



ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

2 October 2024

**EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TO THE  
INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE  
FOR GLOBAL CHANGE RESEARCH  
Fifty-eighth meeting  
Videoconference  
6 November 2024  
Agenda item 4**

**Headquarters of the Directorate of the  
Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research**

1. This document has been prepared by the IAI Directorate.

Background

2. The document [IAI/COP/32/5b](#) presented at the 32nd meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the IAI, 22-23 May 2024, videoconference, provided detailed information on the expected process and steps for the relocation of the Headquarters of the IAI Directorate.
3. As informed through the Notification [IAIUYDIR24/19](#), issued on 24 June 2024, the IAI Directorate and the Government of the Republic of Panama had signed the [\*Agreement between the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research \(IAI\) and the Government of the Republic of Panama regarding the establishment of the IAI Headquarters in Panama.\*](#)

Activities

4. The Executive Director of the IAI travelled to Panama City, Panama, on 8 July 2024 to meet with the National Secretariat of Science, Technology and Innovation (SENACYT), the Ministry of Environment, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Panama to discuss the process to move the IAI headquarters. The Executive Director also visited the potential future offices of the Directorate in the City of Knowledge.
5. To comply with the timelines granted by the Government of Uruguay, the Directorate vacated its offices in LATU, Montevideo, Uruguay, on 31 July 2024.

6. The Directorate has worked with SENACYT Panama to open the new offices of the Directorate in the City of Knowledge, Clayton, Panama. Temporary offices were opened in the City of Knowledge in September 2024.
7. The IAI Executive Director, the IAI Deputy Director, and the Executive Director of Belmont Forum, and their families, moved to Panama in August and September 2024, complying with the timelines granted by the Government of Uruguay. At the time of writing, they are working at the temporary offices, located in the City of Knowledge.

#### Next steps

8. The financial operations of the IAI will continue in Uruguay until the process of opening the bank account in Panama is finalized, which is expected by 31 October 2024.
9. It is expected that the new permanent offices of the Directorate in the City of Knowledge, Clayton, Panama are fully operative as soon as the administrative and logistic processes allow, and probably before February 2025.

#### Conclusion

10. The Directorate has been diligent and managed its departure in an exceptionally expedited and effective manner, without affecting the normal development of its activities.
11. During the transition process, the Directorate will continue working closely with SENACYT and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Panama, to advance the establishing of the new office and related administrative issues and will inform the Parties on important updates and progress, e.g. bank accounts and office address, in a timely manner.
12. The Executive Council is invited to take note of this report.