

Report from the Executive Council Chair

Based on the recommendations from the 22nd Conference of the Parties (CoP) in Mexico City, the Executive Council (EC), during its 38th Meeting took the following actions:

1. Established a committee to draft a pronouncement on the importance of adaptation to the UNFCCC CoP-20;
2. Discussed issues and guidelines for the initial Science Policy Advisory Committee (SPAC) and monitored the committee's actions; and
3. Accepted to introduce the use of Research Gate to connect IAI scientists.

The outcomes of these actions are explained below.

UNFCCC COP-20 Statement - The committee that drafted the communication for the UNFCCC CoP-20 was composed of Peru, Brazil, Mexico and the Science Advisory Committee (SAC) Chair. The EC accepted the draft text of the pronouncement (in Spanish) and charged the Directorate with editing and translation. The final text was circulated among CoP members for approval and was submitted to the CoP-20 by Uruguay on behalf of the IAI. The statement for **UNFCCC COP-20** expressed that adaptation is an important concern in Latin America and decision-making needs to be based on sound science and technology. Jorge Rucks, Uruguay's Vice-Minister of Housing, Territorial Planning and Environment and head of delegation, delivered the message to the plenary and called upon the international community to make efforts for finding and implementing viable adaptation strategies with the participation of the peoples of the region and through the development of regional capacities and support to the development of new technologies.

SPAC Development and Monitoring – The EC discussed issues and guidelines for the initial Science Policy Advisory Committee: the term of all nine members was for one year; the EC asked Bob Corell to be the convener of the first meeting of the SPAC in conjunction with the Directorate. The initial guidance to the SPAC included:

- identifying key partners to be engaged within various regions;
- contacting their IAI country representatives;
- exploring ways for the SAC and the SPAC to interact;
- reviewing its Terms of Reference and developing its own Rules of Procedure for consideration at the 23rd CoP; and
- limiting the initial term lengths of SPAC members between 1 and 3 years in order to achieve a staggering of terms to guarantee future continuity.

The initial SPAC met via teleconference 4 times and has begun to develop a set of guidelines that have been submitted to the CoP. While some delays were encountered, the SPAC has made significant developments toward their goals.

Canada has provided a draft of their SPAC nomination process which may be of interest to CoP members.

The EC accepted to introduce the use of Research Gate to connect IAI scientists. The progress on this action has been limited over the past several months and needs to be addressed.

The CoP strongly encourages that all IAI member countries broaden the representation of the groups of interest beyond the representatives' institutions, following the example of Uruguay National IAI Committee.

The CoP approved the renewal of the term of the Implementation Committee for the Tripartite Structure of the IAI until the next CoP. The committee will maintain its terms of reference and membership: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador (Vice-chair), USA (Chair) and Uruguay. The committee shall be open to all the Parties.

The CoP encourages member countries to promote agreements for global change research between funding agencies, considering the funding model that is being developed by the group of funding agencies that met on August 11. Member countries can also participate in funding IAI science programs.