

**APPROVED**

4.6.98

**REPORT OF THE FOURTH MEETING  
OF THE CONFERENCE OF  
THE PARTIES**

**BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA  
JUNE 11-12, 1997**

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Note: This report is not a 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. Some of the information and reports presented at the Fourth Conference of the Parties were similarly presented at the Fifth Meeting of the IAI Executive Council.

### 1. Opening

An opening address was given by Lic. Juan Carlos del Bello, Secretary of Science and Technology of Argentina.

### 2. Election of the Bureau

The representative from Argentina, Lic. Juan Carlos del Bello, was elected as Chair, and the representative from Brazil, Dr Lindolpho Dias, was elected as Vice Chair. The representative from Cuba, Dr. Bárbara Garea Moreda, was elected as Rapporteur. All were elected by acclamation.

### 3. Selection of the Accreditation Committee

The representatives from Canada, Paraguay and Panama were elected to serve on the Accreditation Committee.

### 4. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda (1.CoPIV/WD/May19, 1997) was approved, noting that the Report of the Scientific Advisory Committee and the Chief Scientific Officer would be combined.

### 5. Approval of the Report of the Third Meeting of the Conference of the Parties

The Report of the Third Conference of the Parties (2.CoPIV/DWD/May19, 1997) was approved.

### 6. Presentations - Parties to the Agreement; Signatory nations; Observers

Each Head of Delegation to the IAI gave a brief speech of introduction.

#### *Ratifying nations:*

Argentina:	Carlos Ereño Ricardo Poy Carlos Vigil Gustavo Talamoni	Eduardo Cédola Carlos Rinaldi Jaime Wilkinson	Mario Nuñez Adolfo Rosellini Carlos Scoppa
Brazil:	Lindolpho Dias Eliana Zugaib	Antonio MacDowell Joaquim Paiva	Jose Luiz Aguirre
Canada:	Robert Halliday		
Chile:	Carlos Elgueta		
Costa Rica:	Patricia Ramirez		
Cuba:	Bárbara Garea	Luis Barreras	
Mexico:	José Tenorio		
Panama:	Aristedes Lorlesse		
Paraguay:	Genaro Coronel		
Peru:	Jorge Zuzunaga	Pablo Lagos	
Uruguay:	Raúl Michelini		
USA:	Robert Corell Michael Hall Paul Filmer	Katie Mastriani Lisa Farrow	James Buizer Vanessa Richardson
Venezuela:	Abraham Salcedo		

#### *Observers:*

IRI : Guillermo Berri  
WMO: Oscar Arango

#### *IAI:*

Directorate:	Armando Rabuffetti	Bradford Wilcox	Chris Hill
GEF Project:	Eduardo Banús	Carolina Saiz	
Newsletter:	Elvira Gentile	Laura Tarallo	

## **7. Report of the EC Chair**

The EC Chair welcomed the new representatives to the CoP. In his report (3.ECIV/CoPIV/ID/May19, 1997) he outlined the activities charged to the EC by the CoP, the criteria for ISP III and the activities, actions and decisions taken by the EC. The EC Chair presented a series of recommendations to the CoP on behalf of the EC (30.ECV/CoPIV/WD/June10, 1997) and requested the CoP approval.

### **a) Joint Funding and Resource Agreements**

The CoP discussed the proposal to develop the Joint Funding and Resource Agreements (14.ECV/CoPIV/WD/June5, 1997) and approved the establishment of these Agreements (18 ECV/CoPIV/WD/June9, 1997). The US said that funds from NOAA and NASA would be available to supplement this process.

### **b) IAI Mission statement**

The CoP endorsed the IAI Mission Statement and approved, in principle, the revised IAI Science Agenda (21.ECV/CoPIV/WD/June9, 1997). The EC and SAC were requested to work at the interpretation and expansion of the agenda and report back to the next CoP.

### **c) Phase II Announcement**

The CoP approved the Phase II program with the noted addition that the Directorate be requested to look at a more specific terminology for the name "Phase II". (24.ECV/CoPIV/WD/June9, 1997)

### **d) IAI Overhead Policy**

The CoP approved the IAI Overhead Policy as "The overhead policy is that up to 10% of the total proposed budget may be charged as overhead. However, lower overhead figures are encouraged". The EC Financial and Administrative Working Group will develop a footnote to ensure that waived overhead is not used as a criteria for evaluation of proposals.

## **8. Rules of Procedure**

The CoP approved the amendments to the Rules of Procedure with noted corrections as indicated by the Chair of the Standing Committee on the Rules and Procedures.

Modifications to the EC Rules and Procedures:

Articles 23, 24 and 25 were altered, Article 29 was eliminated and the title of Chapter X was modified. Articles 65 and 66 were modified.

Modifications to the CoP Rules and procedures:

Articles 21 and 22 were modified. Article 25 was eliminated and the title of Chapter IX was modified, together with Articles 60 and 61.

## **9. Core Budget**

The CoP approved the Core Budget request 1997/98 (10.ECV/CoPIV/WD/May19,1997), using the amended Option 2 for member country voluntary contributions, which will remain fixed for the next 3 years (1997/98 to 1999/2000). The IAI Core Budget reserves will be used to accommodate those countries where time is needed to move to Option 2.

### **a) IAI Employee Handbook**

The CoP approved the changes to the Employee Handbook. (attachment to 10.ECV/CoPIV/WD/ May19, 1997)

## **10. Report of the Director**

The Director presented his report (4. ECV/CoPIV/ID/May19, 1997)

## **11. Report of the Chief Scientific Officer**

The Chief Scientific Officer presented his report (6. ECV/CoPIV/ID/May19, 1997)

### **a) ISP III**

The CoP approved the granting to the EC of authority to approve the funding of the ISP III proposals as recommended by the SAC and IAI Directorate. (29 ECV/CoPIV/WD/June10, 1997)

## **12. Report of the Scientific Advisory Committee**

The Chief Scientific Officer presented the SAC report on behalf of Dr Rubén Lara-Lara, the SAC Chair, who was unable to attend the meeting. (7. ECV/CoPIV/ID/May19, 1997)

## **3. Update of the current IAI/GEF/WMO Project**

Eduardo Banús, the IAI/GEF/WMO project Director, presented the report of the GEF Project (11ECV/CoPIV/ID/May19, 1997)

## **14. IAI Data Policy and Data Information System (DIS)**

Paul Filmer and José Luiz Aguirre presented the IAI Data Policy and DIS report (12 ECV/CoPIV/WD/May19, 1997). The United States emphasized its support for this effort and commended the Working Group. In addition, the contribution that NASA is making to IAI through its US\$250,000 grant to the ISP II Program was highlighted. The United States is also willing to commit US\$100,000 for supporting training and education related to the LBA Program.

## **15. Report of the Editor of the IAI Newsletter**

Carlos Ereño, the Editor, presented the Newsletter report (13 ECV/CoPIV/ID/May19, 1997). Venezuela offered to print an electronic version of the Newsletter locally to save postage costs. This will be considered by the Communications Task Force. The NSF will forward news releases to the Newsletter concerning start up grants.

## **16. SAC Nominating Committee and election of new SAC members**

Patricia Ramirez, Chair of the SAC Nominating Committee, presented the recommendations of the Committee (31.CoPIV/WD/June11,1997), which were adopted by the CoP in preparation for the elections. After discussion of the recommendations a vote was held and Ronald Woodman (Peru), Ernesto Medina (Venezuela), John Stewart (Canada) and Diana Liverman (USA) were elected to the SAC to serve for 3 years from October, 1997. The recommendation was made to the SAC that the past SAC Chair, Rubén Lara-Lara, be invited to participate in the SAC as a Special Advisor starting in September, 1997.

## **7. Future Meetings and Sites**

The United States offered to host the seventh meeting of the Executive Council and the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties in the first semester of 1998 and this offer was accepted. Uruguay offered to host the eighth meeting of the Executive Council in the second semester of 1998. The acceptance of this offer will be considered by the Executive Council at its next meeting in Panama in November 1997.

## **18. Suggested modifications to future CoP Agendas**

Brazil suggested that a new methodology be adopted for the agendas of the Executive Council and the Conference of the Parties, when one meeting is held immediately after the other, to avoid the repetition of some items on the CoP agenda which have already been included on the EC agenda. The EC will consider Brazil's suggestion at the next EC meeting in November.

## **19. Action Lists**

The Action List for Day 1 of the CoP was approved, subject to amendments to items 6 and 8.

## **20. Adjournment of the Fourth Meeting of the CoP**

The Minister of Science and Technology, Lic. Juan Carlos del Bello gave a brief closing speech. The CoP formally adopted a resolution thanking Argentina for hosting the Conference and recognizing the hospitality and efficiency with which the Conference had been organized.