

16 May 2025

**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 9

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

World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

1. This document was prepared by the permanent representative of Paraguay

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, eleven organizations have been invited by the Conference of the Parties to become Associates of the IAI:
 - American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS);
 - Water Center for the Humid Tropics of Latin America (CATHALAC);
 - Center for International Earth Science Information Network (CIESIN);
 - São Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP);
 - Future Earth;
 - Alexander von Humboldt Research Institute of Biological Resources;
 - Mitacs Canada;

- Rede Clima;
 - UWI;
 - CICAG;
 - CR2
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.

World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

5. In light of the above, and of the selected reasons below, Paraguay invites the Parties to consider extending an invitation to the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) to become an Associate of the IAI.

Regional scope

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) has a strong and growing presence across the Americas, including in South America and the Caribbean, where it works to strengthen regional cooperation in meteorology, climatology, hydrology, and related fields. Through its Regional Associations and partnerships with National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs), WMO supports the development and implementation of regional strategies to monitor, assess, and respond to extreme weather and climate events. WMO initiatives promote integrated approaches to understanding climate variability, coastal and hydrological processes, and the socio-economic drivers of risk. Its activities in the region contribute to improved early warning systems, climate adaptation planning, and the generation of actionable information for decision-makers, communities, and ecosystems affected by climate challenges. By fostering collaboration among regional actors, WMO lays the groundwork for enhanced climate resilience and supports efforts to build robust, science-based governance frameworks across the continent.

Global leadership in climate cooperation

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) plays a leading role in climate cooperation at the global, regional, and national levels. As a specialized agency of the United Nations, WMO supports its 193 Member States and Territories in developing and delivering science-based information and tools related to weather, climate, and water. Its Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) enhances climate-smart decision-making by promoting the development of tailored services in sectors such as disaster risk reduction, agriculture, health, and water resources. WMO also supports National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) in generating and disseminating timely, high-quality data and forecasts. Through initiatives like the Early Warning Systems, State of the Climate reports, the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS), and its coordination of the World Weather Watch, WMO enables access to critical climate information, strengthening resilience and adaptation capacities across the Americas and beyond.

Collaboration with the IAI

- From 2022, a WMO representative serves on the IAI's Climate, Environment and Health Committee providing overall strategic guidance to the IAI on joint activities and capacity building across the Americas.
- Starting in 2022, WMO participated in the Climate, Environment and Health initiative, which included: 1) online synchronous transdisciplinary workshop, 2) in-person workshop in San Martín de los Andes, Argentina, 3) development of seed grant research proposals with expert mentorship, 4) Belmont Forum Collaborative Research Action Climate, Environment and Health (CEH2) global funding call, 5) online synchronous course "El Niño in the Americas: Protecting Health and Promoting Resilience", which is currently available as a self-managed, certificate-based, free course at the IAI Virtual Campus.
- MOU signed on 6 March 2023 focused on collaboration on shared topics of interest, including science and technology knowledge exchange and dissemination, co-sponsoring of meetings and events, and technical cooperation.
- WMO and the IAI hosted the webinar "El Niño and the reduction of its impacts on the health sector" on 5 October 2023.
- IAI contributed to the LAC State of the Climate Report 2023 published by WMO.
- Mutual participation in high level meetings and events of IAI and WMO, such as the IAI's annual Conference of the Parties, a high-level event during LAC Climate Week event in Panama City in 2023, and a WMO workshop during the 8th Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas and the Caribbean (RP23) held in Punta del Este, Uruguay.
- Co-hosted the workshop on Hurricanes with UWI, a hybrid event hosted in Kingstown, Jamaica on 3 October 2024.
- In 2024, co-published the "Health, Environment and Climate in Latin America and the Caribbean" compendium, which is available in three languages for free (<https://www.iai.int/en/post/detail/IAI-Compendium-on-Health-Climate-and-Environment-in-Latin-America-and-the-Caribbean-2024>) and participated in the virtual launch event.
- Co-hosted the workshop "Scientific diplomacy for drought management in the agricultural, energy, and river transport sectors" on 26-27 May 2025 and the COP33 side event "Droughts in the Americas: Regional priorities, early warning systems, and sustainable development" on 28 May 2025, in Paraguay.
- Currently preparing a webinar on the state of the art in El Niño modeling and operational applications, for July 2025.

Recommendation

6. Paraguay invites the Conference of the Parties to consider that the WMO 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 Center for the World Meteorological Organization (WMO)
to become an Associate of the Institute**

Directed to Parties

XXXII/xx. The Conference of the Parties is encouraged to invite the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) to become an Associate of the Institute.

Directed to the Directorate

XXXII/xx The Directorate is tasked with sending an invitation to the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) 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.