

NOTIFICATION

Subject: Composition of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) and the Science-Policy Advisory Committee (SPAC)

Dear Madam or Sir,

Further to Notification [IAIDIR2026/6](#) concerning the composition of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) and the Science-Policy Advisory Committee (SPAC), and in preparation for the Thirty-Fourth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP-34), to be held virtually on 3–4 June 2026, the Directorate wishes to inform the Parties that the following re-nominations have been received from the Parties:

Science-Policy Advisory Committee (SPAC):

- **Carlos Joly**, re-nominated by the national representative of Brazil
- **Gilma Mantilla**, re-nominated by the national representative of Colombia
- **Inty Arcos**, re-nominated by the national representative of Ecuador

Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC):

- **Laura Ramajo**, re-nominated by the national representative of Chile
- **Pedro Laterra**, re-nominated by the national representative of Argentina

The above-mentioned members are eligible for reappointment to a second term in accordance with the respective Rules of Procedure of the SAC and SPAC.

In addition, and in accordance with its Rules of Procedure, the SAC has submitted nominations of new individuals to fill the vacancies arising from the completion of the second terms of current SAC members. The proposed nominees bring recognized expertise in areas including environmental economics, governance of the commons, experimental economics, climate adaptation, Small Island Developing States (SIDS), food systems, water security, disaster risk reduction, education, and public sector engagement across Latin America and the Caribbean.

Candidates proposed by the SAC for consideration as Titular Members

- **Shaneica Lester**: – An early-career researcher from the Caribbean with expertise in Small Island Developing States (SIDS), climate adaptation, food systems, and water security. Dr. Lester is proposed to fill the vacancy resulting from the completion of the second term of Dr. Alexander Turra, vacancy to be filled through nominations submitted by the SAC.
- **Juan Camilo Cárdenas** – An environmental economist from Colombia specializing in governance of the commons and experimental economics, with extensive experience as a senior researcher collaborating with foundations and think tanks. He currently serves as Director of the Centre for the Sustainable Development Goals for Latin America and the

Caribbean. Dr. Cárdenas is proposed to fill the vacancy resulting from the completion of the second term of Dr. Inés Camilloni¹;

he SAC is also proposing the nomination of one Alternate Member. In accordance with the SAC Rules of Procedure, up to three Alternate Members may be appointed.

Candidate proposed by the SAC for consideration as Alternate Member

- **Jeannette Ma. Arauz Muñoz** – A professional from Central America with experience in disaster risk reduction, education, and collaboration with governmental agencies.

The SAC noted that the proposed nominees would bring valuable expertise, regional representation, networks, and perspectives to the Committee, while further strengthening its disciplinary diversity, gender balance, and representation across regions and career stages.

Short bios are available in this [shared folder](#).

Accordingly, the Conference of the Parties at CoP-34 will be invited to consider and approve the renewal of the aforementioned appointments, as well as the nomination of the proposed new SAC members.

Please accept, Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Sincerely,



Omar López Alfano
Interim Executive Director

¹ Although Dr. Camilloni was originally nominated by the Parties, this proposal seeks to regularize the composition of the SAC in accordance with its Rules of Procedure. At present, the number of SAC members nominated by the Parties exceeds the proportion established under the Rules, while the number of members to be nominated directly by the SAC remains below the required quota. This situation arose following the early departure of Dr. Michelle Scobie, a SAC-nominated member, whose replacement was not subsequently proposed by the SAC.