

**CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE
INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE
FOR GLOBAL CHANGE RESEARCH**
Thirty-third meeting
Asunción, Paraguay. Hybrid.
28-29 May 2025
Agenda item 9b

**Article XI of the Agreement Establishing the
Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research:
Associates of the Institute**

American Geophysical Union (AGU)

1. This document was prepared by the permanent representative of the United States

Background

2. Article XI, paragraph 1 of the *Agreement establishing the inter-American Institute for Global Change Research* states:

The Conference of the Parties may invite States outside the region, regional or international intergovernmental organizations, and industries and other nongovernmental and private organizations interested in supporting the Scientific Agenda and programmatic activities of the Institute, to become Associates of the Institute.

3. At the time of writing, twelve organizations have been invited by the Conference of the Parties to become Associates of the IAI:

- Alexander von Humboldt Research Institute of Biological Resources
- American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)
- Center for Climate and Resilience Research (CR2)
- Center for Global Change Research (CICAG)
- Center for International Earth Science Information Network (CIESIN)
- Fundação Amparo Pesquisa Inovação do Estado de Santa Catarina
- Fundação de Amparo à Pesquisa do Estado de São Paulo
- Future Earth
- Mitacs Canada
- Rede Clima
- Universite of West Indies (UWI)
- Water Center for the Humid Tropics of Latin America (CATHALAC)

4. In accordance with Article XI of the Agreement, Associates may participate as observers to meetings of the Conference of the Parties; and collectively nominate one member of the Scientific Advisory Committee on the basis of a procedure to be agreed among them.

American Geophysical Union (AGU)

5. In light of the above, and of the selected reasons below, the United States invites the Parties to consider extending an invitation to the American Geophysical Union (AGU) to become an Associate of the IAI.

About AGU

For over one hundred years, AGU has proudly served the Earth and space science community, representing over 500,000 scientists and supporters in more than 200 countries and regions, including the 19 member states of IAI. AGU is the world's largest home for research dedicated to geoscience, its related impacts, and solutions. The AGU community works in academia, industry, the non-profit sector, and government – with many representing the vast transdisciplinary fields of hydrological, ocean, and climate science.

AGU's 24 scholarly and peer-reviewed journals publish the latest scientific discoveries and solutions and are heavily cited in all Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Assessments and other governmental reports. AGU's Annual Meeting is the largest global gathering of Earth and space scientists, with a regular attendance of over 25,000 from over 110 countries.

Commitment to Global Partnerships

AGU is powered by deep, global partnerships that ensure science is shared and strengthened. AGU seeks to amplify discovery and solution science with key partners worldwide, including those from IAI member states. AGU has supported many global policy convenings and regional conferences that are germane to the science priorities of the IAI.

Beyond discovery and solutions science, AGU is committed to developing the next generation of researchers, policy-makers and communities that can address global environmental challenges through career development opportunities such as student programs, leadership training, fellowships and cohort programs. These efforts seek to create an international community adept at solving some of the world's greatest challenges.

Open Science Leadership

AGU is a proud leader in open science, recognizing that open science must be a global effort that increases participation in science and provides access to scientific knowledge for people and communities everywhere. Open science aims to enable the sharing and preservation of data, results and software in an ethical manner that is as open and transparent as possible. These practices accelerate scientific discovery and optimize the benefits of science for all, especially communities that have historically lacked equitable participation and access. AGU advances the effort through publications, meetings, data leadership, community science, policy

engagement and career development.

AGU has developed principles stating that open science data must be Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable (FAIR). AGU's leadership and experience in promoting and advocating open science would be a valuable contribution to IAI's science activities, capacity building programs and Science Diplomacy Center activities.

Commitment to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

AGU's focus on diversity, equity and inclusion are inherent in all programs and policies. AGU recently published The Ethical Framework Principles for Climate Intervention Research, which would be a valuable contribution to IAI's training programs and the Science Diplomacy Center activities.

Collaboration with the IAI Programs and Member Countries

IAI Executive Director, Anna Stewart Ibarra was part of a group that authored AGU's position statement on climate change in 2024, and members of IAA's Science Advisory Council contributed to some of AGU's statements or frameworks related to climate intervention.

AGU has partnered with IAI through the Belmont Forum on open data which has directly contributed to the IAI's new policy on Open Access to Data and Publications Policy.

Researchers from several IAI member states are currently serving on AGU committees such as Global Engagement Committee, while others serve on various advisory boards including the Ethical Framework for Climate Intervention.

Recommendation

6. The United States invites the Conference of the Parties to consider that the AGU meets the requirements under Article XI of the *Agreement* to become an Associate organization of the IAI.
7. The Conference of the Parties is invited to consider adopting the draft decisions contained in the Annex to the present document.

Draft decisions of the Conference of the Parties

**Invitation to the American Geophysical Union (AGU) to become an
Associate of the Institute**

Directed to Parties

XXXIII/xx. The Conference of the Parties is encouraged to invite the American Geophysical Union (AGU) to become an Associate of the Institute.

Directed to the Directorate

XXXIII/xx The Directorate is tasked with sending an invitation to the American Geophysical Union (AGU) to become an Associate of the Institute and preparing an Agreement of Association which shall specify the areas of the Scientific Agenda or programmatic activities that will be supported by the Associate, and the modalities of such support.