

**MEETING OF NATIONAL FOCAL POINTS
FOR INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES**

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Day 1

August 11, 2007. Hotel Guatemala City Marriott, Room Los Reyes	
10:00	Opening Session <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Federico Franco, Vice Minister of the Environment, OAS National Focal Point of Water Resources, Government of Guatemala.• Mr. Alfonso Quiñonez, Executive Secretary for Integral Development, OAS.• Mr. Carlos Cobos, Coordinator of the VI Dialogue, Government of Guatemala. Presentation of the VI Inter-American Dialogue on Water Management. <p>Tour of table of Participants</p>
10:45	Overview of Meeting Objectives and Response of National Focal Points: <p>The meeting of the OAS National Focal Points is being held as a follow-up to the mandates established by OAS member States in the Inter-American Program for Sustainable Development (2006-2009) and the Ministerial Declaration of the First Inter-American Meeting of Ministers and High-Level Authorities (December 2006).</p> <p>The objective of the August 2007 meeting is to identify a common program of work, based on the recommendations and consensus of the government representatives. Based on consultations prior to the August 11-12th meeting, the agenda identifies some possible areas of cooperative work. However, any delegation is welcome to raise any matter during the meeting. It is worth noting that the largest majority of respondents identified technical cooperation at the sub-regional level: one possible outcome is to identify sub-regional priority areas among the main regional groups.</p> <p>Introductory comments: Scott Vaughan and Jorge Rucks, OAS Department of Sustainable Development</p>

<p>11:00</p>	<p>Session One: Information Systems:</p> <p>In the past decade, remarkable advances have been made in the compilation of accurate water-related data. Water information is broadly defined to include water quality and quantity. New information systems, based on back-casting empirical observation, and forecasting current and future water-related stress levels, are being drawn from different water models, satellite remote sensing platforms, geographic information systems (GIS) and other systems.</p> <p>Based on the survey results, National Focal Points identified the following areas as leading bases for discussion and possible follow-up work:</p> <p><i>Sharing experience of economic-hydrological modeling approaches to help isolate and anticipate water supply and demand trends and challenges within water basins. (67 percent of respondents)</i></p> <p><i>Strengthening the informational link between surface and groundwater systems. (67 percent of respondents)</i></p> <p>Introduction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verne Schneider, US National Focal Points (US Geological Survey) • Felix Menicochi, General Secretary, CONAE and Alvaro Soldano, INA • Cornelius Isaac, St. Lucia National Focal Point <p>Discussion</p>
<p>13:00</p>	<p>Close of Theme One and Identification of Proposed Next Steps</p>
<p>13:30</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Lunch Break</p>
<p>14:30</p>	<p>Theme Two: Technical Capacity Building:</p> <p>The objective of this second session is to identify either general or specific and concrete opportunities involving cooperation among National Focal Points. The range of technical cooperation varies widely in general terms, from an on-going exchange of information to proposed areas of research, gap analysis or other areas. The area identified by the majority of National Focal Points in the area of technical capacity building is below:</p> <p><i>Linking climate related vulnerability assessments of water basins with risk reduction measures intended to increase resilience and build climate adaptation. (60 percent)</i></p> <p>Brief Introductory remarks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ambassador Maria Esther Bondanza, National Focal Point, Argentina • Basil Fernandez, National Focal Point, Jamaica, Managing Director, Jamaica National Water Authority, Co-Chair, Inter-American Water Resource Network • Rodrigo Weisner Lazo, Chile, National Focal Point, Dirección General del Agua, Ministerio de Obras Públicas
<p>17:30</p>	<p>Close of Theme Two and Identification of Proposed Next Steps</p>

18:00	Consideration of the OAS General Assembly Resolution 2347: <i>Inter-American Meeting on Economic, Social, and Environmental Aspects Related to the Availability of and Access to Drinking Water</i>
19:30	Close of First Day;
19:30	Invitation to OAS Hosted Dinner
	End of first day

Day 2

August 12, 2007. Hotel Westin Camino Real Guatemala. Room Los Lagos	
9:00	<p>Session Three: Policy-related Work</p> <p>The objective of the third theme is to explore options for cooperation related to policies. Although the largest percentage of respondents identified the theme below, this area saw the largest number of related themes and priority areas.</p> <p><i>Supporting water related governance indicators (53 percent)</i></p> <p>In addition to governance indicators, National Focal Points also identified the following areas: (a) strengthening domestic procedures related to water regulations (47 percent); (b) advancing access to water information (47 percent); and (c) supporting public participation procedures (40 percent).</p> <p>Brief introductory remarks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ João Bosco Senra, National Focal Point, Brazil, Director, Department of Water Resources, Ministério do Meio Ambiente, and Co-Chair, Inter-American Water Resource Network▪ José Antonio Rodríguez, National Focal Point, Mexico, Subdirector General de Programación, Comisión Nacional del Agua Comisión Nacional del Agua▪ Francisco Rodríguez, National Focal Point, Republica Dominicana, Executive Director, Instituto Nacional de Recursos Hídricos
11:00	<p>Close of Theme Three and Identification of Proposed Next Steps</p>
11:30	<p>Next Steps with National Focal Point process</p> <p>General overview of agreed-upon follow-up actions and definition of work with National Focal Points.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Frequency of meetings• Regular communications and exchange of technical information• Possible financial support for on-going work• Other items
12:30	Consideration of GA Resolution (Continued)
13:30	Close of meeting