



ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES
Inter-American Council for Integral Development
Inter-American Committee on Ports



**VIII MEETING OF THE
INTER-AMERICAN
COMMITTEE ON PORTS (CIP)**
September 10-13, 2013
Cartagena, Colombia

OEA/Ser.W/XIII.4.8
CIDI/CIP/doc.9/13¹
20 September 2013
Original: Spanish

ACTIVITIES REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP (TAG) ON
TOURISM, SHIP SERVICES, AND NAVIGATION SAFETY

Activities Report, March 2012 – July 2013

(Document presented by the Delegation of Argentina)

¹ This document was considered by the CIP as document CECIP/doc 6/13

TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP (TAG) ON TOURISM, SHIP SERVICES, AND
NAVIGATION SAFETY

Activities Report, March 2012 – July 2013

I. Members: Chair: Argentina; Member countries: Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Peru, Suriname, and Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

II. Work Plan 2012/2013 and activities carried out:

Ladies and gentlemen, delegates: the former Technical Advisory Group on Navigation Safety, today known as indicated in heading above, was created by resolution CIDI/CIP/RES. 58 (IV-05) (Maracaibo, Venezuela, in September 2005), which assigned to it basic responsibilities with respect to its budget, authorities, and work plan, to advise the Inter-American Committee on Ports on matters related to navigation safety so that it can make the best decisions to implement sustainable port development.

Proof of this has been the successive meetings held to date: The First Meeting of the TAG, which was held in Guayaquil, Ecuador, on June 26, 2006; the Second Meeting, in Salvador de Bahía, Brazil, in September 2007; the Third Meeting, in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in March 2009; the Fourth Meeting, in Panama City, Panama, in March 2010; the Fifth Meeting, in Viña del Mar, Chile; and the last Meeting, in Lima, Peru, in March 2012.

During the last Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Ports, held this past March in the city of Lima, Republic of Peru, resolution CIDI/CIP/RES. 117 (VII-12) was adopted, approving the “LIMA ACTION PLAN 2012-2013” of the INTER-AMERICAN COMMITTEE ON PORTS (approved during the fifth plenary session, held March 16, 2012, pending revision by the Style Committee). As it was the responsibility of the VII Regular Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Ports (CIP) to propose an Action Plan for the biennium 2012-2013, it ultimately resolved to approve and implement the CECIP proposal for the Lima Action Plan 2012-2013 (CECIP/doc.17/12). The section of the Plan on PRIORITY THEMATIC AREAS describes tourism, ship services, and navigation safety, creating a new name for the TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP in the document *Guidelines for a Strategic Vision of the Inter-American Committee on Ports: Strengthening Hemispheric*

Cooperation in Sustainable Port Development for Prosperity (CIP Vision): TOURISM, SHIP SERVICES, AND NAVIGATION, to be chaired by the Argentine Republic.

As the CIP stated in that document, “Ship services include those provided by port companies and organizations to cargoes transiting through access channels and their stay in port waters. It must be ensured that such services are provided efficiently, reliably, safely and in a competency framework that redound in competitive prices. This area also includes the simplification of formal arrivals and departures processes for ships [...] vessel traffic services (VTS), security measures of Liquefied Natural Gas vessels of great dimensions, the power supply to ships from the port (“cold-ironing”), and navigation improvement to reduce freight costs, among others.”

“Additionally, the maritime industry of passenger cruise ships represents an important source of foreign currency for Caribbean member states, in some cases representing more than double of tourist arrivals [...] to these countries. The service and protection for cruise ships with an environmental perspective is essential for the growth of this and other regions, and it requires direct efforts to manage these tasks, taking advantage of the synergies with the OAS and other international agencies.”

In addition, the TAG appropriately submitted an Action Plan to CECIP for the biennium 2012-2013 following the approved methodology. The Work Plan approved established the following: 1) interact with the Technical Advisory Groups or other bodies created by the Inter-American Committee on Ports to harmonize the Group’s work with the areas defined in the CIP Action Plan 2012-2013; 2) identify, compile, and disseminate appropriate information on tourism, ship services, and navigation safety; 3) design and organize international meetings, conferences, or technical sessions attended by expert presenters, delegates, guests, and other parties interested in the subject; 4) promote the preparation, dissemination, and discussion of studies, articles, and documents on the analysis of tourism, ship services, and navigation safety; 5) develop a database of experts from the member states who specialize in the matters addressed by this TAG; 6) produce informative written material in at least two of the Organization’s official languages that publicizes and promotes its activities for the current biennium; 7) design and maintain a website with information about

its work; 8) identify training needs and promote training in the main area addressed by this TAG; 9) prepare the pertinent written reports for the chair of the Executive Board; 10) promote the engagement of the member states, urging them to encourage experts in the area addressed by this TAG to participate in the meetings and work of the Group; 11) devise a plan to attract associate members, indicating the cost-benefit of their participation and detailing their functions and responsibilities; 11) prepare proposals and recommendations on policies and strategies and submit them to the CIP through the Executive Board.

In this regard, the Chair of the TAG understood it to be a priority to move forward with the design of a website (section 7) that would contain the information on other points of the plan—in particular, points 5 and 8—as indicated in the Third Work Session of CECIP. The design of the website has been completed.

With the collaboration of the members of the TAG, the profiles and information needed to develop a database of experts in the areas addressed by the TAG (section 5) have been identified, along with training needs in the TAG's key areas of interest (section 8). This information is expected to be included in the website that was designed.

Furthermore, three videoconferences were held to maintain contact with the other members and exchange information about the programmed activities.

Finally, pursuant to the provisions of point 8 of the Activities Plan, preparations are fully under way for the Hemispheric Convention on Dredging and Buoyage, scheduled for October 2-3 of this year, as reported to CECIP in its Third Work Session. If the convention cannot be held at that time, it is proposed that it be held in the second quarter of 2014.

III. Proposed Work Plan 2014/2015:

With respect to the Activities Plan for the biennium 2014-2015, continuation of the activities outlined in the Plan for 2012-2013 is proposed, formulating the Plan as follows:

Objectives: The biannual Action Plan 2014-2015 is conceived as a complement to the activities of the member states, based on the impetus stemming from the solidarity and

cooperation among the delegations of the member states, and serves as a guide for establishing a joint work program with quantifiable annual goals.

The main objectives of the Action Plan are:

General Objective: Make progress toward optimizing services in the priority areas of tourism, ships, and above all, navigation safety, working together for the joint participation of all the delegations that comprise the Technical Advisory Group, complementing the activities of each country within its own territory to achieve excellent results that lead to the structural and operational modernization of a sound, sustainable port sector.

Specific Objectives: (i) Increase services in the tourism sector of every member state by improving and modernizing the port system through regulatory frameworks and international standards that are agile, dynamic, and safe enough to attract investments without detriment to environmental protection and port security; (ii) Optimize systems and procedures that enhance the agility and operativity of the services provided to ships during their movement in and out of ports by strengthening port-sector cooperation among the delegations through initiatives that address the needs of the member states; and (iii) Strengthen, update, and modernize navigation safety systems, intensifying the inter-American port-sector dialogue and adopting appropriate security and protection procedures—fundamentally to protect human life on the water and the goods of the member states and third parties, calling for the sharing of experiences with the new technologies available.

In order to achieve these objectives, the following action must be promoted:

1. Interact with the Technical Advisory Groups or other bodies created by the Inter-American Committee on Ports to harmonize the work of the Groups with the areas defined in the CIP Action Plan 2012-2013.
2. Identify, compile, and disseminate appropriate information on tourism, ship services, and navigation safety.
3. Design and organize international meetings, conferences, or technical sessions attended by expert presenters, delegates, guests, and other parties interested in the subject.

4. Promote the preparation, dissemination, and discussion of studies, articles, and documents on the analysis of tourism, ship services, and navigation safety.
5. Develop a database of experts from the member states who specialize in the matters addressed by this TAG;
6. Produce informative written material in at least two of the Organization's official languages that publicizes and promotes its activities for the current biennium.
7. Maintain a website with information about its work.
8. Identify training needs and promote training in the main area addressed by this TAG.
9. Prepare the pertinent written reports for the chair of the Executive Board.
10. Promote the engagement of the member states, urging them to encourage experts in the area addressed by this TAG to participate in the meetings and work of the Group
11. Devise a plan to attract associate members, indicating the cost-benefit of their participation and detailing their functions and responsibilities.
12. Prepare proposals and recommendations on policies and strategies and submit them to the CIP through the Executive Board.