

**MEETINGS OF THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMITTEE
ON PORTS (CIP)
OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES (OAS)**



September 12-16, 2005

Maracaibo, Venezuela

NEWSLETTER

1. Meetings

The following meetings will be held on this occasion:

- i. VI Meeting of the Technical Advisory Group on Port Operations (TAGPO)
- ii. VIII Meeting of the Technical Advisory Group on Port Security (TAGPS)
- iii. VI Meeting of the Technical Advisory Group on Navigation Safety and Environmental Protection (TAGNS&EP)
- iv. IV Meeting of the of the Inter-American Committee on Ports (CIP)

2. Principal Objective and Functions:

The purpose of the Inter-American Committee on Ports (CIP) of the Organization of American States (OAS) is to serve as a permanent Inter-American forum for the highest-ranking national government authorities on port-related issues in the 34 member States, and to strengthen cooperation in the area of hemispheric port development, with the private sector's active participation and collaboration. To accomplish these objectives, the CIP holds regular meetings every two years. The main functions of the CIP are the following: To serve as the principal advisory organ of the Organization and its member in all topics concerning the development of the port sector; To propose and promote hemispheric cooperation policies in accordance with the guidelines of the General Assembly, the CIDI, and the Summit of the Americas; To facilitate and propose the improvement of the activities of the port sector in the hemisphere; To promote the adoption of port sector cooperation agreements among the governments of member States; To collect and disseminate information related to port sector activities among member States; To generate, analyze, propose and adopt programs, projects and activities on port sector matters, among other functions. The last three CIP meetings were held: I in Guatemala, (1999), II in San Jose, Costa Rica (2001) y la III in Merida, Mexico (2003). In the last meeting resolution CIDI/CIP/RES.49 (III-03), was approved and it was decided that the CIP IV Meeting was going to be held in Maracaibo, Venezuela from September 13 to 16, 2005. The OAS 34 member States are: Antigua y Barbuda, Argentina, Belize, Bahamas, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Saint Kitts and Nevis,Trinidad and Tobago, the United States, Uruguay and Venezuela. The first meeting of the CIP took place in Guatemala, 1999 and the second in Costa Rica, 2001.

3. Technical Advisory Groups (TAGS):

The Technical Advisory Groups (TAGs), is an advisory forum to the CIP on specific aspects of hemispheric port-sector development. There are currently three active TAGs that were created in 1999.

TAG on Port Operations (TAGPO), chaired by Mexico and consisting of: Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Jamaica, Peru, Saint Lucia, Suriname, the United States, Uruguay and Venezuela.

TAG on Port Security (TAGPS), chaired by the United States and consisting of: Argentina, Barbados, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela; as well as Spain as an observer country.

TAG on Navigation Safety and Environmental Protection (TAGNS&EP), chaired by Argentina, with two Vice-Chairs, Navigation Safety (Argentina) and Environmental Protection (Venezuela) and integrated by: Barbados, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama and the United States; as well as Spain as an observer country.

Both meetings are open to the participation of all accredited delegates from the OAS member States, the observer States, international, regional, and national organizations, and guests properly accredited before the Secretariat.

4. Place and date of the meetings: The CIP and TAGs meetings will be held from ***the 12th to the 16th of September, 2005***, at the Maruma Hotel of Maracaibo, Cirunvalación N°2, Maracaibo Venezuela. Telephone: (58-261) 730-2700, Fax: (58-261) 730-2727, Email: info@hotelmarama.com

5. Exhibition Room: There will be an exhibition of maritime port related products and services. Those interested in participating may contact the National Coordinator, Mr. Alexander Liendo, General Port Director, INEA. Telephone: (58-212) 909-1544, Fax: (58-212) 909-3249, E-mail: inea16@inea.gov.ve

6. Draft Agenda and Rules of Procedure: The draft agenda for the IV Meeting of the CIP was drawn up by the Secretariat, in coordination with the Chairman and the host country. The draft agenda for the TAGs meetings was prepared by the office of its respective Chair. The Rules of Procedure for the Executive Board and TAGs will govern these meetings, respectively.

7. Meetings Secretary:

Carlos M. Gallegos
Executive Secretary
Inter-American Committee on Ports
Organization of American States
1889 F. Street, N.W., Office 773
Washington, D.C., 20006 United States
Tel: (202) 458-3871 / Fax: (202) 458-3517
E-mail: cgallegos@oas.org

8. National Coordination: Admiral Erberts Camacho Liendo, Chair of the Instituto Nacional de los Espacios Acuáticos e Insulares, has appointed Mr. Alexander Liendo as the National Coordinator for this event:

Alexander Liendo
General Port Director
National Institute for Insular and Aquatic Spaces (INEA)
Avenida Orinoco cruce con Mucuchícs, Edificio INEA - P.H., Urbanización Las Mercedes
Caracas, Distrito Capital, Venezuela
Telefax: (58-212) 909-1544
E-mail: inea16@inea.gov.ve

- 9. Registration of official delegations:** The representatives and advisors of the delegations of the member States and observer States, international and regional organizations and associate members of the TAGs (that are not in arrears on their contributions and that wish to attend the meeting of the Executive Board) should submit their credentials to the Secretariat, confirming their assistance to the meeting of the Executive Board of the CIP and to the meetings of the TAGs, preferably before **August 12, 2005**. Confirmed delegations will have the benefit of documents and informative material for all their members. The delegations that are unable to send their credential in advance, will be able to do so at the meeting, beginning Sunday, **Sunday, September 11, 2005 from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm** at the Hotel Maruma in Maracaibo.
- 10. Registration of guests:** Guests (and associated members who are in arrears in their quotas and that wish to attend the CIP meeting), must send the registration form attached and the corresponding admission fee before **August 12, 2005**. The fee will be US \$250 per guest and US \$ 200 per escort. National invited guests must send their registration form and fee to the National Coordinator. Foreign guests must send forms by fax to the Secretariat of the CIP, including the fee of bank transfers. After the indicated date above, you can register at the meeting, with an admissions fee of US \$ 300 per guest and US \$250 per escort with cash only. Please see registration attachment.
- 11. Simultaneous Interpretation:** Simultaneous interpretation will be available at the CIP meeting in Spanish and English.
- 12. Communications:** International telephone and facsimile services will be available at the user's expense, at the hotel as well as at the meeting headquarters.
- 13. Currency and Exchange Rates:** Local currency is the Bolívar, which as of July 6, 2005, held a rate of 2,150 Bs to one United States dollar (US\$). Exchange can be done at the International Airport La Chinita (Maracaibo), at the International Airport Maiquetía (Caracas), in city banks and at the hotel. For more details on your country currency/exchange rates visit: <http://www.oanda.com>.

14. **Hotel:** A preferential tax-included rate which includes breakfast was obtained at the hotel where the meetings are being held. A more economical hotel option is also provided (the hotel is in front of the Meeting hotel).

Hotel	Single Room	Double Room
<p><u>Maruma Hotel</u> (Meeting hotel)</p> <p>Circunvalación N°2 Apartado Postal 404 Maracaibo, Venezuela</p> <p>Tel: (58-261) 730-2700 / 730-2782 Fax: (58-261) 730-2831 / 730-2727 E-mail: info@hotelmaruma.com / eventos@hotelmaruma.com Website: www.hotelmaruma.com</p> <p><u>Costa Real Hotel</u></p> <p>Avenida Circunvalación N°2 (Diagonal to the Maruma Hotel) Maracaibo, Venezuela</p> <p>Telefax: (58-261) 736-5936 E-mail: costa_realhotel@cantv.net</p> <p>Web Page: www.hotelcostareal.net</p>	<p><i>Superior</i></p> <p>\$96.00 + 16% tax</p> <p><i>Standard</i></p> <p>\$72.00 + 16% tax</p> <p>(Both rates include breakfast)</p> <p>\$58.00</p> <p>(Rate includes breakfast)</p>	<p><i>Superior</i></p> <p>\$106.00 + 16% tax</p> <p><i>Standard</i></p> <p>\$82 + 16% tax</p> <p>(Both rates include breakfast)</p> <p>\$63.00</p> <p>(Rate includes breakfast)</p>

15. **Hotel Reservation:** Attached to this document is the hotel reservation form.

- ❖ *For the Maruma Hotel*, please send it to Mrs. Maryori Labarca, Events and Groups Executive. Telephone: (58-261) 730-2782 / 730-2829, Fax: (58-261) 730-2831 / 730-2727, E-mail: mlabarca@hotelmaruma.com
- ❖ *For the Costa Real Hotel*, please send it to Mrs. Irisbel Vilchez, Public Relations Manager. Telefax: (58-261) 736-5936, Cellular phone: (58-414) 634-0440, E-mail: costa_realhotel@cantv.net

In both cases, it will be appreciated if a copy was sent to the National Coordination, Mr. Alexander Liendo, General Port Director, INEA. Telefax: (58-212) 909-1544, E-mail: inea16@inea.gov.ve and to the Port Authority of Maracaibo, Mrs. Jasmine Lizcano, President, Port of Maracaibo. Telephone: (58-261) 723-2353, Fax: (58-261) 722-6760, E-mail: jlizcano@netuno.net.ve.

For your information, the rates of both hotels will remain the same for the rest of the year.

MARACAIBO, VENEZUELA- MEETING HEADQUARTERS

- 16. Arrival into the country:** All foreigners must carry a valid passport (at least six months) upon entry into Venezuela. Please consult the Venezuelan Consulate or Embassy in your country if a visa is required, and if so, the payment needed to obtain it.
- 17. Travel arrangements:** Participant expenses are the responsibility of their relevant governments and/or organizations. Participants must insure that their ticket be "round-trip", having the corresponding reservation before leaving for Maracaibo, Venezuela.
- 18. Airport:** It is recommended that participants arrive at Maracaibo International Airport, La Chinita, in Maracaibo, Venezuela or at Simón Bolívar International Airport in Caracas, Venezuela. Among the airlines that offer national flights are AEROPOSTAL, ASERCA and LASER. Please fill out the information giving notice of the date and time of arrival and fax it to the indicated fax number, so as to coordinate transportation from the airport to the hotel.
- 19. Customs:** Every participant must be cleared by customs at the first point of entry into the country.
- 20. Weather:** The temperature is usually around 28° C y 40°C (82° F 104°F). Most precipitation occurs during the months of May- August.
- 21. Attire:** During work meetings, formal dress is advised and for evening receptions, casual dress is recommended.
- 22. Electrical Current:** Electrical current in Maracaibo is 110 volts, 60 Hz.
- 23. Local Time:** During September is the same as in Washington D.C. (GMT-4 standard hours/Summer).
- 24. Additional Information:** If you need further information with regards to the meeting, please contact the Meeting Chairman in Washington, D.C., or the National Coordinator in Venezuela. For tourist information contact the Tourism Vice-Ministry, vin@mpc.gov.ve or dgt@mpc.gov.ve.
- 25. Other information of interest:** Maracaibo, located to the West of Venezuela, State Capital of Zulia, is the second largest city of Venezuela and is oftenly described as the most colorful of the nation. Maracaibo lays at the shore of the Maracibo Lake and was discovered on August 24, 1499, by the sailor Alonso de Ojeda, whom accompanied Columbus in his second travels. The city of Maracaibo was founded on three opportunities. The first time was in 1529, by the German Ambrosio Alfinger, who gave it the name of Maracaibo or Villa de Maracaibo. It had little activity and as a consequence in 1535, Nicholas Federmán ordered to evacuate and transfer the population to the Vela cape in the neighborhoods of Coro. After a second failed attempt by Captain Alonso Pacheco to reestablish the population, it was not until 1573 when Governor Diego de Mazariegos entrusted in Captain Pedro Maldonado that this occurred. Thus for 1574 "La Nueva Zamora de Maracaibo was founded in honor of Governor Mazariegos, native of the city of Zamora in Spain. From this last foundation, Maracaibo began to develop step by step and to grow like a city in all the senses. Though Maracaibo-born, General Rafael Urdaneta was a national

hero and a main collaborator of Simón Bolívar, "El Libertador", Maracaibo did not joined the April 10, 1810 independence movement. Two years later, after the Carabobo victory, Maracaibo was under the "realistas" power, until June, 1823 when the patriotic troops defeated the Spanish fleet at Maracaibo's Lake naval battle. Maracaibo's and Zulia's richness is now in the petroleum, petroleum refinery and petroleum terminal boarding fields. This diversified and astounding region opened the door for Venezuela in the new millenium, both for its economic contributions, as well as for its engineering masterpieces and it's inhabitants interest for modernization. Maracaibo had the first cinematographer in the country, as well as, the first electrical lighting system and elevators. Zulia is more than petroleum, agriculture and cattle farming. It is a colossal mosaic of races, an effervescent laboratory of musical traditions, an splendid example of the surviving "palafíticos" towns in Venezuela with a majestic desert and wildlife scenarios. Warm in climate and attention, the city and its ample surroundings offer a wide range of cultural, historical, gastronomical, ecological and amusement options. Its port, at the beginning of the century was the main cultural and trade entrance of the country, has characterized the particular life of the Zulian society. Maracaibo's lake is the major blessing received from nature by Zulia, with a 13,000 km square area that holds a respectable position among the world largest lakes. It is the most important existing lake route in Venezuela and for the Zulian state it constitutes the most important road artery for trade and for many communities. Today, there are towns that have stayed living in Maracaibo's lake waters, as in the case of the Santa Rosa's "palafitos", located at the northern side of the city, where it is common to find children of indigenous characteristics bathing in waters and canoes. Their ancestors are remembered by preserving Santa Rosa's "palafitos" structure. Today Santa Rosa has become a tourist destination where delicious meals can be enjoyed in an outdoor exotic environment. Among Maracaibo's traditions are the festivities taking place during the month of November honoring the Chiquinquirá Virgin. This event has duration of one week, and brings together thousands of people for celebrating.

Historical and Religious Sites: Baralt Theatre, Bolívar Plaza, Carabobo Street, Legislative Palace, Maracaibo Cathedral, Morales House, Saint Lucia and Cristo de Aranza Temple and Our Lady of Chiquinquirá Basilica.

Museums: Fine Arts Center, General Rafael Urdaneta Museum, Maracaibo Arts Center "Lía Bermúdez" and Zulia Contemporary Art Museum.

Gastronomy/Restaurants: La Matera, El Zaguán, Mi Vaquita, Rancho Palmira, Palmasola y El Tinajero. (Specialties served are from the region).

Other cultural attractions: Colonial Zone: Saladillo, Empedrao and Carabobo Street, "General Rafael Urdaneta" Bridge, "Mirador del Lago" Park, San Carlos Island, Santa Rosa de Agua and "Vereda del Lago" Park



Meetings of the Inter-American Committee on Ports (CIP)

Maracaibo, Venezuela
September 12 to 16 2005

GUEST REGISTRATION

Country_____

Name_____

Job Tittle_____

Institution_____

Address_____

Phone Number_____Fax:_____

E-mail_____

Companion_____

Registration Fees

	Before August, 12 of 2005 (Domestic: Payment to INEA Foreigners: Wire transfer)*	During the meeting (Cash only) (US\$)
Guests	U\$250	U\$300
Companions	U\$200	U\$250

- **Local participants: Payment must be made to Port of Maracaibo, National Coordinator: Mr. Alexander Liendo**, Port General Director, National Institute for Insular and Aquatic Spaces, (INEA) Avenida Orinoco cruce con Mucuchícs, Edificio INEA - P.H., Urbanización Las Mercedes, Caracas, Distrito Capital, Venezuela, Telefax: (58) 212 909-1544, E-mail: inea16@inea.gov.ve.
- **Foreigners: Wire Transfer:**
Bank full name : Bank of America
Aba/routing # : 0260-0959-3
Bank address : 730 15th Street , N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005 - 1012, U.S.A.
Account number : 20-801-25-354
Account name : OAS General Secretariat
Additionally include: PORTS/935, Task 12 (Maracaibo Meeting 2005) and guest name.

Signature

Date

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OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES (OAS)**



September 12-16, 2005

Maracaibo, Venezuela

HOTEL RESERVATION AND FLIGHT INFORMATION

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name:			
Address:			
City:		Country:	
Telephone:		Fax:	
E-mail:			
Credit Card:			
No.		Expiration date:	
Name appearing on card:			

HOTEL

Hotel	Room		Check in date	Check out date
MARUMA HOTEL	Single	Double		
COSTA REAL HOTEL				

Flights

Arrival date	Airline	Flight No.	Departing from	Destination
Departure date	Airline	Flight No.	Departing from	Destination

* Please complete this form and send it via fax or e-mail to the Maruma Hotel, addressed to Mrs. Maryori Labarca, Events and Groups Executive. Fax: (58-261)730-2831/730-2727, E-mail: info@hotelmarama.com / eventos@hotelmarama.com; or to the Costa Real Hotel, addressed to Mrs. Irisbel Vílchez, Public Relations Manager. Telefax: (58-261)736-5936, E-mail: costa_realhotel@cantv.net. Please send a copy to the National Coordination, Mr. Alexander Liendo, General Port Director, INEA. Telefax: (58-212) 909-1544, E-mail: inea16@inea.gov.ve and to the Port Authority of Maracaibo, Mrs. Jasmine Lizcano, President, Port of Maracaibo. Fax: (58-261) 722-6760, E-mail: jizcano@netuno.net.ve.