

## Report from the Executive Council Chair

Based on the recommendations from the 23<sup>rd</sup> Conference of the Parties (CoP) in Lima, Peru the Executive Council (EC), during its 41<sup>st</sup> Meeting took the following actions:

1. The EC charged the IAI Directorate with contacting the members of the Implementation Committee for the Tripartite Structure of the IAI to indicate that the Host Country Agreement for the Science Development Office in Brazil would soon be ready for review.
  - a. The revised country agreement with Brazil was received and reviewed by the committee and the IAI Directorate and challenges still remain. The issues arise from how international organizations are governed under Brazilian law with respect to privileges and immunities for IAI staff.
  - b. The current suggestions would make it difficult for the IAI to operate in the manner which it does in Uruguay and Argentina.
  - c. The Science Development function is critical to the IAI and we must all work together to find a workable solution that is beneficial to the IAI activities and takes advantage of the science leadership and excellence in Brazil.
2. The EC decided that a template for the nomination of SPAC candidates be prepared based on the criteria suggested by Canada. This template would be distributed with the Terms of Reference of the SPAC.
  - a. This template has been received and reviewed by the SPAC and is currently being used for the nominations for current SPAC vacancies.
3. The EC decided that its Bureau and the IAI Directorate would send a letter to Future Earth to express that IAI wishes to participate in the program under equitable association between regional and global entities and providing considerable flexibility for future design and redesign.
  - a. That letter is available in the materials provided to the CoP.
4. The EC requested that the IAI Directorate prepare a list with the necessary qualifications for the members of the Standing Committee of Rules and Procedures and send it to the Parties.
  - a. This information was provided by the Directorate.
5. The EC decided to request the SAC to identify ways of interaction with the Group on Earth Observations (GEO).
  - a. These suggestions are included in the SAC report and was discussed at the last SAC meeting in New York, USA.
6. The EC established a committee to work on the participation of member countries in the IAI. Members of the committee are Argentina, Canada, Chile (Chair) and Paraguay.

- a. The committee is working to identify possible ways to engage member countries.
  - b. The lack of engagement has been identified as a weakness in the IAI by several bodies including American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) and other bodies.
  - c. This weakness should be addressed and the CoP should discuss ways to improve engagement and may want to explore the necessary qualifications for the next IAI Director.
7. The EC accepted the offer from Canada to draft the terms of reference for the working group on open science and send it to the group's members, including the SAC and SPAC. The results of this are presented in the report submitted to the CoP.
  - a. The results are included in the materials provided to the CoP.
8. The Executive Council (EC) took the following decisions regarding the IAI Director election process:
  - a. Extend the current Executive Director's contract by 6 months to allow for hiring procedure and approval by CoP 24.
  - b. Establish a Selection Committee composed of Argentina (chair), Brazil, Canada, Peru and USA.
  - c. In September, the Selection Committee will be proposing its Terms and Reference, time table and initiate the international call for nominations. Deadline for nominations application will be 2 months following the call.
  - d. Details of the IAI Director search process are included in the report from the committee provided to the CoP.