



# CONNECTIONS

March / April 2017

Connecting People and Ideas to Water Solutions

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## Results of Voting for Constitutional Amendments Announced



The results are in! Voting for the first amendments to the IDA Constitution in the Association’s 40+ year history concluded on March 13 and the votes have been certified. Thirteen of the 15 proposed Amendments have been approved and will take effect April 14, 2017 – 30 days after the votes were certified.

Only two amendments were not approved. Voters rejected the proposed amendment to Article VI. Board of Directors Section 3. General Member and Representation Item C. Nomination of General Directors. This amendment would have imposed a limit of four consecutive terms for individuals to serve on the Board before being required to take a two-term absence. It would also have placed a cap on the number of Directors from any one organization including affiliates and subsidiaries, and would have imposed a requirement of one full term of membership in IDA for candidates to be on the Board. Of the 1,064 votes cast for this proposed change, 833 voted to not adopt it with only 231 votes in the affirmative.

Also not adopted was the proposed amendment to Article VI. Board of Directors Section 10. Vacancies. This amendment would have revised the procedure for vacating an IDA Office to clearly state that it is to be used only for removal for cause: i.e., unethical activities or unsatisfactory performance of duties. Of the 1,062 votes cast, 633 approved this amendment with 429 votes to not approve it, but this number failed to reach the requisite threshold of 2/3 the number of members who returned the ballot.

All other proposed amendments were approved by a wide margin.

As required in the Article XI. Balloting section of the Constitution, IDA enlisted a third-party vendor to manage the voting process in such a way that ensured its integrity while preserving the anonymity of each voter. To ensure privacy, at no time did anyone from IDA or its Board have access to any voters’ names or email addresses.

We invite you to review the following chart that details the amendments and voting results. ■

■ signifies the end of an article.

Ballot	Article	Amendment	Results
1	<p><b>Article II.</b>  <b>Goals, Objectives, Strategies and Principles</b>  <b>Section 1 and 2</b>  <b>Section 1. Goals</b></p>	<p>CURRENT WORDING: The goals of the Association will be the development and promotion of the appropriate use of desalination and desalination technology world-wide in water supply, water reuse, water pollution control, water purification, water treatment, and other water sciences and technology.</p> <p>ADDITION: 1. As part of the implementation of the IDA Strategic Plan, Sections 1 and 2 of Article II of the Constitution should be revised to reflect water reuse having equal status with desalination in the IDA mission.</p>	<p>Adopted  Yes = 1043 <u>No = 25</u>  Total Votes = 1068</p>
2	<p><b>Article VI. Board of Directors</b>  <b>Section 1. Power and Duties</b>  <b>d. audit and financial management</b></p>	<p>CURRENT WORDING: To borrow money and incur indebtedness for the purposes of the corporation, and to cause to be executed and delivered in the corporate name promissory notes, bonds, debentures, deeds of trust, mortgages, pledges, or other evidence of debt and securities. However, any commitment for indebtedness above and beyond the assets of the Association must be approved by the membership.</p> <p>ADDITION: There will be an audit once each term of IDA financial data, financial position, and financial management performed by a reputable, qualified public accounting firm selected by the Board.</p> <p>ADDITION: The draft independent audit report will be submitted to the Board for review and approval. After BOD approval, the final report of IDA financial position will be provided electronically to the general membership.</p>	<p>Adopted  Yes = 1042 <u>No = 21</u>  Total Votes = 1063</p>
3	<p><b>Article VI. Board of Directors</b>  <b>Section 3. General Member and Representation</b>  <b>Item C. Nomination of General Directors</b></p>	<p>CURRENT WORDING: The nomination of candidates for Director to be placed on a ballot will be undertaken by the Membership and Election Committee in an open and fair manner which will reasonably permit any Class I or Class II member or their Designated Representative to stand for election within the context of the member's cultural tradition.</p> <p>Except for 1985, all persons who have been continuous active members or Designated Representatives in the Association for at least one (1) year at the time that the nomination period begins are eligible to stand for election as a Director.</p> <p>DELETED TEXT TO BE REPLACED WITH NEW WORDING: One (1) full term of membership will be required for candidates for election to the Board.</p> <p>ADDITION: No more than two directors from any one organization, including subsidiaries and affiliates, may serve in any one term of the Board of Directors.</p> <p>ADDITION: No member of the IDA may serve more than four consecutive terms as a member of the Board. A member serving four consecutive elected terms as a member of the Board must have a two-term absence from the Board before again being a candidate for the BOD. This requirement will be effective for the election of the Board for the term commencing in 2019.</p> <p>* Note: The Board approved (motion 7-8) on September 28, 2016, that an appropriate staggering mechanism will be defined to ensure an orderly and fair transition of IDA Board Members.</p>	<p><b>Not Adopted</b>  Yes = 231 <u>No = 833</u>  Total Votes = 1064</p>
4	<p><b>Article VI. Board of Directors</b>  <b>Section 6. Resignation</b></p>	<p>ADDITION: If a Board member resigns from the Board, the vacancy will be filled by a special election unless the effective date of the resignation is less than six months from the end of the term of the Board. In this situation, the vacancy will continue until filled in the regular election.</p>	<p>Adopted  Yes = 1037 <u>No = 24</u>  Total Votes = 1061</p>
5	<p><b>Article VI. Board of Directors</b>  <b>Section 10. Vacancies</b></p>	<p>CURRENT WORDING: A vacancy of General Director due to resignation, death, or removal shall be filled by appointment for the remaining term of office by a General Member or its Designated Representative whose name is agreed upon jointly by the President and the two Vice Presidents. The appointment must be confirmed by a majority of all of the Directors in order to take effect.</p> <p>NEW WORDING: The current procedure for vacating an IDA Office will be revised to clearly state that is to be used only for removal for cause: i.e., unethical activities or unsatisfactory performance of duties.</p>	<p><b>Not Adopted *</b>  Yes = 633 <u>No = 429</u>  Total Votes = 1062  *Did not receive at least 2/3 affirmative votes of members who returned ballots</p>
6	<p><b>Article VII. Officers</b>  <b>Section 1. Officers</b></p>	<p>CURRENT WORDING: The Elective Officers of the Association will be the President, First Vice President, and Second Vice President. The Appointive Officers of the Association will be the Treasurer, Secretary, Editor, Secretary-General, and Comptroller.</p> <p>These Elective Officers shall be elected by the Directors as the first order of business at the first meeting of the newly elected Directors.</p> <p>Until an Elective Officer is chosen the meeting will be chaired by the previous President, First Vice President, or Second Vice President in that order.</p> <p>The Appointive Officers of the Association will be filled by an appointment, which is agreed upon jointly by the President and two Vice Presidents. The appointment must be confirmed by the Board in order to take effect. The term of office for the Elective and Appointive Officers will be from the time of election or confirmation until the new board begins their term of office.</p> <p>The voting to elect or confirm officers of the Association will be conducted on the following basis:</p> <p><del>The President and two Vice Presidents will be elected on the basis of a two-thirds majority in an open vote of the Board.</del></p> <p>DELETED TEXT TO BE REPLACED WITH NEW WORDING: The Elective Officers of the IDA (President, 1st Vice President, and 2nd Vice President) will be elected by absolute majority of all Directors. Voting will be by secret ballot.</p> <p>ADDITION: Terms of Appointive Officers will be for two years with no limitation on renewals other than those applicable to Board membership for positions held by BOD members.</p> <p>ADDITION: The positions of Parliamentarian and Dean of the IDA Academy will be included in listing of Appointive Officers. The Parliamentarian must be a member of the Board. The duties of these Offices will be included in the Constitution.</p> <p>ADDITION: The start and end of the term of Appointive Officers who are not required to be Board members will be one year later than the start and end of the terms of the Board and the Elective Officers. This will facilitate continuity of activities and give the incoming Board an opportunity to evaluate performance before being renewed. Incumbents will be given 6 months notice of renewal or non-renewal. The notice will require confirmation by a simple majority of the entire Board. The Appointive Officers of the IDA will be elected by absolute majority of all Directors. Voting will be by secret ballot.</p> <p>ADDITION: All Appointive Officers of the IDA who are receiving salaries or other payments for their services will have employment contracts with the IDA. The contracts should specify duties, salaries, any other payments for services, terms and conditions of employment, and employee benefits. The contracts should be with the Board with the President signing on behalf of the Board after Board approval.</p>	<p>Adopted  Yes = 1032 <u>No = 28</u>  Total Votes = 1060</p>

Ballot	Article	Amendment	Results
7	Article VII. Officers Section 2. President	CURRENT WORDING: The President must be a Director and must be able to commit to the time necessary to fulfill the duties of the office. The President must be succeeded after one term by a Director from another region. ADDITION: Candidates for the Office of President must have served at least one term as a member of the Board and have been a VP or the chairperson of a Standing Committee.	Adopted Yes = 1014 <u>No = 47</u> Total Votes = 1061
8	Article VII. Officers Section 3. First Vice President	ADDITION: Candidates for Vice President must have served one term on the Board.	Adopted Yes = 1012 <u>No = 43</u> Total Votes = 1055
9	Article VII. Officers Section 4. Second Vice President	ADDITION: Candidates for Vice President must have served one term on the Board.	Adopted Yes = 1013 <u>No = 46</u> Total Votes = 1059
10	Article VII. Officers Section 5. Treasure	CURRENT WORDING: The Treasurer shall keep an account of all monies received and expended for the use of the Association. The Treasurer shall make disbursements authorized by the Board. All sums received shall be deposited in the bank or banks, or trust company, approved by the Board, and the Treasurer shall make a report annually in an Association publication, at the Association's Technical Conference and when called upon by the President. Funds may be drawn only upon the signature of the Treasurer or his/her appointed representative(s) as approved by the Board. The Treasurer may appoint with approval of the Board one or more assistants or the Secretary-General to perform such duties as the Treasurer may delegate. The funds, books, and vouchers in the Treasurer's hands shall, at all times be subject to verification and inspection by the Board and the Comptroller. The Treasurer shall be a Director. ADDITION: The Treasurer will provide the proposed budget for each IDA financial year to the Board of Directors for review, comment, and approval. The Treasurer will monitor actual cost performance against budget and provide quarterly reports to the Board.	Adopted Yes = 1041 <u>No = 17</u> Total Votes = 1058
11	Article IX. Committees Section 2. Standing Committees	CURRENT WORDING: The Association shall have nine Standing Committees. Those shall be Operations, Finance, Constitution and Bylaws, Publications, Membership and Election, Conference, Education and Scholarship, Audit and Technical Programs. Except for the Audit Committee each standing committee shall be chaired by a Director. A Director may serve on a maximum of two Standing Committees. Each committee must be composed of a minimum of two Directors and except for the Operations Committee may be composed of additional active members. The Operations Committee shall be composed of eight Directors, which will include the President, First Vice President, and Second Vice President. The Publications Committee will include the Editor. The Finance Committee will include the Treasurer. The Audit Committee will include the Comptroller who will be the Chairman. The remaining members of the Audit Committee may not be Directors nor may they not have or have had business dealings during the past year with the Association. The Membership and Election Committee must have at least one General Member for each region. ADDITION: The Constitution will include a brief description of the duties of each of the Standing Committee. It is suggested that each committee submit a draft description to the Chairman of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee and the Chairman of the Operations Committee.	Adopted Yes = 1038 <u>No = 20</u> Total Votes = 1058
12	Article XI. Balloting Section 1. General	CURRENT WORDING: Recognizing the worldwide distribution of the Association's Membership, all balloting of the General Members will be conducted using a mail ballot. Any balloting procedure will be directed by the Nominations and Election Committee. Ballots will be distributed and forwarded to members in a manner which will assure that all eligible Class I and Class II members have a reasonable opportunity to participate in the voting. DELETED TEXT TO BE REPLACED WITH NEW WORDING: Voting for Amendments to the Constitution and voting for the Board of Directors will be by electronic means that provide for anonymity, verification of membership, and protection against multiple votes by one person.	Adopted Yes = 1041 <u>No = 18</u> Total Votes = 1059
13	Article XI. Balloting Section 2. Distributions of Ballots	CURRENT WORDING: Unless otherwise specified ballots will be distributed and forwarded to all eligible voters using a time schedule determined and published by the Nomination and Election Committee which reasonably permits each Class I or Class II Member, or its Designated Representative, to have the ballot at the member's mailing address for at least fifty (50) days and be returned to a designated point, or points, by airmail in time to be included in the final count and tabulation. ADDITION: Dissemination of information regarding candidates for the Board of Directors and the ballots for voting in the election of the Directors will be distributed by electronic means.	Adopted Yes = 1039 <u>No = 18</u> Total Votes = 1057
14	Article XI. Balloting Section 3. Anonymity of Voter	CURRENT WORDING: Balloting is to be conducted in a manner to preserve the anonymity of the voter but permit the verification of the eligibility of the General Member or the Designated Representative to vote. NEW WORDING: Voting for candidates for the Board of Directors will be by electronic means that provide for anonymity, verification of membership, and protection against multiple votes by one person.	Adopted Yes = 1042 <u>No = 16</u> Total Votes = 1058
15	Article XI. Balloting Section 4. Tabulation	CURRENT WORDING: The ballots must be opened and counted in the presence of at least three General Members or their Designated Representatives at each place selected to receive and tabulate the ballots. These members will be appointed by the Chairman of the Nomination and Election Committee. Ballots may not be opened or counted until after the end of the voting period. The results of the balloting will be certified and made public by the Chairman of the Nomination and Election Committee within thirty (30) days of the close of the voting period. The results will be published in the next Association publication. NEW WORDING: Votes in the election of Board members and in the voting on Amendments to the Constitution will be counted by an independent teller contracted or appointed to the task.	Adopted Yes = 1037 <u>No = 23</u> Total Votes = 1060

## Exploring the Potential of Latin America



**By Emilio Gabrielli,  
President of the International  
Desalination Association**

*This article originally appeared in the March/April 2015 issue of the IDA Newsletter. We believe the insights are equally valid today. We hope you enjoy revisiting this piece, which describes the importance of Latin America with regard to water reuse and desalination and of holding the 2017 IDA World Congress in São Paulo.*

It is enough to look at the latest issues of the IDA/GWI Yearbook to see that in recent years, Latin America has become one of the largest users of desalination and reuse technology, with a market size of the same order of magnitude as regions traditionally looked upon as the largest, like the Gulf and Northern Africa.

For instance, in 2013 the new contracted capacity of Seawater Reverse Osmosis in Latin America ranked third behind Asia, virtually tied with the Gulf, according to GWI/DesalData. The bulk of this capacity is in the industrial sector, mainly in the oil & gas and mining sectors.

The application of desalination and reuse technology in the municipal sector is instead lagging behind its potential, at a time when unprecedented drought conditions are making water supplies, in particular for urban use, very critical in several countries from Brazil to Mexico, Chile to Argentina, etc.

This is mainly due to two factors, particularly evident in Brazil:

- Lack of awareness of the reliable technology alternatives available and its affordable costs at political and water utility levels
- Lack of suitable legislation, which could enable, regulate and facilitate use and reuse of water produced with desalination technologies

With this in mind, it was clear to us that the full realization of the potential of water reuse and desalination in the region is vital to ensure economic and social development in the region. The IDA, as the association representing the worldwide desalination and water reuse community,

had to respond even if (or maybe, even more so!) it still counts only a handful of members here, whereas it counts hundreds in all other regions of the world.

This is how the IDA conference, “Water Reuse and Desalination for Latin America Development,” which took place in Rio de Janeiro on March 23 and 24, 2015, was conceived. Its goal was to bring to the region, for the first time, the full range of experiences accumulated in desalination and water reuse worldwide as well as in the area.

This message was delivered by 24 speakers who presented their keynote speeches in four sessions spread over two days. Our speaker roster included experts from many countries of the world, from Australia to Spain, Singapore to Israel, the United Arab Emirates to Saudi Arabia and Curaçao, etc. But the contribution from the region was also impressive, from the host country Brazil to Chile, Argentina to Mexico, and Peru to Venezuela. The first day was focused on success stories in desalination and water reuse in the municipal sector. The second day concentrated on applications in the industrial sector, oil & gas in the morning, and industry/mining in the afternoon. On both days, the program allowed time for debate following the last session.

More than 200 delegates, from Brazil and the whole region, showed their interest and appreciation for the opportunity to benefit from the experiences and knowledge shared throughout the conference. A significant overseas presence also confirmed the attention being focused on the Latin America market from around the world.

The strong presence of key players from Brazil was particularly noticeable. Both Petrobras and Rio de Janeiro’s water utility CEDAE, whose president Jorge Briard was a keynote speaker in the opening ceremony, sent a large contingent of participants.

Most other Brazilian state water utilities, particularly those affected by water scarcity and thus more immediately interested in the potential of the technology, also sent delegates. São Paulo’s water utility contributed with speakers and delegates. The President of ABES and Director of SABESP Dante Pauli Ragazzi was a speaker in the opening session.

*continues on page 11*

## Latin America Country Profile: Mexico

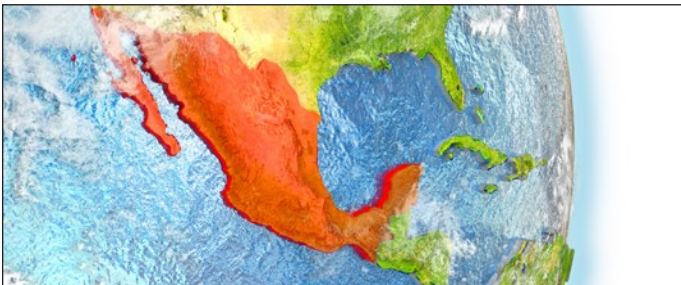


**By Francisco Virgili,  
Global Water Intelligence**

A country with large arid and semi-arid regions and unevenly distributed water resources, Mexico has a long history with desalination, dating back to before 1969 when it commissioned the world's largest desalination plant at Rosarito Beach. Municipal demand, oil

and gas industry reforms, and a reliable tourism trade are set to provide continued opportunities for desalination and reuse in Mexico over the short and medium term.

Utility desalination has been particularly successful and is set to increase in the arid northwest states, including Baja California, Baja California Sur, and Sonora, where water scarcity and tourism have significantly increased demand, stressing the region's aquifers and reducing the water quality. Several projects are in the works according to Conagua, Mexico's National Water Commission, which has been promoting desalination as one of the several water supply options in national water and infrastructure plans. Projects include the several large-scale plants in Tijuana, Ensenada, La Paz, and Cabo San Lucas, among others.



Fueled by severe budget cuts at Conagua, to the tune of 40% compared to the 2010 allocation, and supported by 2012 PPP legislation, all of the projects to be developed will involve 60/40 split of public to private financing, in order to help cover these shortfalls. The first tests of these laws have been the 378,500 m<sup>3</sup>/d Rosarito and the 21,600 m<sup>3</sup>/d San Quintín projects, both of which are expecting financial close this year.

In general, the slow pace of procurement, on top of budgetary woes, has been the largest restraint on the adoption of utility desalination in the country, but the changes in procurement are set to provide lucrative opportunities for foreign investment.

While industry has not always been the primary driver in the adoption of desalination, the lower level of industrial desalination has been affected by similar reasons for the shortfall in municipal projects, namely the reduction in the federal budget caused in part by the fall of oil prices and the resulting financial crisis at the national oil company Pemex. Although dependent on the uncertain resurgence of the oil price, the oil and gas sector could see further activity, particularly in the offshore sector, as reforms within Pemex allow for foreign investment for the first time in order to drive up yearly production.

The power sector is another reliable industry that uses desalination for industrial processes, and while a handful of mining operations have used desalination technology, remote mines at large distances from the coast make several of these prospects cost-prohibitive, particularly in the current climate of low commodities prices. This may be an opportunity for increased water reuse at these remote locations in addition to development in the power and oil and gas industries based on financial arguments.

Reuse in the utility market is another emerging market, especially as Mexico has pushed to increase its wastewater treatment capacity to serve greater portions of its population. Initiatives to treat large volumes of wastewater that is often reused for agriculture without treatment, which is prevalent in the Valley of Mexico, Guanapto, Queretaro, Xacateca, Aguas Caliente and Xihuahua, is expected to lead to an increase in beneficial water reuse in the form of plant upgrades, some new plants, and the further uptake of advanced technologies. Similarly to the desalination market, new reuse contracts are expected to rely more heavily on private financing, most likely through build-operate-transfer (BOT) contracts.

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*For information about the Global Water Summit and its strands on Latin America, please visit [www.watermeetsmoney.com](http://www.watermeetsmoney.com) ■*

## Water, a Crucial Issue for Industry



### By Robson Braga de Andrade, President of CNI, the National Confederation of Industry – Brazil

The IDA World Congress on Water Reuse and Desalination, from October 15 to 20 in São Paulo, will raise a topic of strategic relevance for Brazil and especially for industry. A

large number of industrial sectors have water as an indispensable and irreplaceable input, indeed. In one of the last editions of the World Economic Forum, social, political and business leaders pointed to the water scarcity crisis as the world's biggest impact in the next decade.

Even with one of the widest freshwater reserves on the planet, Brazil is not immune to these negative effects. Indeed, in recent years, concerns have increased significantly in the face of reality: water scarcity, historically present in large regions of the country, especially in the Northeast, has reached the Southeast, a scenario unthinkable until very recently for a region recognized by its water abundance. Even Brasília, capital located in Center-West, is under a rationing regime.

Despite the improvement in water reservoir levels in some regions, scientific studies predict the predominance of low rainfall in the coming years in most parts of Brazil. In this scenario, which generates a growing concern, the World Congress organized by the International Desalination Association (IDA) makes room for necessary and unavoidable reflections on the use and reuse of water.

As a major consumer of water, and also as a provider of solutions to the challenge that scarcity imposes, Brazilian industry is prepared to participate in this debate and offer its contribution, including through public-private partnerships. The recent inauguration of another stage of the São Francisco River Transposition shows that Brazil has been facing, with determination, the obstacles created by insufficiency in the supply of this natural good.

The proposal of the IDA World Congress on Water Reuse and Desalination is precisely to discuss the difficult problems we will face. To this end, IDA has included key themes on the agenda. Our expectation is that Brazilian industries, of all sizes, are part of this process and find strategic and contemporary solutions for use and reuse, including issues such as water pollution control, as well as their distribution and purification.

Certainly, we have tasks that can no longer be postponed, such as finding a solution to the high rate of treated water loss – about 40%, on average – due to the obsolescence of the distribution networks operated by the North-South concessionaires of the country.

We also need to develop solutions for the very low national rates of sewage collection and treatment as a source for water reuse, and as a way to improve public health, restore the dignity of part of the population, and restore the environmental quality of the river basins. Industry and Brazilian engineering are more than qualified to contribute in the form of concessions and public-private partnerships with municipalities, states and the federal government.

As you can see, when the theme is the use of water, we face great challenges and exceptional opportunities. Our conviction is that the IDA World Congress on Water Reuse and Desalination will point out ways that will allow us to define intelligent, innovative and effective ways to solve this relevant issue for the development of the economy and for the very survival of the human being and the planet. ■

## Toray to Sponsor Welcome Reception

# 'TORAY'

### Innovation by Chemistry

IDA welcomes Toray as the newest sponsor for the IDA World Congress. Toray is a leading chemical manufacturer founded in 1926. Throughout its history, Toray has focused on research and development, seeking to contribute to society by creating new value.

Utilizing reverse osmosis, hollow fiber and other high performance membrane technologies, Toray has continued to expand its reach into all sectors using membranes as solutions to water and wastewater treatment problems.

Demonstrating excellent quality and high performance, Toray's reverse osmosis element was the first to be introduced by a Japanese manufacturer. Toray also offers PVDF based UF/MF hollow fiber modules as well as Membrane Bioreactor (MBR) flat sheet membranes. The MBR flat sheet configuration offers advantages such as high water permeability and high permeate quality. Toray is the only manufacturer offering all types of membrane technologies developed internally with its own resources.

Toray continues to invest in membrane technology research and development to add to its capabilities and expand the uses of membrane technology. ■

## IDA Welcomes Two Additional Strategic Partners

ABAS (Associação Brasileira de Águas Subterrâneas) and IICA (Instituto Interamericano de Cooperación para a Agricultura) have joined the prestigious roster of Latin American organizations that are strategic partners for the upcoming World Congress.

### ABAS



Founded in 1978, ABAS is a not-for-profit, non-governmental organization with 1,000 associate members including academics, technicians, researchers, professionals and businesses engaged in research and management of the use of underground water. ABAS has a nationwide presence and is active in every Brazilian state, primarily through its current nine regional offices.

ABAS promotes and disseminates studies, research and works that refer to groundwater. It holds congresses, symposia, seminars and conferences for the purpose of disseminating technical papers. It establishes commissions and promotes specific meetings for analysis and discussion of issues that relate to groundwater, and also studies and proposes to the appropriate entities the procedures, norms, standards, regulations and legislation of interest for the development and preservation of groundwater.

### IICA



More than 70 years ago, a group of visionaries recognized the need to create an agency specializing in agriculture in the Americas, with a purpose that still remains valid today: to promote agricultural development and rural well-being in this region. As a result, the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) was established. Throughout this time, the Institute has succeeded in identifying challenges and opportunities and, most importantly, evolving into an international technical cooperation organization that permanently responds to the new demands of the agricultural sector.

In the Americas, the second decade of the 21st century has brought new challenges and opportunities for agriculture, which is destined to become a real engine of development, capable of generating economic growth and prosperity for the region's population. Unlocking the agricultural sector's potential in our countries is crucial if we are to meet one of the greatest challenges facing humankind: achieving food security.

The Institute provides its cooperation through daily, close and permanent collaboration with its 34 member states. Since its founding, IICA has acquired a wealth of experience in areas such as technology and innovation for agriculture, agricultural health and food safety, agribusiness, agricultural trade, rural development, natural resource management and training. ■

## Second Announcement Available Soon



The electronic version of The Second Announcement for the 2017 IDA World Congress will be available to view and download from the IDA website the last week of April. Members will receive a hard copy of the booklet version via mail in early May. To be held at the World Trade Center São Paulo, the Congress features robust four

day Technical Program, plant tours, Exhibition, Innovation Theater and a Congress week full of opportunities to learn, network and establish new connections.

The Second Announcement provides an overview of all the activities that will be taking place as well as registration information and the first glimpse at the technical papers to be presented.

To view the Second Announcement online, please visit <http://wc.idadesal.org/> To register for the World Congress, click here <http://wc.idadesal.org/registration/> ■

## Reserve Your Presentation Time in the World Congress Innovation Theater

Introduced at the 2015 World Congress, the IDA Innovation Theater provides an outstanding opportunity for a company to present new products and services to World Congress delegates. In fact, it is the only place in the World Congress where commercial presentations may be made.

The Innovation Theater features theater style seating for 50. It is designed as an inviting venue where delegates can learn about new technologies, products and services, expand and share their knowledge, and also meet industry pioneers.

The Innovation Theater will be held Monday, October 16 through Thursday, October 19. Both exhibitors and delegates can arrange to make a 30 minute presentation; please see the following guidelines. Presenters are encouraged to reserve their space early. The schedule will be posted on the IDA website and available on the World Congress app, and IDA will promote the Innovation Theater presentation schedule in the months and weeks leading up to the Congress.

Innovation Theater Guidelines and Presentation Fee Categories:

1. World Congress Exhibitors – There is no charge for one 30-minute time slot, but there is a fee of 100USD for an additional 30-minute time slot. There is a per company limit of two 30-minute time slots.
2. World Congress Registered Delegate - 100USD per 30 minute time slot; no more than two, 30-minute time slots allowed (payment by credit card only).
3. Non-Registered Delegate - 350USD per 30 minute time slot; no more than two, 30-minute time slots allowed (payment by credit card only).

The fee includes access to the Exhibit Hall during the day of the presentation. Presenters are allowed up to five complimentary guests from their company to attend their presentation. ■

## 2017 World Congress Features Record Number of Plant Tours

Delegates to the World Congress can choose from six tours at four plants in and around São Paulo. The tours, which take from 40 minutes to 3 hours, will be offered on Friday, October 20, and include SABESP ETA-ABV, SABESP ETA RIO GRANDE (two time slots) AQUAPOLO and SANASA (two tours). Details will soon be available on the World Congress website, [wc.idadesal.org](http://wc.idadesal.org) ■



## ALADYR



ALADYR – the Latin American Association of Desalination and Reuse of Water – is an Association Affiliate of IDA and the supporting local affiliate of the IDA World Congress in São Paulo.

Founded in 2010, its purpose is to promote, protect and develop technologies and projects aimed at desalination and treatment of water for reuse and low consumption standards of sustainability and environmental respect.

ALADYR supports its partners in public and private organizations linked to its objectives, contributes to the academic sector through the generation of new knowledge, applications and technology, and demonstrates its commitment to the progress of professionals through meetings, seminars and other programs.

In addition to being an affiliate of IDA, ALADYR has the formal support of the Asociación Española de Desalación y Reutilización (AEDyR) and the Caribbean Desalination Association (CaribDA).

To learn more, visit [aladyr.net](http://aladyr.net) ■

## Viewpoint (Cont.)

*continued from page 6*

Although Dr. Benedito Braga, President of the World Water Council and Secretary of State for Water Resources in São Paulo, thus at the head of the efforts to give a sustainable solution to the drought crisis, was unable to participate at the last minute, he sent his very interesting contribution, which was read to the delegates.

[Then] IDA President Abdullah Abdulaziz Al-AIshaikh contributed by offering his global view to formally open the conference and later delivering remarks on the experience of Saudi Arabia and its new focus on the application of renewable energy, such as solar, in desalination.

My conference co-chairman Miguel Angel Sanz and I trust that overall we have succeeded in fulfilling IDA's objective to contribute to a better understanding of the potential of reuse and desalination technology in the Latin American region, and particularly Brazil, and to catalyze a constructive debate about it.

We are extremely indebted to the experts, many of whom travelled from all the corners of the world at their own expense, to share their experience with the participants.

I am sure I interpret the intention also of all participants in expressing a most heart-felt thank you! A no lesser thank you goes to the whole IDA Secretariat for their extraordinary effort of many months, with the help of our local partner Tratamento de Agua.

The apparent interest and success of the Rio de Janeiro conference no doubt encouraged the IDA Board of Directors to choose São Paulo as the place to hold its 2017 World Conference. This also means going to the only one of the IDA regions where IDA has not, to date, visited with one of its World Congresses, and the timing could not be better chosen!

In this context, the conference in Rio de Janeiro gave us an idea of the potential for São Paulo: going by our experience, São Paulo 2017 has the potential to be a resounding success for everybody involved, and I very much looking forward to working with everybody else involved to ensure that this will be the case!

*President of the International Desalination Association, Emilio Gabbrielli can be reached at [Gabbrielli.Emilio@toraymem.com](mailto:Gabbrielli.Emilio@toraymem.com) ■*

## Amane Advisors Shares Insights in IDA Connections' Trendwatch Section



IDA is pleased to announce that Amane Advisors, an advisory firm specialized in the water sector, will be sharing perspectives stemming from a major knowledge effort in an exclusive series in *IDA Connections'* Trendwatch section. A focus of this initiative will be the evolving role of the digital world on the water industry.

"The key question is, 'Digital is transforming the world around us, but will digital transform water?' We'd probably all agree that the digital world has the power to help the water sector save billions through operational efficiencies, improve service levels and reliability, and extend the life of aging assets. Yet the water sector is traditionally slow to adopt," said Geoff Gage, Managing Partner of Amane Advisors.

The upcoming series will explore what it will take to over-

come potential barriers to adoption, and to what extent owners and operators will be overwhelmed by the breadth of new technologies and solutions. It will address such questions as, will lower cost sensors and new communication protocols accelerate change and provide new streams of useful data? Will big data, cloud computing and machine learning algorithms unlock the power of this data, or remain buzzwords? Will providers adapt their business model to accelerate adoption? Will business cases live up to their promised ROI? What will it take to address cybersecurity concerns?

To better understand the new playing field, Amane Advisors will interview over 100 leaders across the water sector, including operators, technology companies, and investors. "Over the next several issues, we will be sharing our discoveries and insights through a series of articles in the IDA newsletter," Gage added.

The new series will begin in the May/June issue of IDA Connections. ■

## IDA Welcomes New Members

### Corporations

Voltea, Netherlands  
AQUA.abib, Spain

### Individuals

Angel Bosch, Spain  
Aurora Spragg, Netherlands  
Bob Cantrell, United States  
Carlos Camero, Netherlands  
Chris Nantau, Canada  
Cindy Wallis-Lage, United Kingdom  
Cristina D'ambrosio, France  
Dr Zhehao Shaun Pan, Singapore  
Dr. Yang Shanbao, China  
Francis McAllister, United States  
Guoxi Zhang, China  
Hector Nava, Netherlands

Helen Rocha, United States  
Hilling Chang, China  
Huang Hongwei, China  
Hurun Zhang, China  
Imran Jalalkhan, Kenya  
Jennifer Oliva Coronel, Brazil  
Joshua Summers, Netherlands  
Kang Yan, China  
Kim Julia Hintze, Germany  
Kyungil Chung, Republic of Korea  
Liang Songmiao, China  
Liu Lifen, China  
Milena Nazaruk, Canada  
Pablo Barcelo, Spain  
Rahul Pundlikrao Raut, India  
Ruan Huimin, China  
Sharon McNeil, Australia

Shen Jiangnan, China  
Vasilis Fthenakis, United States  
Wang Siliang, China  
Wenxiu He, China  
Xia Liu, China  
Zhou Ailei, China  
Zhou Yong, China  
Zongran Yu, China

### Students

Alireza Abbassi Monjezi, United Kingdom  
Anbharasi Vanangamudi, Australia  
Ikechukwu Anthony Ike, Australia  
Jinglin Huang, United States  
Maureen Walschot, Belgium  
Mohamed Atta Alhaj, Qatar  
Silvano Porto Pereira, Brazil

## Site Selection Process for 2019 World Congress Is Well Underway

The IDA World Congress 2019 site selection efforts began with the bid process opening April 2016 with bid proposals due by September 2016. A record-breaking number of eight proposals were submitted and the bid review process was conducted from September to February 2017.

As a result, the Site Selection Committee chose four finalists. They are, in alphabetical order: Barcelona, Spain; Busan, South Korea; Dubai, UAE; and Muscat, Oman.

Site visits by Committee members to all four locations were being arranged at press time. The Site Selection Committee's final recommendations to the Board will be presented in April 2017.

In addition, the 2019 Site Selection Committee reviewed and made important changes to the overall process. Two new categories were added to the numeric scorecard:

- Regional rotation of the World Congress location to ensure that the World Congress continues to take place in different parts of the world in keeping with IDA's global purview.
- Scoring of the potential location with in terms of its attracting attendees, exhibitors, sponsors and presenters for the Technical Program, and the potential business opportunity that the location represents to the desalination and water reuse industry.

Although both bullet points were considerations in the past site selection processes, they were not part of the numeric methodology. Additionally, the Committee expanded the financial template provided to bidders to allow a more in-depth financial comparison as part of the Committee's overall analysis in determining the recommendation. ■

## IDA Publishes 2016 Annual Report



IDA's 2016 Annual Report is now available for all members. The report, which can be accessed online, contains information on all aspects of IDA's activities in 2016.

Please visit <http://idadesal.org/publications/annual-report/> and login to view the report. ■

## IDA Organizes Sessions at ARWADEX



IDA continues its longstanding support of ARWADEX with the organization of a session / panel on "Overview of Desalination

Industry Status of Membrane and Thermal Technologies and Future Directions" to be presented at the 11th Water Desalination Conference in the Arab Countries - ARWADEX 2017.

This edition of ARWADEX takes place in Cairo in the Arab Republic of Egypt on April 18-19, in cooperation with the Holding Company for Potable Water and Sanitary Drainage, under the umbrella of the Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Development and under the high patronage of HE Egyptian Prime Minister Eng. Sherif Ismail.

In addition, there will be an IDA Desalination Academy workshop on Thermal and Hybrid Systems to be presented on April 19 by Academy Dean and IDA Director Leon Awerbuch.

For more information, please visit <http://arwadex.net/en/arwadex-2017> ■

## IDA Meets with SWCC



IDA Secretary General Patricia A. Burke met with H.E. Eng. Ali A. Al-Hazmi, Governor of the Saline Water Conversion Corporation (SWCC) (right), and Dr. Ahmed Al-Arifi – Director General, International Cooperation Department of SWCC (left), during a recent visit to the Middle East. "For many years, IDA and SWCC have enjoyed a long and close working relationship. We look forward to continuing this much-valued collaboration with SWCC and its new executive team," said Ms. Burke, who extended an official invitation to the Governor and Minister to attend the World Congress in São Paulo. ■

# Calendar of Events

## Global Water Summit 2017

April 24-25, 2017

Madrid, Spain

Click [here](#) for more information

## ARWADEX

April 18-19, 2017

Cairo, Egypt

Click [here](#) for more information

## EuroMed 2017

May 9-12, 2017

Tel Aviv, Israel

Click [here](#) for more information

## Ozwater '17

May 16-18, 2017

Sydney, Australia

Click [here](#) for more information

## IDA 2017 World Congress on Water Reuse and Desalination

October 15-20, 2017

São Paulo, Brazil

Click [here](#) for more information

## Aquatech Amsterdam 2017

October 31-November 3, 2017

Amsterdam, The Netherlands

[The Desalination Pavilion](#)

under the auspices of the European Desalination Society (EDS)

Click [here](#) for more information

## AWWA/AMTA 2018 Membrane Technology Conference & Exposition

March 12-16, 2018

West Palm Beach, FL

Click [here](#) for more information

## Desalination for the Environment Clean Water & Energy

May 6-10, 2018

Nantes, France

Click [here](#) for more information

## CaribDA 2018 – Biennial Conference & Exposition

May 29-June 1, 2018

Curacao

Click [here](#) for more information

**IDA Connections** (previously *IDA News*) is published six times a year by the International Desalination Association in February, April, June, August, October and December. It is available free of charge to all current IDA members. Each issue is available in digital format on the IDA website, [www.idadesal.org](http://www.idadesal.org).

*The views expressed in articles contributed to IDA Connections are not necessarily the views of the International Desalination Association. IDA assumes no responsibility for unsolicited manuscripts and/or artwork.*

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