



INTERNATIONAL PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE ON: PARLIAMENTS AND THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

Jointly organized by the Plurinational Legislative Assembly of Bolivia and the Inter-Parliamentary Union

7 - 9 April 2014 – Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. PLACE AND DATE

The International Parliamentary Conference on Parliaments and the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, jointly organized by the Plurinational Legislative Assembly of Bolivia and the Inter-Parliamentary Union, will be held from 7 to 9 April 2014 in the city of Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia.

The venue for the conference will be the Hotel Los Tajibos Convention Centre:

Hotel Los Tajibos
Av. San Martín 455
Santa Cruz - Bolivia,
Tel.: + 591 3 363 15 50
Mobile: +591 3 342 10 00

2. CONTEXT AND OBJECTIVES

The United Nations General Assembly has convened a high-level plenary meeting, to be held in September 2014 and to be called the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, for the purpose of sharing perspectives and best practices on the realization of the rights of indigenous peoples. The World Conference represents a unique opportunity to highlight the situation of indigenous peoples and the historic and current difficulties they face.

In this context, the parliamentary conference to be held in Bolivia will permit us to highlight the role of parliaments in the realization of the rights of indigenous peoples, and in particular in the implementation of the United Nations Declaration of 2007.

The objective of the conference is for participants to exchange information about the experiences, good practices and challenges encountered by parliaments in their efforts to guarantee the political representation of indigenous peoples and the effective protection of their rights.

On the basis of these exchanges, the conference is intended to generate positive contributions from parliaments to the World Conference and to promote their adherence to and interest in the United Nations Declaration and the World Conference.

3. INVITED PARLIAMENTS

The conference is open to all parliaments wishing to participate. However, the objective of the organizers will be to ensure the presence of parliamentary delegations from countries whose populations comprise indigenous peoples.

4. REGISTRATION

Delegations are invited to complete the attached registration form and return it by regular and/or electronic mail, as indicated below, by 14 March 2014:

Legislative Assembly:

Omar Federico Cuba
 Jefe de la Unidad de Relaciones Internacionales
 Cámara de Senadores.

With copy to:

Inter-Parliamentary Union
 5 Chemin du Pommier,
 Case Postal 330
 1218 Le Grand-Saconnex,
 Geneva (Switzerland)

Office Tel.: + 591 2 215 87 14
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 aa@mail.ipu.org

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5. LIST OF DELEGATES

A provisional List of Delegates will be issued on the basis of confirmations received by the IPU Secretariat up to 14 March 2014. For technical reasons, it will not be possible to produce a revised list on the spot, but one will be issued after the end of the session and placed on the IPU web site.

6. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE CONFERENCE

The conference will be organized in plenary sessions and smaller parallel sessions. Each session will be launched by speakers who will make introductory remarks. Delegates can participate in the debate either by making brief comments or by asking questions. In view of the largely informal nature of the debate, no list of speakers will be drawn up in advance. A moderator will guide the debate and decide the order of interventions and questions.

7. LANGUAGES

The official language of the conference will be Spanish. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in English and French.

8. CATERING

Coffee service during breaks in the conference and an official welcome dinner will be offered by the host parliament.

9. ACCOMMODATIONS AND RESERVATIONS

Delegates will be responsible for their own hotel expenses.

Rooms have been reserved en bloc at the following hotels to ensure the availability of accommodations for the delegates. Delegations are asked to communicate directly with the hotels to confirm their reservations, indicating the number of rooms required and the arrival and departure dates.

Attention is drawn to the fact that, according to the practice of all hotels in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, only reservations guaranteed by a valid credit card will be confirmed.

HOTELS	TELEPHONE	EMAIL
Hotel Los Tajibos Av. San Martín, N° 455	+ 591 3 34 21 00 int. 5303	dmendez@lostajiboshotel.com www.lostajiboshotel.com
Hotel Casa Blanca Av. Marcelo Terceros N° 205	+ 591 3 343 44 44	reservas@hotelpaulistaniacasablanca.com
Hotel LP Santa Cruz Av. Ejército Nacional N° 290	+ 591 3 354 88 88	lpsantacruz@lphoteles.com

Hotel reservations received after 28 March will be subject to availability.

10. ARRIVALS, DEPARTURES AND TRANSPORT

To ensure an efficient reception service, all participants are requested to provide the necessary information on their arrival and departure in the Hotel Reservation Form, including dates, times and flight numbers.

Airport reception and seeing-off services will be provided for all participants, including transport between airports and hotels and between hotels and the conference venue.

11. VISAS

The Plurinational State of Bolivia does not require visas from any foreign visitor staying for fewer than 30 days, subject to the principle of reciprocity between States.

12. EXPENSES

Participants will be responsible for their own travel, accommodation and personal expenses in Bolivia.

13. REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION OFFICE

A registration and information counter will be available for participants at the conference venue. It will be open on 7 April from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. and on 8 and 9 April from 8:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Participants are asked to register at the counter as soon as possible upon arrival. They will be furnished with identity badges and additional information about the conference, as well as any messages or mail addressed to them.

The office's computers and Internet access will be available for use by the participants.

14. HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

Vaccination certificates are not required for admission to Bolivia.

15. MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

Emergency medical assistance for participants who may require it will be permanently available at the conference venue.

16. SECURITY

National authorities will take all necessary measures to guarantee the participants' personal security. Participants are requested to wear the identity badges provided to them by the host parliament at all times while at the conference venue or at official receptions.

17. CLIMATE

The average temperature in Santa Cruz de la Sierra in April is 28°C. The season is autumn, and the weather will likely be warm.

18. OTHER SERVICES AND GENERAL INFORMATION

CURRENCY

The national currency is the Bolivian peso. The current exchange rate is 6.67 Bolivian pesos for 1.00 US dollar.

The voltage in Bolivia is 220.

19. REQUESTS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Requests for further information should be addressed to: and/or

Mr. Akiyo Afouda

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