

**Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research
IAI
Start-Up Plan
1995**

1. Introduction

This paper presents some of the issues that will be faced by the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research (IAI) as it moves through a transition period between the formation of the IAI formal organs established by the Conference of the Parties (CoP) at its first meeting in September 1994 and the establishment of the IAI Directorate and the election of the IAI Director, both scheduled to occur in 1995.

The suggestions contained in this paper for the consideration of the IAI CoP are the result of discussions at the First Meeting of the CoP and the First Meeting of the Executive Council (EC). These suggestions reflect the goal of the IAI Implementation Committee (IC), the CoP, and EC to ensure that the momentum of the initiative be carried forward in an efficient, logical, and responsive manner.

2. Functional Transition

Each of the formal bodies of the Institute defined by the Agreement and the Rules of Procedure have specific functions. It is critical that during the interim period from the First Meeting of the CoP to the establishment of the Directorate and election of the Director that these functions be smoothly and legally transferred from the current IAI bodies to an established Directorate and an elected Director.

2.1 Conference of the Parties

The CoP exists as a legal body *only while it is in session*. There are therefore no transition issues that directly affect the CoP. The CoP is however the principal policy-making organ of the IAI, and as such must make any decisions regarding the transitional issues that affect all other organs of the Institute.

2.2 Executive Council

The EC has existed as a legal entity since the election of its members at the First CoP. The EC seats are occupied by Parties rather than individuals. The following Parties were elected to the EC: Argentina; Brazil; Canada; United States; Panama; Costa Rica; Mexico; and Uruguay. Chile, as the ninth country to ratify the IAI Agreement, became the ninth member of the EC.

The EC will submit to the Second Meeting of the CoP suggestions regarding IAI policies for:

1. The Search and Selection Process for the IAI Director;
2. IAI Start-Up Planning Grants;
3. The IAI Annual Program;

