



## General Information

The International Symposium Enhancing Water Management Capacity in a Changing World: Science Academies Working Together to Increase Global Access to Water and Sanitation will be held in São Paulo on 25-28, 2012. Please find useful information below.

### 1. HOTEL

The Brazilian Academy of Sciences will be covering your hotel expenses throughout the duration of the meeting. Participants will be staying at the Plaza Inn American Loft. During your stay in São Paulo, lunch will be served at the venue of the meeting and dinner will be at the hotel; these costs are covered by the Academy. Phone calls, alcoholic beverages, mini bar, laundry and other similar expenses are of the responsibility of each guest.

Guests staying for additional nights due to their own choice are responsible for all the costs related to the extended period. The organization of the meeting has assured that the hotel will be charging the special rate that has been negotiated for the meeting, which is of R\$ 212,00 (approximately USD 106.00). In the event that you arrive early or leave at a later date due to flight arrangements, the Academy will cover your costs.



#### **Address:**

**Plaza Inn American Loft**

Rua Turiassú, 1863 - Perdizes

São Paulo - SP

Telefones: (11) 2125-1800 | 0800 283 9988

Fax: (11) 21251981

<http://www.plazainn.com.br/br/hoteis/19/saopaulo/plaza-inn-american-loft/apresentacao.aspx>



## 2. UPON ARRIVAL AT THE AIRPORT

Participants will arrive at Guarulhos International Airport (GRU). After you exit customs, please go to a Guarucoop Taxi counter. These are located at the exit gates of terminals I and II, on the lower floor of the arrival sector. Your name will be on their list and they will provide you with transportation to the hotel (receptionists speak English). You do not have to pay for this transfer, as the organization of the meeting has prepaid for this service.



If you will arrive at the Congonhas Domestic Airport in São Paulo, after claiming your luggage proceed towards the exit. Once you are in the common area of the airport, you will find a ramp straight ahead of you. Go down the ramp and once you reach the lower floor, turn left and you will see the "radio-táxi Vermelho e Branco" counter. Your name will be on their list and they will provide you with transportation to the hotel (receptionists speak English). You do not have to pay for this transfer, as the organization of the meeting has prepaid for this service.



## 3. BOARDING PASS

If your air ticket has been purchased by the organization of the meeting, please do not lose it, damage or throw it away as we will need to send it to the governmental agencies and organizations that are funding the meeting. Please take your boarding passes referent to your travel from your home country to Brazil to the Latin American Memorial on the first day of the meeting, as the receptionists will be collecting them at registration.

As for the return boarding passes, please send these back to us as soon as you return to your country. Please note that we will need the original boarding passes, so kindly send these to us by express mail.

Kindly mail your return boarding passes to:

**Brazilian Academy of Sciences**  
A/C: Mariana Ferreira  
Rua Anfilólio de Carvalho, 29/3º andar  
Rio de Janeiro, RJ  
Brazil - CEP 20030-060

If by any chance your boarding pass is lost, we will need you to contact the airline to request an official statement from the airline confirming that you have travelled and detailing your travel info. This document shall then be sent to the address above.

We apologize for the inconvenience, but these are legal procedures that are demanded by Brazilian governmental agencies and we need to follow.

#### 4. ABOUT SÃO PAULO



One of the world's biggest metropolises, São Paulo looms large over South America. While the city lacks the natural beauty of Rio, Sampa – as it's affectionately called by locals – has much going for it. This is, after all, the cultural capital of Brazil, with a dizzying array of attractions including first-rate museums, nightly concerts, experimental theater and dance. The nightclubs, bars and restaurants are among the best on the continent. *Paulistanos* (inhabitants of the city) believe in working hard and playing harder, and despite constantly complaining about clogged highways and pollution, most wouldn't dream of living anywhere else.



São Paulo officially became a city in 1711. In the 19th century, it experienced a flourishing economic prosperity, brought about chiefly through coffee exports, which were shipped abroad from the port of neighboring city Santos. After 1881, waves of immigrants from Italy and other European countries, Japan and Middle Eastern countries, such as Syria and Lebanon, immigrated to São Paulo State due to the coffee production boom. By the beginning of the 20th century, the coffee cycle had already plummeted due to, among other factors, a sharp decline in international coffee prices. The local entrepreneurs then started investing in the industrial development of São Paulo, attracting new contingents of overseas immigrants to the city. Many of those entrepreneurs had Italian, Portuguese, German, and Syro-Lebanese Christian descent.

By the 1950s São Paulo took the lead as the country's industrial and commercial center. The result of the flood of immigrants is clear: the city of 20 million (metropolitan) is Brazil's most culturally diverse destination.

However, due to competition with many other Brazilian cities, which sometimes offer tax advantages for companies to build manufacturing plants in situ, São Paulo's main economic activities have gradually left its industrial profile in favor of the services industry over the late 20th century. The city is home to a large number of local and international banking offices, law firms, multinational companies and consumer services.

All major Brazilian companies have offices in São Paulo, and its stock exchange is the main South American indicator. After merging with the Future Markets Exchange, Bovespa, the São Paulo Stock Exchange has become one of the five largest in the world.

Don't be surprised at the diversity of Paulistanos. For example, São Paulo is home to the largest Japanese population outside of Japan. It is not uncommon to see businesses and churches being conducted by Chinese and Korean-Brazilians in Liberdade, which was originally an Italian district, then Japanese and currently is heavily populated by Koreans and Chinese. The city's Italian influence is also very strong, with about 6 million people in the metropolitan area having Italian background. The large Arab and Jewish communities are also well represented in all levels of society, from art to real estate businesses, and notably in politics.

The citizens of São Paulo have a reputation as hard-working and industrious but when Paulistanos are not working, they are clubbing. It is common to hear that the people in São Paulo work while the rest of Brazil relaxes; even though many say this, it is plainly wrong. It is a fact, nonetheless, that the city of São Paulo alone actually contributes with 12% of the country's gross national product (33.5% if the entire São Paulo state is taken into account).



The Brazilian Academy of Sciences (ABC) is an independent, non-governmental, scientific organization. It acts both as an honorific scientific society and an adviser to government, when requested to conduct policy and technical studies. The Academy is supported by contributions from its membership, as well as by grants from governmental agencies; mainly those related to the Ministry of Science and Technology: the Financing Agency for Studies and Projects - FINEP and the National Council of Scientific and Technological Development - CNPq.

The Academy has a membership of 755 scientists, being 443 Full Members, 68 Associate Members, 83 Affiliated Members, 160 Corresponding Members and 1 Collaborating Member. Among the members, 98 (12,98%) are women. The ABC publishes continuously, since 1929, the Annals of the Brazilian Academy of Sciences (Anais da ABC), organizes symposia and meetings, provides advice on scientific issues, promotes studies and specific projects, and develops collaboration with Science Academies in other countries, as well as with other international organizations.

The Brazilian Academy of Sciences, which in its first five years was named Brazilian Society of Sciences, was formally founded on May 3, 1916, in Rio de Janeiro, then the capital of the Brazilian Republic. It had its origin in informal gatherings at the School of Engineering of a group of professors from faculties of learned professions and researchers from other scientific institutions such as the National Museum, the National Observatory and the Institute of Experimental Medicine of Manguinhos (now Oswaldo Cruz Institute).

The new Society comprised three sections: Mathematics, Physicochemical Sciences and Biological Sciences, and was modeled on the French Academy of Sciences. The main objectives of the Society were to encourage its members to pursue scientific research, to stimulate the development of national based research and to diffuse the notion of science as a factor promoting prosperity and the technological development of the country. Although support and aid from the government was expected, the Academy was structured as a private, legally independent organization, appointing its own administrative officers and drawing up its own rules.



In its early years, the Academy played a determinant role in the fostering of science in Brazil, with several of its members contributing significantly to the advancement of other scientific and cultural activities in the country, such as the introduction of radio broadcasting in Brazil (1923) and the creation of the Brazilian Society for Education (1924). After the World War II, the Academy played a leading role in the creation, in 1951, of the National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq). In fact, the plan approved by the government was conceived in the Academy, whose president (Alvaro Alberto da Motta e Silva) was appointed as the first president of the Council.

Since 1952, the sections of the Academy are: Mathematics, Physical Sciences, Chemical Sciences, Earth Sciences and Biological Sciences. In 1996, when the Academy celebrated its 80th anniversary, a new section was created to cover the area of Engineering Sciences. A new division was established in 1999, when four new areas were created: Biomedical Sciences, Health Sciences, Agrarian Sciences and Human Sciences. These constitute the ten Sections in which the Academy is presently divided.

## 6. THE GLOBAL NETWORK OF SCIENCE ACADEMIES



IAP (Global Network of Science Academies) was established in 1993 with the primary goal to help member academies work together to advise citizens and public officials on the scientific aspects of critical global issues. It currently has 104 member academies around the world. IAP works through scientific programs and initiatives which provide forums for discussion and support the development of research and scientific infrastructure in developing countries.

IAP and its member academies believe that science, scientific knowledge and scientific progress are an essential part of human culture and are vital to advance human welfare and well being. They also believe that the scientific method has much to offer in the pursuit of just and fair societies. These beliefs are the foundation of IAP and all it does. IAP is therefore committed to making the voice of science heard on issues of crucial importance to the future of humankind.

IAP, which is headquartered in Trieste, Italy, operates under the administrative umbrella of the Academy of Sciences for the Developing World (TWAS). The Italian government provides core funding. Member academies provide financial and in-kind contributions to IAP programmatic activities, sponsor IAP events – such as the present symposium, and host executive committee and general assembly meetings.

## 7. INTERAMERICAN NETWORK OF ACADEMIES OF SCIENCES (IANAS)

**the  
INTERACADEMY PANEL  
on international issues**



The Inter-American Network of Academies of Sciences (IANAS) is a regional network of 17 Academies of Sciences created to support cooperation towards the strengthening of science and technology as a tool for advancing research and development, prosperity and equity in the Americas. Linking and strengthening the scientific community in the

hemisphere, IANAS plays a major role in contributing to the promotion of scientific capacity and excellence for sustainable development in the Americas.

Since its launch in 2004, IANAS has implemented two major programs: Science Education, and a Water Program. More recently the network has established two initiatives: a Women for Science Working Group, and an Energy Working Group. The programs and initiatives engage scientists from the IANAS membership, developing regional capacity building and influencing policy and decision making processes in the Americas.

Currently the following countries belong to IANAS: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, United States, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru, the Dominican Republic and Venezuela. In addition to these, the Latin American Academy of Sciences, the Caribbean Academy of Sciences and the Caribbean Scientific Union are also part of the Network of Academies of Sciences.

## 8. VENUE OF THE MEETING: LATIN AMERICA MEMORIAL

The Latin America Memorial (in Portuguese, Memorial da América Latina) is a cultural, political and leisure complex, inaugurated in 1989, in São Paulo, Brazil. The architectural setting, designed by Oscar Niemeyer, is a monument to the cultural, political, social and economic integration of Latin America, spanning an area of 84,482 square meters. Its cultural project was developed by Brazilian anthropologist Darcy Ribeiro. It is a public foundation, financially and administratively autonomous, maintained by the state government.

The architectural complex consists of several buildings arranged around two squares. It comprises: *Salão de Atos Tiradentes* (Tiradentes



"hall of acts"), the Victor Civita Latin American Library, the Brazilian Center of Latin American Studies, the Marta Traba Gallery of Latin American Art, the *Pavilhão da Criatividade* ("creativity pavilion"), the Símon Bolívar Auditorium, and the Latin American Parliament building. In the main square (Praça Cívica), there is a large concrete sculpture, also designed by Oscar Niemeyer, representing an open hand in vertical position, with the map of Latin America painted in red. It's a symbol of Latin America's past of oppression and its battles for freedom, with the red map as a reminder of the blood from the sacrifices that were made.

The Memorial has a permanent collection of works of art, on display in the indoors and outdoors spaces, as well as a large assemblage of Latin American folk art, housed in the *Pavilhão da Criatividade*. The library comprises 30,000 titles, besides music and image departments. The Memorial promotes exhibitions, conferences, debates, video sessions, theater, dance and music performances. It also has a research center specializing in Latin American issues and keeps an active bibliographic production.[6] From 1989 to 2007, the Memorial also served as a host to the Latin American Parliament

## 9. MEALS

During your stay in São Paulo, lunch will be served at the venue of the meeting, while dinner will be at the hotel.

## 10. TRANSFER TO MEETING

During the days of the meeting we will be supplying a transfer service from the hotel to the Latin America Memorial and back to the hotel at the end of the day. Please consult the schedule below to confirm what time you shall be at the lobby of the hotel to take the van to the venue

MONDAY 25 JUNE	TUESDAY 26 JUNE	WEDNESDAY 27 JUNE	THURSDAY 28 JUNE
07:00	07:30	07:30	07:30

## 11. CLIMATE

São Paulo is no longer "the misty city." According to the study "Meteorology and Atmospheric Pollution in São Paulo", developed by the University of São Paulo, increases in average temperature over the last 40 years have led to a reduction in the mists and fogs that once characterized the city.

São Paulo enjoys a high-altitude tropical climate, with summer rains and an average temperature of from 19° to 27°C. It is possible to experience all four seasons in just one day. In the morning, the weather can be sunny and cloudless yet the day may end with a storm. This is why Paulistanos often carry jackets and umbrellas, even on hot days.

In the summer, it usually rains at the end of the afternoon, cooling things off. In the fall, the temperature is pleasant at an average of around 23°C. Winter days are sunny and dry with temperatures that rarely dip below 15°C. In the spring, it is usually warm and dry.

MONDAY 25 JUNE	TUESDAY 26 JUNE	WEDNESDAY 27 JUNE	THURSDAY 28 JUNE
			
<b>21°c</b> 15°	<b>17°c</b> 13°	<b>18°</b> 12°	<b>19°</b> 12°
chance of rain: 60%	chance of rain: 40%	chance of rain: 60%	chance of rain: 30%

## 12. CURRENCY

The unit of money in Brazil is the Real (BRL). The national currency consists of bills ranging from R\$1, R\$2, R\$5, R\$10, R\$20, R\$50 and R\$100. Coins are also available in varied colors and sizes, with value ranging from 1 cent, 5 cents, 10 cents, 25 cents, 50 cents and also 1 Real. Images of Brazilian animals illustrate one side of the bills, being the other side illustrated by a female character, which represents the Republic.

Currency rate for June 15: 1 USD = 2.04 BRL

## 13. TIME ZONE

The official time in São Paulo is UTC/GMT -3 hours.

## 14. ELECTRICITY

The electrical voltage in São Paulo is of 110 V.

## 15. CONNECTIVITY

Wi-Fi access in the hotel lobby and room. There is no Wi-Fi access in the meeting room, but terminals will be available for your use.

## 16. OBSERVATIONS

- If you have any kind of food restriction, please let us know ASAP so that we can make special arrangements for you.
- In addition, if you have any kind of health problem or special need, please let us know so that we can make arrangements to meet your needs

Hoping to offer you a pleasant stay in São Paulo, we are anxiously awaiting your arrival.

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