



**DRAFT
AGENDA
*PANEL OF EXPERTS***

Innovations in Avian Influenza Preparedness

*Organization of American States
Padilha Vidal Room
1889 F Street NW, Terrace Level,
Washington DC 20006
Wednesday November 14th
10: 00 AM to 1:00 PM*

The 2006 Santa Cruz Ministerial Meeting on Sustainable Development recognized that water is a limited natural resource essential for life, and that access to clean water and to sanitation services is indispensable to health and human dignity, as well as to sustainable development.

The Inter-American Program for Sustainable Development 2006-2009 encourages institutions to share best practices, disseminate information, and facilitate discussions related to strengthening policy, institutional and legal frameworks, to address water and land resource degradation problems that create the linkages between environmental degradation and health issues.

The OAS General Assembly resolution AVIAN INFLUENZA: INTER-AMERICAN COOPERATION TO MEET A GLOBAL THREAT- 2006 recognized the potential risk a pandemic due to novel influenza viruses, such as the highly pathogenic H5N1 strain of avian influenza, would pose to our societies and citizens with possible severe consequences for animal and human health, the global economy, and stability. The OAS then resolved to in concert with IICA and PAHO to, (i) affirm member states' commitment to work together in combating avian and pandemic influenza and to identify priority areas for further action and (ii) develop national, sub-regional, and regional avian and pandemic influenza preparedness and response plans.

Moderated by Scott Vaughan, Director, Department of Sustainable Development

10:00 Welcome remarks – SECRETARY-GENERAL JOSE MIGUEL INZULZA

Expert Panel: 10 minutes each with 5-10 minutes questions:

1. Dr. Richard Lee, Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics and Obstetrics, Adjunct Professor of Anthropology and Social and Preventive Medicine State University of New York at Buffalo Medical Director Ecology and Environment, Inc. Ecology and Environment -- "Human health implications"
2. Dr. Mini Nagendran, US Fish & Wildlife Service -- "Potential impacts on biodiversity goods and services"
3. Dr. Cristina Schneider, Regional Advisor, Veterinary Public Health Unit, Pan American Health Organization -- "Avian and human pandemic influenza: Addressing the need for integration between health and agriculture".
4. Dr. Otavio Oliva, Regional Advisor on Viral Disease Surveillance, Pan American Health Organization. "National Pandemic Preparedness Planning in South America".
5. Dr. David Blockstein, National Council for Science and the Environment – "The Cultural, Socio-Economic and Ecological Determinants of Avian Influenza and its Spread"
6. Andre Medici, Inter American Development Bank -- "Economic consequences"
7. Dr. James Butler, Deputy Director General, IICA -- "Modernizing National Veterinary Services to Address Avian Flu"
8. Alfonso Martinez-Fonts, U.S. Dept of Homeland Security -- "Epidemic planning sessions – focusing on business infrastructure"

12:00 General Discussion with expert panelists