort to coordinate more efficiently the international research of global environmental change. In 2009, a group of IGFA countries met in Belmont, Maryland, with the idea to reinvigorate IGFA. ICSU, ISSC, Belmont and IGFA combined their efforts to develop an initiative to deliver research to mitigate and adapt to detrimental environmental change and extreme hazardous events with emphasis on advanced observing systems; regional and decadal analysis and prediction, focused on sustainability with an end-to-end approach. This will be a new international structure that will include service providers and user communities; natural, social and economic systems research. The IAI is also involved.

APN supports global change research of regional importance, strengthens interactions among scientists and policy-makers, and provides scientific input to policy decision-making and scientific knowledge to the public, improves the scientific and technical capabilities of nations in the region, including the transfer of know-how and technology; cooperates with other global change networks and organizations. One of APN projects consists of organizing science-policy workshops in the Pacific island states to increase awareness of policy makers of the very unique set of global and climate change vulnerabilities of those countries. The second one is in South Asia (Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and India), where home gardens are a major source of food and food security, and where the impact of climate change is critical. This project aims at documenting the key

characteristics of home garden systems covering major climatic zones; establishing patterns of climate change and their indicators over a period of 50 years; and developing a bio-economic model to identify the contribution of climate change on the status of food security. The third project, in NE of the Asia-Pacific region (China, Mongolia and Russia), uses an integrated model which has become increasingly important particularly for the assessment of water and food security. This model provides an efficient tool for stakeholders by integrating baseline climate, climate change scenarios and relevant environment, socio-economic data, with a series of impact models, and graphic user interface. The fourth project is on strengthening capacity for research on policy related to the interactions between climate change, agriculture and water. The key objective is to develop a system of information flow and exchange between scientists, policy makers and the public, so that the two latter can learn about those interactions. The APN is in the process of finishing a detailed and complex climate synthesis in some specific areas of interest. It is now trying to facilitate communications between research modelers and policy makers, using integrated assessment models. These models have become a way to exchange information between researchers and policy makers and provide them with support throughout the process of vulnerability assessment to adaptation strategies.

Lessons learnt: Many of the scientists that the APN supports remain active in the science for many years, but the government officials and the policy makers with whom scientists are trying to communicate turnover so quickly that it is necessary for the scientists start the process of communication repeatedly. Another problem are acronyms, which make communication very difficult. Projects need to be real, relevant, and regional, but with the involvement of scientists, the public and policy makers at the local level. Networks and trust are vital. Confidence can be built by finding 'win/win' solutions. Building trust takes time – need to meet for at least a week for this to happen. There is a real need to strengthen interactions among scientists and policy- and decision makers, as well as communicating scientific knowledge to civil society.

IICA was created 67 years ago, and has been present in Paraguay for 50 years. IICA focuses on technical collaboration in agriculture and stockbreeding. A new mid-term plan has been drafted which modifies the approach of the Institute to a more comprehensive view. A hemispheric program on natural resources and climate change has been established. This is an important step because all the projects in which IICA is involved and that provide support to the ministries of agriculture, as well as to large, medium and small producers, will include environmental impact studies and hopefully be carbon neutral. The strength of IICA also resides in the fact that they have offices in the 34 OAS member states, which provide horizontal technical collaboration, sharing information on successful projects in different countries. IICA has a network of decision makers and organizes meetings of young leaders in the sector.

7. Report of the Committee for the recommendation of SAC candidates

The SAC has identified its needs and a set of guidelines for the CoP when electing SAC members.

In 2009, a subset of SAC members tried to define the criteria that the SAC considered useful for the election of new members.

1) Scientific excellence (e.g., proven record of publications)
2) Geographic balance
3) Gender balance
4) Ability in interdisciplinary research

Priority areas

1) physical oceanography
2) climate and ecosystems
3) climate change policy and human dimensions
4) integration and modeling

SAC members are elected for three-year terms and may be reappointed for a second term.

- Walter Baethgen and Frank Müller Karger are finishing their first terms and nominated for a second term. Their areas of expertise are policy and human dimensions and physical oceanography, respectively.
- Telma Castro and Luis Jose Mata are finishing their second terms, so they cannot be reelected.
- Silvio Pantoja and Claudia Natenzon were elected at the last CoP.
- Hal Mooney was appointed in 2007 and will end his second term in 2013, as well as Ramon Pichs and Carolina Vera.
- The Chair, Juan Valdes will finish his second term in 2012.

Four vacancies have to be filled on the SAC, three to be filled from SAC nominations and one from nominations of the Parties.

The committee to recommend SAC candidates was established at EC 31, and its members are Brazil, Canada, USA and the SAC Chair.

Based on the nominations received for this year and the pool of nominations of last year, the committee recommends the following:

From SAC nominations: Walter Baethgen, Frank Müller Karger and Rodolfo Dirzo.

From CoP nominations: Don Maciver, Jose Marengo and Dirk Thielen.

8. Report of the Credentials Committee

The Credentials Committee informed the CoP that thirteen delegations had submitted the official credentials to participate in the meeting: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Paraguay, Peru, the United States and Uruguay. Required number of accredited Parties to constitute quorum is nine.

(Action 5)

9. Progress report of the IAI Directorate

9.1 Science and Capacity Building

Currently IAI programs are mainly funded by US NSF. Ending programs are the CRN 2 with a total investment of about 11 million dollars and the SGP-HD. Additional funding leveraged by CRN projects is about 30 million dollars. The implementation of the CRN projects showed that the human dimensions and social sciences were underrepresented, so the SGP-HD was launch to complement them. The entire science program of the IAI is coming to an end in the next 12 months, and all programs will be renewed. A proposal for a CRN 3 has been submitted to NSF, and the review has been generally positive. The approval is pending the resolution of some of the administrative difficulties of the IAI headquarters. A proposal has also been submitted for a Small Grants Program aimed particularly at the most innovative aspects of existing projects. This will help avoid losing the value of the networks established across the continent. Funding for these projects will be for three years, which will give them an opportunity to interact with new CRNs. Twelve of the 19 projects have been successful in obtaining funding for the best aspects of their current research.

Active NSF-funded programs CRN & SGP-HD involve
18 countries (all member countries except Panama)
130 institutions
229 investigators

342 student scholarships
603 students in research
1581 students in courses and workshops (not counting the Capacity Building program of the IAI)

Over the last 3-4 years, the Directorate itself has taken on three projects to lead:

- Landuse change and hydrology in the La Plata Basin, IDRC-funded (CA$ 400,000) concluded in May 2011
- Assessment of research and institutional needs to cope with the effects of climate change on Andean biodiversity, MacArthur-funded (US$ 500,000) concluded in March 2010
- Impacts of climate change on biodiversity in the tropical Andes: climate-related risk, vulnerability, and decision making tools for conservation planning, MacArthur-funded (US$ 500, 000) initiated May 2011

The first one looks at the interface between climate change and hydrology in the La Plata Basin (LPB), with the participation of Uruguay, Brazil, Paraguay and Argentina with some participation of Bolivia. This project has had great impact principally because it had as its resource the existing CRN and social science projects. It was able to reevaluate some of the science in the context of development issues and an economic analysis of land management.

The second project provided an assessment of the current knowledge of biodiversity and climate change, as well as of the institutional capacity of Andean member countries to conduct research on these topics in the tropical Andes. The project has been concluded, a scientific book has been produced that is available free of charge in pdf format on the IAI website. A Spanish version of that book will be printed later this year and distributed upon request.

As a result of this assessment, the MacArthur Foundation has given additional funds to the IAI to apply the findings of the assessment in hands-on research. Two project components will examine environmental gradients in the Andean region looking at biodiversity patterns as they relate to climate change in Bolivia-Peru and Ecuador-Colombia. This project has just been initiated and contracts were signed last week.

The IDRC funded project has generated maps on land use and land use changes in the LPB, by unifying very different reservoirs of information kept by different governments in different formats. These maps are important because they bring the resources of the LPB together and provide unified information that is valid across boundaries. One interesting observation in the LPB project was the link of groundwater and flooding. Under a rotation of soybean and wheat groundwater levels have come up to 2-2.5 m (under pastures, they were at 5 m). When groundwater levels are too close to the surface, plants stop transpiring and water accumulates even more. In the LPB of Argentina very significant flooding was observed from groundwater. In some municipalities, this has reduced productive areas by up to 40-50%.

The lesson from the integration across the science programs and the development of programs in the IAI is that the region is facing a critical transition from managing production units for optimized production, to managing landscapes for ecosystem services, water provision and drainage services. We need to integrate those two objectives. The straightforward production losses that are incurred when a municipality uses 40% of its productive surface, means that producers have to find a way to come together and manage landscapes beyond the boundaries of the individual production units.

The IDRC project was also aimed at addressing biofuels. It has now become quite clear that whether production is for biofuels or soybean for export to the Chinese market it makes no difference to the landuse patterns in any of the countries of LPB, as production entirely depends on the international market. Concentrating on biofuels as such is irrelevant and this is one of the critical results of this research.

The Andean biodiversity project has produced some summaries for decision makers, particularly condensed down to the knowledge they need. These have been accompanied by more detailed topical presentations on biodiversity effects and the use of indicators, highlighting which of them might be useful for decision makers to monitor the effects of climate change on biodiversity. The institutional evaluation looks at which institutions are available in the region, what is their capacity to tackle different scientific themes and how they may be integrated with decision making and policy bodies. This institutional assessment has been done for each of the participating countries (Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador and Colombia) and a regional synthesis has been provided. All this material is available both in hard copies and on the IAI website for free download.

The idea of the human dimensions program and the CRN integration was to alert natural scientists to the relevance of their research for society and at the same time provide scientifically valid evaluations of social and economic impacts. A natural science project on hurricanes was integrated with a human dimensions project in Mexico and the Caribbean. The projects quickly found out that in terms of prediction for civil defense preparedness as well as for the crucial role that cyclones play in the recharge of regional water systems, it was important to integrate a human dimensions analysis with climate and weather analysis. This is one of the primary examples where the integration between natural and social sciences worked and it is now part of a new initiative of the IAI to establish a Center on Water Security for the American continent.

The social sciences provided new insight in terms of vulnerability analysis. We've heard from the Dominican Republic that vulnerability to weather systems and to hurricanes is a very major concern in the region. When we gain resolution in rainfall measurements, we realize that there is a very small probability but a very critical percentage of variability where rainfall can suddenly exceed hugely what landscapes and civil defense mechanisms can handle. This is why more detailed climate observations are needed.

One of the successes of IAI science outputs was a recent decision by a Brazilian Federal Court to revoke a law by the State of Minas Gerais, which had removed large areas of dry forests in the state from protection. The project, that was led by a Canadian team with Brazilian collaborators classified the dry forests in the region of Minas Gerais and provided information to the federal court, which decided that these dry forests arguably are an extension of the Mata Atlantica. This biome is protected under Brazilian Federal Law, federal law has precedence over provincial law, consequently, dry forests are now protected in Minas Gerais.

Another ecosystem-based project led by an Argentinean team was asked by the province of Cordoba to provide evidence on the need for protection of Chaco dry forests in that province. They provided evidence on the value associated with ecosystem services and biodiversity. The provincial Parliament decided not to protect degraded forests. Only primary forests are protected. Since the Chaco has been used for generations, the unprotected area is very large.

Nevertheless, the combination of those projects has pointed to a lack of understanding of the protection of dry ecosystems on the continent. For many years there has been emphasis on rainforests and wet ecosystems. Dry ecosystems have largely been ignored. Even the protection of the forests in Minas Gerais, is not a victory in terms of developing concepts for dealing with very extensive dry ecosystems on the continent. It will be a task for the IAI to develop consensus and understanding that will reach from the sub-humid Cerrados in Brazil to very dry regions of the Chaco and drier parts of Central America.

Initiatives of the IAI in the context of the UNFCCC, include a submission to the SBSTA 2010 highlighting the need of carbon and organic matter recycling to maintain the quality of soils and productivity of agricultural systems, rather using all residues for cheap energy production, based on cellulosic fermentation. The submission of this year addressed the physical radiation effects (albedo and surface roughness) of land use change, which can aggravate the more commonly discussed climate effects of land use change (related to CO_2 emissions). Substantial changes in rainfall patterns are observed throughout the LPB, impacts on river flow in reforested or afforested regions, for instance in Uruguay where one of the projects is based. These effects are

regionally much more important than the global CO_2 mediated effects. The cumulative effects are affecting climate or weather even in Antarctica. Understanding climate-land-surface and climate-ocean interactions on the continent that go beyond the downscaling of GCMs, and of climate systems and vulnerability assessments needs a fundamentally new approach, that combines upscalling of local and regional effects with the downscaling of global circulation models to come to a closer understanding of what drives climate change and variability on the continent.

The IAI held three Training Institutes over the past year:

- Applications of seasonal climate predictions (August, 2010, Buenos Aires, Argentina) looked at the utility of climate predictions to the agriculture or health sectors, to vulnerability analyses.
- Urban Responses to Climate Change: Politics, Strategies and Instruments (November, 2010, Santiago, Chile), organized jointly with ECLAC.
- Land Use Change and Water and Food Security in the La Plata Basin, (TI & Policy Forum, April, 2011, Asuncion, Paraguay).

These three TIs addressed applications, responses and water and food security, which are applications of science. We have heard that APN is making similar efforts in their region. Our science is mature enough to address policy concerns. This is an indication as to how responsive the IAI can be, as it has networks across the continent through which it can address almost any problem.

As a result of the quality of the training institutes, this year the IAI had

- 300 applications
- 110 participants
- 54 speakers (because of the high quality of material presented, many of the speakers are also listeners)
- 19 countries
- 370 attendees to the policy forum in Asuncion. This is why the president of the country and the major of Asuncion designated this institute as of national and municipal interest respectively.

Links are increasingly established between research and training. One of the CRNs has analyzed the coastal vulnerability due to sea level rise in the US and the Caribbean. The urban training institute has integrated something very similar where urban vulnerability to flooding in Argentina was evaluated by linking both census information and climatic and geographic information. The IAI continues working with the teams created at the training institute to strengthen the link between people doing vulnerability assessments and the science output that we are providing.

A new training proposal has been submitted to NSF:

- Climate and Public Health (with IRI and the Min. Health of Uruguay, November, 2011, Montevideo, Uruguay)
- IAI-NCAR Colloquia for Knowledge Integration at the Science-Policy Interface (2012 & 2013)
- Modeling tools for complex human/natural systems (with Universities of Buenos Aires, Miami and Illinois-Chicago)
- Economics of water resources under climate change (with CAZALAC, PUC-Chile and the Center for Water Security - University of Arizona Universities Baja California, Concepcion and La Serena, Chile)

The Assistant Director for Capacity Building related the request of Canada for increasing literacy of policy makers with the first of the capacity building activities planned for this year in Uruguay, which will address some of the scientific and policy relevance priorities that have been identified by member countries. It will respond to a request of the Ministries of Health of MERCOSUR countries that was forwarded by the International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI). The overall goal is to work together with experts of the climate and health sectors and provide

scientific knowledge and hands-on exercises on the use of climate information for better understanding, predicting and monitoring the effects of climate on health.

IAI-INPE/CPTEC Research Internship Program: 5 scientists participated in 2007-2010 (Argentina, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Paraguay). They spent from 6 months to one year at INPE, and were supervised by INPE staff. The program was renewed for 2011-2014, and already 3 scientists (Argentina, Colombia and Peru) have been selected in 2011.

The CoP approved the Annual Program for FY 2011-2012. *Action 10*

9.2 Core Budget & Country Contribution for FY 2010-2011

The Director informed that the total of not received contributions is one million dollars (mainly accumulated over the last 15 years), much better than the situation of last year. The Director is extremely encouraged by the signals sent by some of the smaller member countries, Paraguay, Bolivia, Ecuador, Peru, Colombia, Uruguay and Guatemala. Country involvement is about both money contributions and participating in the decision making process. There is a group of countries that maintain participation along the years: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, USA. The only negative signal that the IAI is getting is Venezuela (long standing problems between ministries representing the country at the IAI) and Mexico (internal problems). Half of the outstanding funds is due to missing contributions from these two countries. The IAI has been able to rebuild part of its financial buffer.

Directorate operation
staffing:
- 2nd executive assistant left in 2 years
current one is part-time, (EC-CoP help is "borrowed")
- professional accountant is a "secretary"
- one assistant was hired at $ 750 pm
- one PhD - level assistant receives a salary that allows only half time work
- payments are late, unemployment reserves have been spent, errors common
- IT assistant left and cannot be replaced

taxes:
- the Brazilian assistant director has lowest base pay and highest payroll cost
- tax bureaucracy no longer accepts IAI declaration but penalizes Brazilian staff for mismatched declarations
- São Paulo levied road tax on exempt vehicles and threatened IAI account closures over 1.5 years while other consular vehicles were impounded

The IAI works because of the dedication of its staff. When joined the IAI, everybody has gone through a tremendous learning curve to cope with the many challenges that this staff has to face. That needs a level of personal commitment that is seriously undermined by instabilities, disputes over salaries, taxes, continuity, and so on. After seven years, it is time to find a solution either with the government of Brazil or with other member countries.

Colombia: What is the current financial situation of the IAI? Last year we heard that there were no funds to pay staff salaries. Has this been solved? Is there anything that member countries can do to help?

Director: The crisis is over. We have a consolidated budget. Operational costs are covered, and additional US funds have been received for the synthesis of the science programs. We cannot say we are comfortable, mainly because the contribution of Mexico is about 10% of the budget

and they are not paying. We need the help of member countries to have Mexico and Venezuela reengaged in the IAI.

CoP Chair: The EC recommends for approval the Core Budget Request; the level of country contributions both for FY 2011-2012, and the Financial Statements of FY 2010-2011. It has also accepted the Auditor's report for the years ended June 30, 2009 and 2010. These documents had been analyzed by the FAC.

The CoP approved the Core Budget Request for FY 2011-2012. *Action 6*

The CoP approved the level of Country Contributions for FY 2011-2012. *Action 7*

The CoP accepted the Auditor's report for the years ended June 30, 2009 and 2010. *Action 8*

The CoP approved the Financial Statements of FY 2010-2011. *Action 9*

The Cop requested that countries willing to participate in the Financial and Administrative Committee (FAC) contact the EC chair. It is desirable that members have experience with financial and budgetary issues. The cost of participation of members in FAC meetings is at the expense of the member's country. *Action 11*

9.3 Centers for Global Change Research

There are several CRN2 and SGP-HD projects that in one form or another have water as part of their research programs (water scarcity, water-climate links, water distribution, industrial and agriculture water use, river runoff in the Andes, and its distribution, water availability and water rights). Chile has just transitioned from water allocations based on minimum flow requirements in rivers to a water allocation based on minimum ecological flow requirements in rivers. There are transitions in all our member countries in terms of balancing the ecosystem services and the human requirements of water and at the same time trying to cope with increasing variability of water availability in the region.

Within that consortium of projects, the University of Arizona stood out because of its extensive international collaboration with Mexico and other countries, intensive interaction with non academic institutions that are in charge of real life water distribution issues, such as municipalities and water authorities. It therefore fit the mandate of the IAI to provide excellent science for informed decision-making in an exemplary way. The Director suggested to the University of Arizona to consider helping the IAI in the synthesis of the projects and to act as a nucleus for water related research and information exchange for the future. Another project on water was based at the Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile stood out in its performance because of the integration of natural sciences, social sciences, economics and outreach. The two universities agreed to collaborate in establishing a center of excellence.

As a result, the IAI has initiated a program Aquasec (water in the dry regions) that deals with water security across the continent. This Center will be led by the University of Arizona and the Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile and will provide help to existing and future IAI programs on the theme of water and integrated efforts (postdoctoral fellowships, additional research, linking institutions). We have already seen the establishment of close collaboration between Mexican

Water Authorities and the Ministry of Public Works of Chile in this context. The Agreement Establishing the IAI already foresaw the establishment of Research Centers across the continent, but none has ever been created. This center is an opportunity to promote that idea, and it grew from IAI research programs. Aquasec will be self-funding. Participants in the center have made applications for funding to various funding agencies. The center will bring these different funds together and offer to outside funding agencies the access to the huge networking expertise and convening power that the IAI can provide across the continent.

The IAI brings to the center its own networks, its science information and the center can use that as collateral to find additional funding. It seems that the governments of both universities will support the initiative, particularly upon endorsement by the CoP of the IAI. This center will act as a resource to all IAI member countries and projects that are concerned with water security. We are in the process of establishing the web page, the office of contact. The information will be distributed to all member countries.

The Director asked the CoP to endorse this initiative. There is absolutely no limitation as to where these centers will be based. The Agreement Establishing the IAI simply foresees Research Centers spread around the continent, without specifying what kind of institutions they will be. The science, networking and institutional linkages in the IAI have matured enough that ideas for centers can be followed up and have the countries more actively participating in shaping and broadening the base for IAI science.

Canada expressed an interest for a center for climate modeling, with the aim to develop a model for Latin America. In Latin America, a counterpart of importance would be INPE/CPTEC with its climate modeling abilities and with the internship program that the IAI has. Basically, the centers establish themselves through a political and scientific will and through proven excellence in science, interdisciplinarity and outreach.

Canada: At the moment the thinking is more conceptional than concrete, recognizing that facilitating access to regional scale climate model outputs for the Americas could be a useful tool both in terms of capacity building and literacy efforts. This is a priority in Canada, where some work has been done with stakeholders in developing these tools.

The CoP recognizes that the establishment of Centers of Excellence for Global Change Research is the fruit of the scientific efforts supported in the framework of IAI CRN and SGP-HD programs and endorses the establishment of the virtual Center for Water Security at University of Arizona and Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile.

Action 18

10. Report of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC)

The SAC used to meet twice a year. However, due to the financial problems of the IAI in the past year and a half, the last meeting in person was held in Montevideo in June 2009. There are several members of the SAC who have not participated in a SAC meeting. The SAC held two teleconferences in January and November 2010. The first one was mainly to discuss the financial situation of the IAI and find ways to help find a solution to the problem. The second one was devoted to SAC issues. However, technical difficulties resulting from maintaining a conference call with ten members from different countries, did not allow making much progress.

The next SAC meeting was planned for May 2011 in Concepcion, Chile, but since some of the members would not be able to attend, the meeting was postponed for 12-13 July, in Santiago at the headquarters of ECLAC. The SAC should act as a group, and this can be achieved only if face-to-face meetings are held on a regular basis. The synthesis of CRN 2 and activities of CRN 3 will require interactions that will require in person meetings.

11. Progress Report of the Executive Council

11.1 Issues brought forward from the 31st EC meeting

The EC Chair informed that a strategic plan has been drafted for the IAI, with the active collaboration of the SAC and the EC. The EC recommends that the CoP approve this Strategic Plan.

A Committee was created to recommend candidates for the election of SAC members, and will inform on their recommendation.

The EC recommends the approval of the Core Budget and the level of country contributions for FY 2011/2012, Financial Report and the Financial Statements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011.

The EC received the Auditor's Report for the years ended June 30, 2009 and 2010 and forwards it to the CoP.

11.2 Member Country relations

The Director has mentioned that participation of member countries is stronger. The EC Chair highlighted the participation of Guatemala, the Dominican Republic, and Paraguay which is hosting the EC meetings and the CoP, Peru, Costa Rica, Uruguay. Unfortunately, Mexico, Venezuela, Panama and Jamaica are not participating in the IAI.

11.3 Host Country relations

The Director in his report to the CoP has described some of the issues that have made operation of the Directorate difficult. The EC Chair thanked for the efforts of INPE and some people in the Ministry of Science and Technology to try to solve the problems. However, the moment has come to ask member countries for offers to host the Directorate. The EC Bureau sent two letters asking for such offers and specifying the needs of the Directorate. During its 31st meeting, the EC discussed the process for the selection of a host country. The following was agreed:

- Formal proposals will be received up to October 15, 2011.
- The EC discussed issues of format, content and evaluation criteria
- The EC suggests that the CoP establish and ad hoc committee to serve during the period of proposal preparation. Information provided by the committee to any member country will be circulated to all member countries.
- Parties on the ad hoc committee that after October 15 have conflicts of interests (because they are evaluators and submitting offers) will be replaced. The EC requests that the CoP consider nominating alternate members for this committee, when it switches function from advising to evaluating and recommending.
- The EC recommends that the evaluation phase last enough to allow for thorough analysis of the offers.
- The EC recommends that the CoP call a special meeting on 15 February 2012 or a date close to it. It is critical that this CoP make this decision by simple majority. If a special meeting is called beyond session two thirds of the member countries is required.
- By definition, the Special CoP will address only one issue, i.e., the selection of a host country for the Directorate.
- Documents have to be available one month prior to the special meeting.
- After the election of the host country, a period is foreseen for adjustments of the proposal. Negotiations are considered in the period before the submission of the final proposal.

Argentina has submitted a letter expressing interest in hosting the Directorate. Since presidential elections will be held in October 2011, it will be very difficult to have the full proposal submitted on October 15. Requested that the deadline be postponed 30 days.

CoP Chair: At the moment there are 120 days between the receipt of proposals and the special CoP meeting. If we want to maintain the 120 days, we would have to postpone the special meeting to mid March. We also have to consider that the period between the special meeting and the regular CoP, would then be 3 or 4 months.

The Director suggested that the deadline for proposals be moved for November 15, and that the deadline for evaluation by the committee be maintained on January 15, given that the majority of the committee will be familiar with the proposals and the negotiation process.

Brazil supports the proposal of the Director.

The CoP unanimously decided to call a special meeting in mid February 2012 to choose the host country for the Directorate. The USA volunteered to host this meeting. *Action 12*

Colombia: Supports the request of Argentina. It is very important to take maximum advantage of the period between the invitation for proposals and the deadline to make enough consultations and gathering of information. This will facilitate the work of the evaluating committee.

The CoP set the deadline for countries to receive full proposals to host the Directorate as 15 November 2011. *Action 13*

The CoP can establish ad hoc committees as needed. Although the EC, a subset of the CoP, can be considered and ad hoc committee, the efficiency of a group of 9 or more members has been discussed at EC31. The CoP has to decide about the establishment of a committee, its size and composition. In addition, the committee will have to be enabled to seek legal advice if necessary, so it can make well-founded decisions.

Brazil proposed that the CoP empower the EC to supervise the work of the ad hoc committee.

CoP Chair: It would be good to have some non-EC countries on the ad hoc committee.

Brazil: The CoP will select the host country at its special meeting. The committee will only review the proposals and make recommendations, similar to what is done for the election of SAC members. For operational reasons a smaller committee may be better.

Colombia: the difference in membership of the information and the evaluation committees would be mainly due to conflicts of interests. But countries not having conflict of interest may remain on the committee. Since we don't know how many countries will be submitting offers, we should almost as many alternates as regular members on the committee.

Canada and the *USA* informed that they would not submit a proposal.

Argentina: If the committee has 6 members and 1 or 2 leave, the committee will still have 5 members, which is enough.

The CoP established an ad hoc committee (Host Country Committee) to provide information and advice to countries willing to host the IAI Directorate. Members are Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Paraguay and the USA. This Committee will also evaluate the proposals received by November 15. In case of conflict of interest an alternate member will replace the country submitting a proposal. Alternate member is Guatemala and the committee may function with five members if necessary. The Committee will request legal advice for the evaluation of proposals if needed.

Action 14

CoP Chair: We have to draft the terms of reference for this committee. The EC can be charged with this task. The TOR should include the date for submission of report, the designation of a chair, the change in the function of the committee.

The CoP charged the EC with the drafting of the Terms of Reference for the Host Country Committee.

Action 15

12. Report of the Standing Committee for Rules and Procedures

No rule issues were referred to the SCRP between the last CoP and this one. The Chair of the committee provided advice to the Directorate on options that might be available to the CoP for selecting the future location of the Directorate. The Chair was also asked to prepare a summary of the rules of procedure as they apply to the election of SAC members. The summary is available to the Directorate and the CoP.

13. Adoption of Strategic Plan

The Strategic Plan is the result of the work of several groups, including the EC and the SAC along several years.

Dominican Republic: this document does not specify any actions or timeframe.

CoP Chair: Strategic plans for science are somewhat different from government strategic plans. However, it would be good to have a draft implementation plan and ideas for assessing the progress of the IAI, establishing some metrics to see how the IAI is meeting the goals set in the Strategic Plan for discussion at the next regular CoP.

USA: The document is broad and flexible enough to allow for IAI operations. It provides a general framework for IAI plans to accomplish in the future.

Paraguay: A strategic plan has a time framework (5, 10 years), and then an implementation plan and progress indicators.

CoP Chair: How to measure progress? This is something the IAI has to discuss.

Director: The fundamental reason for having the strategic plan as it has been presented is that the IAI itself does not have any activities, goals or anything that a detailed strategic plan may contain, unless it has financial support from other organizations. Proposals for financial support for science or capacity building programs are the ones including goals, activities, etc.. Therefore, a strategic plan for an organization as the IAI gives the overall direction and vision of the institution. The details of IAI activities depend on the funding received. The IAI

should not mix these. There has to be a document that will help decide where to look for funding, what collaborations to establish, how to organize the IAI. The next step will include the activities and other details.

CoP Chair: Maybe this has to be done gradually. We now have few but very different funding sources, and we adapt activities and goals to those funding sources. Maybe in the future, the IAI can have its own complete strategic plan with activities and goals and offer those to international funding organizations (e.g., IDB) for them to support it as it is.

Colombia: A strategic plan has to help identify funding needs, partners, activities, etc.

USA: Since much of the implementation is running out of the proposals that are being submitted to NSF, a lot of that can be then used for the implementation plan, which is going to provide goals, outcomes and metrics to measure success.

Costa Rica proposes to approve the document and start drafting the implementation plan and the metrics for progress assessment immediately.

Colombia and Brazil agreed with this.

Armando Rabuffetti (former IAI Director) reminds that the basis for the functioning of the IAI was its flexibility. Without this flexibility, the IAI would have not been able to adapt to the heterogeneity in science, finance and infrastructure of the member countries, and it would have had no successes.

Director: The SAC is an advisor of the CoP. They have to play a major role in the drafting of the implementation plan and the definition of progress metrics. How to measure the degree of successful integration of natural and social sciences for example? The Directorate has not been able to do this for the CRN-SGP-HD without the help of the SAC.

Colombia: The strategic plan misses the issue of gender, adaptation and climate change. This is a global requirement in adaptation issues.

CoP Chair: This is an important issue and it would be good to have it more visibly addressed in the IAI. Besides, the IAI has several living documents in which this issue can be included. The Strategic Plan as it has been just approved will be valid for one year. The next regular CoP will discuss the inclusion of the gender issue, the implementation plan, and the metrics for outcomes.

The CoP approved the Strategic Plan for one year. The issue of gender, adaptation and climate change need to be included in the document. Colombia will draft a paragraph and will present it at the next regular CoP for approval.

Action 16

The CoP requested an Implementation Plan that includes indicators and measures of progress its Strategic Plan for its consideration at the next regular CoP. The SAC must be part of this process.

Action 17

14. Review of CoP items for action by EC-32

The only item for action by EC-32 is the drafting of the Terms of Reference for the Host Country Committee. (Action 15)

15. Donor's session

USA: IAI program requests for several million dollars are under review and pending approval. The IAI has played a significant role in developing international collaboration within the Americas and serving as a model to other countries. The NSF is very happy with the performance of the Institute so far. The US will make national contribution to the core budget of the IAI available for the use of the IAI

Uruguay: The annual contribution of Uruguay is US$ 5000, and the due past contributions amount to US$ 60,000. We present a written proposal by the Ministry of the Environment to pay US$ 15,000 annually, 5,000 to cover the annual contribution and 10,000 to cover the debt in 6 installments.

Director: Yesterday, we have received a payment from Colombia for this year's contribution and all contributions in arrears.

16. Election of SAC Members

There has to be one ballot per Party enabled to vote. Each Party has to check exactly the number of vacancies to be filled. Following the rules, the election was made in two rounds, the first one to elect the member from nominations of the Parties (one vacancy, four candidates), and the second for members nominated by the SAC (three vacancies, three candidates).

CoP Chair: For many years the SAC has functioned with vacancies on it, which has been detrimental to the functioning of the committee. This is because we need a broad representation of scientific disciplines. In addition, the SAC has much work to do, so they need full membership. One of the vacancies is to be filled with nominations by IAI Associates. For many years the IAI has not had such associates, so the SAC requested that the vacancy be filled with other nominations. The rules were modified to provide the possibility of electing someone even when no nominations from the associates were available. There is also a possibility of a vacancy opening during terms of appointment. This could be considered the case of an election where not all vacancies are filled. In that case, the CoP can run an election with candidates nominated in previous years. Candidates should be informed that their candidatures would be viable for two years. Parties and the SAC are requested to present more nominations from different disciplines for SAC elections, particularly trying to address the needs on the SAC.

Director: The IAI has the mandate and the Director has received this repeatedly, to incorporate increasingly the human dimensions, the social and economic and health sciences into the program of the IAI. At the end of this election, four out of ten positions on the SAC are covered by the atmospheric and ocean sciences. There is only one person from the human dimensions. That makes my task to develop a cross-disciplinary, fully integrated program extremely difficult.

SCRP Chair: There is nothing in the rules that would prohibit the Conference of the Parties encouraging the Parties to submit nominations in particular areas or disciplines such as the ones identified.

The CoP elected the following members of the Scientific Advisory Committee: Jose Marengo (nominated by the Parties) and Walter Baethgen, Rodolfo Dirzo and Frank Müller Karger (nominated by the SAC). Tellers for the election were Argentina and Cuba.

Action 19

17. Future sites and meetings

The CoP accepted the offer of the USA to host the regular EC and CoP meetings in 2012. *Action 20*

18. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned on June 15, after having addressed all the items on the agenda. The Chair of the CoP thanked country delegations, the translators, the local support staff and the IAI Secretariat. He also thanked Paraguay for hosting the meetings and facilitating the work of the CoP.

Annex I – Action List

Eighteenth Conference of the Parties (CoP) of the IAI
Asuncion, Paraguay, 15-16 June 2011

Action List
Day 1: June 15

1. The CoP elected the following members as the Bureau for its Eighteenth Meeting: Paul Filmer from the USA as the Chair, Fernando Mendez Gaona from Paraguay as the First Vice-Chair, and Maria Virginia Alves from Brazil as the Second Vice-Chair.

2. The CoP elected the new members of the Credentials Committee: Colombia, Costa Rica and the USA. The committee in its composition is appointed for two years and the members are requested to serve in the period between meetings.

3. The CoP approved the agenda of its Eighteenth Meeting with two modifications: presentations of Argentina and the observer from ECLAC will be made in the afternoon session of day 1.

4. The CoP approved the report of its Seventeenth Meeting with no modifications.

5. The Credentials Committee informed the CoP that thirteen delegations had submitted the official credentials to participate in the meeting: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Paraguay, Peru, the United States and Uruguay. Required number of accredited Parties to constitute quorum is nine.

6. The CoP approved the Core Budget Request for FY 2011-2012.

7. The CoP approved the level of Country Contributions for FY 2011-2012.

8. The CoP accepted the Auditor's report for the years ended June 30, 2009 and 2010.

9. The CoP approved the Financial Statements of FY 2010-2011.

10. The CoP approved the Annual Program for FY 2011-2012.

11. The Cop requested that countries willing to participate in the Financial and Administrative Committee (FAC) contact the EC chair. It is desirable that members have experience with financial and budgetary issues. The cost of participation of members in FAC meetings is at the expense of the member's country.

12. The CoP unanimously decided to call a special meeting in mid February 2012 to choose the host country for the Directorate. The USA volunteered to host this meeting.

13. The CoP set the deadline for countries to receive full proposals to host the Directorate as 15 November 2011.

14. The CoP established an ad hoc committee (Host Country Committee) to provide information and advice to countries willing to host the IAI Directorate. Members are Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Paraguay and the USA. This Committee will also evaluate the proposals received by November 15. In case of conflict of interest an

alternate member will replace the country submitting a proposal. Alternate member is Guatemala and the committee may function with five members if necessary. The Committee will request legal advice for the evaluation of proposals if needed.

15. The CoP charged the EC with the drafting of the Terms of Reference for the Host Country Committee.

16. The CoP approved the Strategic Plan for one year. The issue of gender, adaptation and climate change need to be included in the document. Colombia will draft a paragraph and will present it at the next regular CoP for approval.

17. The CoP requested an Implementation Plan that includes indicators and measures of progress its Strategic Plan for its consideration at the next regular CoP. The SAC must be part of this process.

18. The CoP recognizes that the establishment of Centers of Excellence for Global Change Research is the fruit of the scientific efforts supported in the framework of IAI CRN and SGP-HD programs and endorses the establishment of the virtual Center for Water Security at University of Arizona and Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile.

19. The CoP elected the following members of the Scientific Advisory Committee: Jose Marengo (nominated by the Parties) and Walter Baethgen, Rodolfo Dirzo and Frank Müller Karger (nominated by the SAC). Tellers for the election were Argentina and Cuba.

20. The CoP accepted the offer of the USA to host the regular EC and CoP meetings in 2012.

Annex II – Resolutions

EIGHTEENTH CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES (CoP) OF THE IAI
15-16 June 2011 – Asuncion, Paraguay

The IAI Conference of the Parties, at its eighteenth meeting held on 15 and 16 June 2011, in Asuncion, Paraguay, adopted the following resolutions:

RESOLUTION 1

The CoP approved the Core Budget Request for FY 2011-2012.

RESOLUTION 2

The CoP approved the level of Country Contributions for FY 2011-2012.

RESOLUTION 3

The CoP approved the Annual Program for FY 2011-2012.

RESOLUTION 4

The CoP elected José Marengo, Walter Baethgen, Rodolfo Dirzo and Frank Müller Karger as members of the Scientific Advisory Committee.

Chair of the Executive Council

1st Vice-chair of the Executive Council

2nd Vice-chair of the Executive Council

EIGHTEENTH CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES (CoP) OF THE IAI
15-16 June 2011 – Asuncion, Paraguay

RESOLUTION 5

The CoP approved the Strategic Plan for the IAI.

RESOLUTION 6

The CoP unanimously decided to call a special meeting in mid February 2012 to choose the host country for the Directorate.

RESOLUTION 7

The CoP established an ad hoc committee (Host Country Committee) to provide information and advice to countries willing to host the IAI Directorate. Members are Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Paraguay and the USA. Alternate member is Guatemala. This Committee will also evaluate the proposals received by November 15, 2011.

RESOLUTION 8

The CoP endorses the establishment of the virtual Center for Water Security at University of Arizona and Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile.

Chair of the Executive Council

1st Vice-chair of the Executive Council

2nd Vice-chair of the Executive Council

ACRONYMS

APN	Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research / Red de Asia y el Pacífico para la Investigación del Cambio Global
ANPCyT	Agencia Nacional de Promoción Científica y Tecnológica (Argentina)
CATHALAC	Centro del Agua del Trópico Húmedo para América Latina y el Caribe
CAZALAC	Centro del Agua para Zonas Áridas y Semiáridas de América Latina y El Caribe
CIIFEN	Centro Internacional para la Investigación del Fenómeno de El Niño
CONICET	Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas
CoP	Conference of the Parties / Conferencia de las Partes
CRN	Collaborative Research Network Program / Programa de Redes de Investigación Cooperativa
EC / CE	Executive Council / Consejo Ejecutivo
ECLAC / CEPAL	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean / Comisión Económica para América Latina y el Caribe
GCM	Global Circulation Model
GHG / GEI	Greenhouse gas / Gas de efecto invernadero
ICSU	International Council for Science
IDB /BID	Inter-American Development Bank / Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo
IDEAM	Instituto de Hidrología, Meteorología y Estudios Ambientales (Colombia)
IDRC	International Development Research Center (Canada)
IGFA	International Group of Funding Agencies for Global Change Research
IICA	Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture / Instituto Interamericano de Cooperación para la Agricultura
INPE	Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas Espaciais (Brazil)
IRI	International Research Institute for Climate and Society
ISSC	International Social Science Council
LPB	La Plata Basin
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding / Memorando de Entendimiento
NASA	National Aeronautics and Space Administration (USA)
NCAR	National Center for Atmospheric Research (USA)
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (USA)
NSF	National Science Foundation (USA)
OAS /OEA	Organization of American States / Organización de los Estados Americanos
PASI	Pan American Studies Institute
PUC-Chile	Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile
SAC	Scientific Advisory Committee / Comité Asesor Científico
SBSTA / OSACT	Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice / Órgano Subsidiario de Asesoramiento Científico y Tecnológico
SCRP / CPRP	Standing Committee for Rules and Procedures / Comité Permanente de Reglas y

	Procedimientos
SGP-HD	Small Grants Program – Human Dimensions / Programa de Pequeños Subsidios para las Dimensiones Humanas
UNFCCC / CMNUCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change / Convención Marco de las Naciones Unidas Sobre Cambio Climático