

ANNOUNCEMENT
8th INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS
ON DISASTERS

“FOR A SAFER WORLD”



DISASTERS 2010

From June 14th to 18th, 2010
Havana International Conference Center
Cuba



Havana, May 2009

Esteemed colleagues:

*The National Staff for Civil Defense, with the participation of national and international bodies and institutions, is organizing and preparing the **8th International Congress on Disasters** to be held from June 14th to 18th, 2010 in Havana, Cuba.*

The Congress's main objective is to gather authorities, officials, scientists, professionals, specialists and activists of the world who are dedicated to protecting people and their property, the economy and the environment from the destructive effects of disasters. The Congress will provide them with an opportunity to exchange knowledge, results, experiences and outlooks in risk reduction, as well as a chance to promote bilateral and multilateral cooperation programs and projects in this field.

A wide-ranging Scientific Program is being prepared, which takes into account the various types of dangers, the related vulnerabilities and risks, as well as the different stages and elements of risk reduction in disasters, which will boost the exchange of ideas and opinions, and will provide scientific and technological updating for specialists. This makes the Congress an excellent occasion for countries, institutions and organizations to show the results attained in agreement with the objectives and goals set out in the Hyogo Framework for Action.

The Havana International Conference Center, the venue for the event, is a wonderful specialized facility with wide experience in hosting events, which will apply all its skills in favor of the participants. Along with the Center's professionalism, our historic and beautiful Havana City will offer our colleagues its cultural and ethnic diversity, its unequalled peace and climate, and the hospitality which characterizes all Cubans. It will give everyone a fraternal welcome, as it is our tradition.

We'll be highly honored by your presence, which will be of great importance for the success of our event.

Organizing Committee

ORGANIZING INSTITUTIONS

- National Staff for Civil Defense of the Republic of Cuba
- Havana International Conference Center

SPONSORING INSTITUTIONS

- Ministry of Public Health
- Ministry of Agriculture
- Ministry of Science, Technology and the Environment
- Ministry of the Revolutionary Armed Forces
- Ministry of the Interior
- Ministry of Foreign Relations
- Ministry of Informatics and Communications
- Ministry of Foreign Trade and Foreign Investment
- National Institute of Water Resources
- National Society of the Cuban Red Cross
- Latin-American Center for Disaster Medicine
- The United Nations' Development Fund and other Agencies in the United Nations System

PARTICIPANTS' PROFILE

The Congress and its events are intended for authorities, officials, scientists, professionals and specialists related to the field of Reduction of Disasters of every kind.

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

- The official languages will be Spanish and English.
- Spanish-English and English-Spanish interpreting will be available in the Congress's opening and closing sessions, as well as in its main sessions, at the discretion of the Organizing Committee.

MAIN SUBJECTS

1. Risk identification, assessment and reduction in disasters
2. Planning of response and recovery actions in disaster situations. Experiences in handling disasters
3. Preparation of organizations and the population to face disaster situations
4. The role of information in disaster reduction
5. International cooperation and assistance for disaster reduction

Out of these general subjects, there will be emphasis on the aspects related to danger and vulnerability; risk studies, assessments and analyses; as well as on the elements of prevention (mitigation), readiness, preparations, response and recovery. Furthermore, attention will be directed to scientific and technological development for the purpose of reducing disasters, same as to cooperation and assistance in these cases.

SPECIFIC SUBJECTS ENCLOSED IN THE MAIN SUBJECTS

1. Legislative, normative and policy-making aspects in disaster reduction
2. Adherence to the priorities in the Hyogo Framework for Action
3. Consequences of climate change and the danger of disasters
4. Experiences in managing risk reduction at a local level
5. Early warning and alert systems in disaster reduction
6. Experiences in response and recovery in disaster situations
7. Psychosocial aspects of disasters
8. Infocommunications applied to disaster reduction
9. The role of the community, the young and the women in preventing and facing disasters
10. Disasters, environment and development: reciprocal influences
11. Training for sustainable development and disaster prevention in educational centers and in the community (provinces and municipalities)
12. Information and guidance for the population through the mass media
13. Cooperation and international assistance in disaster reduction and its impact in the community
14. Scientific and technical development in the field of disasters and the realities of its application
15. Disaster health and medicine

DESCRIPTION OF THE SCIENTIFIC MODALITIES

The Congress will approach matters of interest for all participants in plenary sessions, especially in the modalities of masterly and thematic conferences. Working sessions will basically consist of seminars, panels and round tables. They will deal with aspects related to the specific subjects, which will be carried out in independent rooms. There will also be the option of presenting free subjects in posters.

MASTERLY CONFERENCES

The conferences will approach general aspects included in the main subjects of the Congress.

Duration: 45 to 60 minutes each.

THEMATIC CONFERENCES

The Congress may include thematic conferences on one of the main subjects or on several specific subjects.

Duration: 30 minutes each.

PANELS AND ROUND TABLES

They will be about specific subjects enclosed in the main subjects, which will allow for the updating and exchange of knowledge. They will consist of a coordinator and a group of panelists.

Duration: 90 minutes each.

FREE SUBJECT IN POSTER

Those interested in presenting free subjects within the main and specific subjects, including other topics of interest related to the profile of the Congress, will be able to do so in the poster exposition modality. Each work will have a day and a time assigned in the Scientific Program. The presence of the author at the designated time is recommended in order to answer possible questions. Authors will have time for setting up their work. Panel size is 0.82m wide by 1.20m long.

REPORT SESSION

The Congress Report includes the result of the debates, as well as the contributions and suggestions of the working sessions in its different modalities.

All Congress sessions will have a president and a secretary.

PAPER PRESENTATION

**DEADLINE FOR PAPER SUBMISSION:
March 15th, 2010**

Abstracts and complete papers must be sent to the e-mail address: dcc@dcn.co.cu

The Scientific Commission will analyze the submitted papers and will officially inform in the case of non-acceptance. Foreign individuals who express their wish to participate in the event may be accepted without the submission of a paper being necessary.

Accepted papers received before the deadline and meeting the requirements will be published by the Organizing Commission.

A paper may have up to three authors, which will be included as long as the paper is accepted. The Scientific Committee's decision will be final.

FORMAT FOR THE SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS AND FULL PAPERS (ALL IN DIGITAL FORM)

Abstracts: They will be presented in the following format: title, authors, institution, city, country. They must not exceed 250 words and it is recommended that the structure be: introduction, material and methods, results, discussion and conclusions.

Full papers: They will have a minimum of five pages and a maximum of 15. It is recommended that the structure be: introduction, objectives, material and methods, results, conclusions and bibliographical references.

The text processor must be Word 6.0 or a later version, with the following structure:

Font: Arial 12 points.

Text: Justified.

Margins: 2,5cm and 8 ½ x 11 page

Title of the paper: Arial 14 points, in centered and bold letter

Author's information: Name and last name of the author(s) in bold and italics.

Institution's name, address, phone, fax, e-mail and country in bold.

Papers including images, tables and/or graphics must have them as part of the Word document. The document may not exceed 1 megabyte size.

In case it exceeds 300 kilobytes, it must be compressed. If it still exceeds 300 kilobytes after compression, it must then be compressed in multivolume format with a maximum size of 300 kilobytes per volume.

The Scientific Commission will inform the authors regarding paper acceptance.

AUDIOVISUAL AIDS

- Overhead projector
- 35mm slide projector
- Data projector
- Computer
- VHS recorder (NTSC 3.58 norm)

Digital presentations must adjust to the following requirements:

- Windows operating systems
- Power Point presentations
- CD and DVD presentations
- Presentations compressed with the following applications:
WinZip version 8,0 (or earlier)
Winrar version 2,5 (or earlier)
Arj
- Presentation of design images in Corel 9 or 10
- The applications needing associated software must include their installation files (QuickTime, Adobe Acrobat, and etcetera).

INVITATIONS

Participants who require an Invitation Letter in order to obtain permission from their institution may request one from the Coordinator of the Organizing Committee.

REGISTRATION FEES

- Participant: 250.00 CUC
- Accompanying person: 80.00 CUC

Registration fees include:

Delegate: Name badge; participation in the scientific and social activities of the Congress; briefcase with the Scientific Program, CD with the papers and abstracts sent before the deadline and accepted by the Scientific Committee, notepad and pen; participant and/or author certificate.

Accompanying person: Name badge; participation in the official opening and closing ceremonies, as well as in the social activities of the Congress; souvenirs

TOURIST PACKAGE FOR THE EVENT

The **Gaviota Tours S.A.** Travel Agency, as the event's travel coordinator, offers the following hotels to the event's participants:

- Hotel Palco**** (venue)
- Oasis Panorama****
- Kholy-Bosque***

For reservations please contact:

MR. JUAN CARLOS GOVEA / MRS. KATIUSKA CURBELO GUERRERO
Head of Specialized Tourism Dept.
Gaviota Tours Travel Agency Sales
Phone: (537) 204-5708, 204-7526
Fax: (537) 204-4111
E-mail: tur_esp1@agencia.gav.tur.cu
tur_esp2@agencia.gav.tur.cu

For further information please contact:

National Staff for Civil Defense

Havana, Cuba

Phones: (537) 8640024 and 8640110

E-mail: dcc@dcn.co.cu

Contact: Mr. Jorge Peguero Morales, Congress Coordinator

Havana International Conference Center

ZIP Code 16046, Havana, Cuba

Phones: (537) 203-8958 / 202-6011 to 19, extension 1511

Fax: 208-7996 /202-8382

E-mail: angel@palco.cu

Contact: Mr. Angel Salabarría Lay, Professional Congress Organizer

The **7th International Congress on Disasters** offers information related to the event at the website: www.cpalco.com

8th International Congress on Disasters-2010

Fill out this form in block letters and with the information exactly as you want it to appear in the official documentation of the event (Name badge, Certificates, etcetera).

(To be sent after receipt of the announcement).

Last names: _____

Names: _____

Institution: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Country: _____

Profession: _____

Specialty: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

E-Mail: _____

Accompanying person(s):

Name(s) of the accompanying persons

Presenting paper(s): Yes _____ No _____

Modality of presentation: Oral _____ Poster _____

Title(s):

Audiovisual aids required: (Mark with an X).

- 35mm slide projector
- Transparent slide projector
- VHS recorder (NTSC 3.58 norm)
- Data projector
- Computer

PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

Session	Monday 14 th	Tuesday 15 th	Wednesday 16 th	Thursday 17 th	Friday 18 th
Morning	Registration	Registration Opening Masterly conference	Masterly or thematic conference 7 th Congress Working Sessions Free subject posters Fair-related exhibition	Masterly or thematic conference 7 th Congress Working Sessions Free subject posters Fair-related exhibition	7 th Congress Working Sessions
R e c e s s					
Afternoon	Registration	7 th Congress Working Session Free subject posters Fair-related exhibition	7 th Congress Working Session Free subject posters Fair-related exhibition	7 th Congress Working Session Free subject posters Fair-related exhibition	Report Session and conclusions Farewell activity
Night	Free	Welcoming activity	Free	Free	