



PROGRAM

POWER OF ACCESS TO PUBLIC INFORMATION

**CANCÚN, QUINTANA ROO
February 20 - 23, 2005**

INTRODUCTION

Transparency and the right of access to public information have grown to be fundamental themes for democratic advancement. As civil society matures, as the interconnectivity between nations deepens and democracies consolidate, the issues of access and transparency are compelling in public, national and global agendas.

Typically, democracy supposes that society has resolved the problem of how to access power, with clear and just rules, yet its advance results in a theme of importance: how to practice and control democratic power. In the core of this new agenda lay transparency and access to information.

This is why there is a true international movement of more than 50 countries that have approved access to information laws and 30 more, that are going through a process of approval of a law that regulates such matter.

This reality deserves a discussion, and an international space in which such process is held and promotes the inclusion of this issues, in the agendas of multilateral organizations (such as IMF, WB, OECD, IDB, amongst others) as well as the sub national governments of the world.

This is the reason why we have summoned the **Third International Conference of Information Commissioners** as a meeting space for authorities and actors of the civil society whose mission is the protection and promotion of this right. This is a Conference held annually since 2003, which will be organized by Mexico, in Cancún, Quintana Roo, through the Federal Institute of Access to Public Information (IFAI).

More than 50 countries have been invited to this event, amongst them 11 countries in the world that have analogue institutes to IFAI (Belgium, Canada, Slovenia, Estonia, France, Hungary, Ireland, Latvia, Portugal, United Kingdom and Thailand). Also participating are, nations that do have regulated this matter, as well as countries that are promoting and working inside the government and through society for its approval. We have also called upon actors from diverse organizations that hold a comparative and global view of the advances and challenges of access to information.

The III ICIC will be a place to deliberate and debate, to cross and exchange experiences amongst commissioners and governmental authorities of access to information and personal data, organizations of civil society that represent a relevant role in the impact of this issue, actors from multilateral institutions and international organizations that are interested in the issue.

This Conference has a central objective: recognize and diffuse the capacity and power that access to information has to change everyday life, public deliberation and government exercise. We will explore the experiences that due to their relevance and meaning are able to modify inertias, change behavior and better the relation between government and citizens. Also, we will make a national and international call to ratify the commitment of contemporary democracies and multilateral organizations with information openness.

The organization of this Conference in Mexico constitutes a unique and unrepeatable opportunity. This Conference will call upon the protagonists, authors and promoters that characterize the right of access to information; actors whose public trajectory and relevance are of national and international relevance, or that occupy a strategic role in global institutions, they will help us relaunch this call in favor of transparency and freedom of information in the world.

SUNDAY
20

19:00 - 21:00 hrs. Reception Cocktail

MONDAY
21

9:00 - 10:00 hrs. Registration of participants

10:30 - 10:30 hrs. **WELCOME AND INAUGURATION.**

Vicente Fox Quesada, Constitutional President of the Republic of Mexico.

María Marván Laborde, President Commissioner, Federal Institute of Access to Public Information, México.

10:30 - 11:00 hrs. **PLENARY SESSION**

THE POWER OF ACCESS TO INFORMATION.

Shashi Tharoor, Under Secretary, Communications and Public Information, UN.

11:00 - 11:15 hrs. Coffee Break

11:15 - 11:45 hrs. **PLENARY SESSION**

ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND DEVELOPMENT.

THE RELEVANCE OF ACCESS TO INFORMATION IN ECONOMICAL DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY RELIEF.

Daniel Kaufmann, Director, Global Governance, World Bank Institute.

11:45 - 13:30 hrs. **ROUND TABLE**

ACCESS TO INFORMATION: A GLOBAL VISION.

CHAIRPERSON:

José Octavio López Presa, Commissioner, Federal Institute of Access to Public Information, Mexico.

SPEAKERS:

David Banisar, Project Director, Freedom of Information, Privacy International, UK.

GLOBAL REPORT 2005. LAWS OF FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT RECORD LAWS AROUND THE WORLD.

Toby Mendel, Director, Law Program, Article 19, UK.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION: EXAMPLES, EXPERIENCES, AND LESSONS LEARNED

Thomas Blanton, Director, National Security Archive, George Washington University.

COMPARATIVE EXPERIENCES OF FOIA. OBSTACLES AND DILEMMAS.

Helen Darbishire, Senior Program Manager, Freedom of Information and Expression, Open Society Institute, US.

IMPLEMENTATION OF ACCESS TO INFORMATION LAWS.

13:30 - 14:00 hrs. **PLENARY SESSION**

Eduardo Romero Ramos, Minister, Secretaría de la Función Pública, México.

14:00 - 15:15 hrs. Lunch

15:15 - 18:00 hrs. **ROUND TABLE**

THE ROLE OF THE CONTROL BODIES IN ACCESS TO INFORMATION: MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT OF THE LAW.

COORDINATOR:

Laura Neuman, Under Director, Transparency Area, Carter Center, US.

PARTICIPANTS:

John M. Reid, Information Commissioner, Canada.

Horacio Aguilar Álvarez, Commissioner, Federal Institute of Access to Public Information, Mexico.

Emily O'Reilly, Information Commissioner, Ireland.

Darryl Wookey, Information Commissioner, Western Australia.

Attila Perterfalvi, Commissioner, Data Protection and Freedom of Information, Hungary.

Richard Calland, Executive Director, Open Democracy Advice Center, South Africa.

Agostinho de Castro Martins, President, Access to Administrative Documents Commission, Portugal.

John Belgrave, Chief Ombudsman, New Zealand.

18:00 – 18:15 hrs. Coffee Break

18:15 - 20:45 hrs. **SIMULTANEOUS WORKSHOPS (REGIONAL)**

EXPERIENCES ON ACCESS TO INFORMATION IN AMERICA.

COORDINATOR:

Laura Neuman, Under Director, Transparency Area, Carter Center, US.

PARTICIPANTS:

José Octavio López Presa, Commissioner, Federal Institute of Access to Public Information, Mexico.

Claudio Weber Abramo, Executive Director, Transparencia Brazil, National Chapter of Transparency International, Brazil.

Ernesto Villanueva, President, LIMAC, México.

Richard Huff, Co Director, Office of Information and Privacy, Department of Justice, US.

John M. Reid, Information Commissioner, Canada.

Javier Casas, Director, Access to Information Program, Proética, Perú.

Valeria Merino Dirani, Executive Director, Latin-American Cooperation for Development, National Chapter of Transparency International, Ecuador.

Christian Bahamonde, Executive Under Director, Latin-American Cooperation for Development, National Chapter of Transparency International, Ecuador.

Roberto Saba, Executive Director, Civil Rights Association, Argentina.

Thomas Blanton, Director, National Security Archive, George Washington University, US.

Benjamín Fernández Bogado, Vice-Chancellor, Universidad Americana, Paraguay.

Néstor Baragli, Anticorruption Policies Coordinator, Planning of Transparency Policies of the Anti Corruption Office, Justice Ministry, Argentina.

Francis A. Reyes, Technical Undersecretary, Presidency, Dominican Republic.

EXPERIENCES ON ACCESS TO INFORMATION IN EUROPE.**COORDINATORS:**

Helen Darbshire, Senior Program Manager, Freedom of Information and Expression, Open Society Institute, US.

David Banisar, Project Director, Freedom of Information, Privacy International, UK.

PARTICIPANTS:

Kevin Dunion, Information Commissioner, Scotland.

Hansjürgen Garstka, Commissioner, Data Protection and Freedom of Information, Berlin, Germany.

Michèle Puybasset, President, Commission of Access to Administrative Documents, France.

Emily O'Reilly, Information Commissioner, Ireland.

José Renato Gonçalves, Member, Access to Administrative Documents Commission, Portugal.

Graham Smith, Information Commissioner, UK.

Attila Péterfalvi, Commissioner, Data Protection and Freedom of Information, Hungary.

Urmas Kukk, General Director, Estonian Data Protection Inspectorate, Estonia.

Signe Plumina, State Data Inspectorate, Latvia.

Natasa Pirc Musar, Commissioner, Access to Information of Public Character, Slovenia.

Judy Wilson, Officer, Freedom of Information, House of Commons, United Kingdom.

Kjell Swanstrom, Ombudsman, Sweden.

Ivan Szekely, Counselor, Open Society Archives, Central European University.

Jan Van Schagen, Legal Senior Advisor, Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations, Netherlands.

Karen Andreasyan, Coordinator, FOIA Network, Armenia.*

Arne Fliflet, Ombudsman, Parliament, Norway.

EXPERIENCES ON ACCESS TO INFORMATION IN ASIA, AFRICA AND THE AUSTRALIAN CONTINENT.

COORDINATOR:

Toby Mendel, Director, Law Program, Article 19, UK.

PARTICIPANTS:

Leon Wessels, Commissioner, Promotion of Access to Information Act, South Africa.

Darryl Wookey, Information Commissioner, Government of Western Australia.

Richard Calland, Executive Director, Open Democracy Advice Center, South Africa.

Rick Snell, Senior Lecturer, Administrative Law, University of Tasmania, Australia.

Jamie Horsley, Deputy Director, Chinese Legal Center, Yale Law School, US.

Hanhua Zhou, Institute of Law, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, China.

Ayo Obe, Former President, Civil Liberties Organization, Lagos, Nigeria.

Nikhil Dey, Founder, Organization for the Empowerment of Workers and Peasants (MKSS)

Aruna Roy, Founder, Organization for the Empowerment of Workers and Peasants (MKSS)

Cavell Alexander, Deputy Information Officer, Department of Defense, South Africa.

John Belgrave, Chief Ombudsman, New Zealand.

21:00 hrs. Dinner

Speaker: **Joaquín Ernesto Hendricks**, Governor of the State of Quintana Roo, México.



7:30 - 8:30 hrs. Agreement Signature IFAI –State Commissions from Mexico

8:30 - 9:00 hrs. Registration of participants

9:00 - 9:20 hrs. ***PLENARY SESSION***

ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND JUSTICE ADMINISTRATION.

José de Jesús Gudiño Pelayo, Minister of Justice, Suprema Corte de Justicia de la Nación, México.

9:20 - 11:45 hrs.

ROUNDTABLE

ACCESS TO INFORMATION, SOCIAL PARTICIPATION AND CIVIL SOCIETY.

CHAIRPERSON:

Juan Pablo Guerrero, Commissioner, Federal Institute of Access to Public Information, Mexico.

SPEAKERS:

Kate Doyle, Mexico Documentation Project, National Security Archive, US.

CITIZENRY: A MOTOR OF ACCESS TO INFORMATION.

Andrea Sanhueza, Participa Director, Chile

ACCESS TO INFORMATION AS A TOOL TO PROMOTE CITIZEN PARTICIPATION AND FIGHTING CORRUPTION.

Bethan Grillo, Director, Latin American Program, Article 19, UK.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION IN REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH. A COMPARATIVE STUDY.

Aruna Roy, Founder, Organization for the Empowerment of Workers and Peasants (MKSS)

ACCESS TO INFORMATION: FACILITATING CITIZEN PARTICIPATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY.

Shekhar Singh, Co-chair of the Transparency Task Force, Indian Institute of Public Administration, India.

Raquel Escobar, President, Access to Public Information Coalition, Ecuador.

Tania Sánchez, Researcher, Fundar/ Colectivo por la Transparencia, México.

Ann Florini, Chief Researcher, Foreign Policy Study Program, The Brookings Institution, US.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION, SOCIAL PARTICIPATION AND CIVIL SOCIETY: A GLOBAL OVERVIEW

11:45 - 12:00 hrs.

Coffee break

12:00 - 14:00 hrs.

ROUNDTABLE

ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION.

CHAIRPERSON:

Juan Francisco Escobedo, Coordinator, Communication Masters Degree, Universidad Iberoamericana, México.

SPEAKERS:

Nikhil Dey, Founder, Organization for the Empowerment of Workers and Peasants (MKSS)

Rosa Inés Ospina, Executive Director, Transparencia por Colombia and Vicepresident, Consejo de Transparencia Internacional.*

Helena Hofbauer, Executive Director, Fundar, México

ANALYSIS OF PUBLIC BUDGET AND ACCOUNTABILITY: A TOOL FOR TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY.

Laura Puertas, Executive Director, Proética, Perú.

Lucía Pérez Fragoso, Public Budget Coordinator, Equidad de Género, México.

CITIZEN DEMAND: TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY.

Roberto de Michele, Senior Policy Advisor for Institutional Integrity, Office of Institutional Integrity, Inter American Development Bank.

Michael Johnston, Professor, Political Science, Colgate University, US.

14:00 - 15:15 hrs. Lunch

15:15 - 17:15 hrs. **ROUNDTABLE**

ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND THE OPENNESS OF INTERNATIONAL BODIES.

CHAIRPERSON:

Alonso Gómez Robledo Verduzco, Commissioner, Federal Institute of Access to Public Information, Mexico.

SPEAKERS:

Toby Mendel, Director, Law Program, Article 19, UK.

Thomas Blanton, Executive Director, National Security Archive, EE.UU.

OPENNESS OF INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.

Alasdair Roberts, Director, Campbell Public Affairs Institute, Syracuse University, US.

TRANSPARENCY IN THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION AND OTHER ECONOMIC INSTITUTIONS.

Jennifer Kalafut, Manager, Transparency Program at the Bank Information Center (BIC), US.

TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.

Toby McIntosh, Managing Editor, Bureau of National Affairs BNA's Daily Report for Executives, US.

17:15 - 17:30 hrs. Coffee Break

SIMULTANEOUS WORKSHOPS (THEMATIC)

17:30 - 19:45 hrs. **EXPERIENCES AND OUTCOMES OF THE ORGANIZED CIVIL SOCIETY.**

Section One: Campaigns from civil society in favor of the adoption of laws of access to information.

COORDINATOR:

Helen Darbshire, Senior Program Manager, Freedom of Information and Expression, Open Society Institute, US.

PARTICIPANTS:

Roberto Saba, Director, Civil Rights Association, Argentina.

Laura Neuman, Under Director Transparency Area, Carter Center, US.

NEGOTIATION TO ENFORCE THE ACCESS TO INFORMATION LAWS.

Issa Luna Pla, Executive Director, LIMAC, México.

Benjamín Fernández Bogado, Vice-Chancellor, Universidad Americana, Paraguay.

Mario Rejtman Farah, Lawyer and Jurisprudence PhD., Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Juan Francisco Escobedo, Coordinator, Communication Masters Degree, Universidad Iberoamericana, México.

THE NEW AGENDA OF ACCESS TO INFORMATION LAW FROM SOCIETY'S PERSPECTIVE.

Aruna Roy, Founder, Organization for the Empowerment of Workers and Peasants (MKSS)

Section Two: Strategies of the civil society to enforce the implementation of access to information laws.

COORDINATOR:

Lucía Pérez Fragoso, Public Budget Coordinator, Equidad de Género, México.

PARTICIPANTS:

José Ugaz, Department of Institutional Integrity, World Bank

Javier Casas, Director, Access to Information Program, Instituto Prensa y Sociedad, Perú

Andrea Sanhueza, Director of Participa, Chile.

THE NEW AGENDA OF ACCESS TO INFORMATION LAW FROM SOCIETY'S PERSPECTIVE.

Helena Hofbauer, Executive Director, Fundar, México.

LAW OF ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND BUDGET MONITORING.

Keith Henderson, Senior Rule of Law Advisor and Anticorruption Research Fellow, IFES Democracy at Large, US.

STRATEGIES AND PROGRAMS THAT CIVIL SOCIETY CAN USE TO PROMOTE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ACCESS TO INFORMATION LAWS.

Eliza A. Saunders, Director, Public Records and Open Public Meetings, Washington University, US.

Gustavo Alanis, President, Centro Mexicano de Derecho Ambiental A.C., México.

17:30 - 19:30 hrs.

PRIVACY, PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION AND THE ACCESS TO INFORMATION.

COORDINATOR:

Francisco Ciscomani, Agreements Secretariat, Federal Institute of Access to Public Information, Mexico.

PARTICIPANTS:

José Luis Piñar Mañas, Director, Data Protection Agency, Spain.

Hansjürgen Garstka, Commissioner, Data Protection and Freedom of Information, Berlin, Germany.

Brian Beamish, Assistant, Information and Privacy Commissioner, Ontario, Canada.

Urmas Kukk, General Director of Estonian Data Protection Inspectorate, Estonia.

Juan Pablo Guerrero, Commissioner, Federal Institute of Access to Public Information, Mexico.

Raymond d' Áoust, Assistant Commissioner, Privacy Commission, Canada.

Beatriz Solís, President, Asociación Mexicana de Derecho a la Información AMEDI, México.

17:30 - 19:30 hrs.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND ELECTRONIC MANAGEMENT OF ARCHIVES.

COORDINATOR:

José Octavio López Presa, Commissioner, Federal Institute of Access to Public Information, Mexico.

PARTICIPANTS:

Ivan Szekeley, Council, Open Society Archives, Central European University.

Guido Alejandro Rodriguez, Second Co Defender of the People, Special Delegate of Freedom of Expression and Access to Information, Panamá.

Alberto Leyton, Public Sector Specialist, World Bank.

Andrew Ecclestone, Researcher- Advisor, Access to Information, United Kingdom.

17:30 - 19:45 hrs.

EXPERIENCES OF ACCESS TO INFORMATION AT LOCAL LEVEL.

COORDINATOR:

Ernesto Villanueva President, LIMAC, México.

PARTICIPANTS:

Mitchell Pearlman, Executive Director, Connecticut Freedom of Information Commission, US.

Robert Freeman, Executive Director, Committee on Open Government, Freedom of Information Law, New York, US.

Nikhil Dey, Founder, Organization for the Empowerment of Workers and Peasants (MKSS)

Alexander Dix, Ex-Commissioner, Data Protection and Access to Information, Brandenburg, Germany.

Brian Beamish, Assistant Information and Privacy Commissioner, Ontario, Canada.

Miguel Menéndez, President, LIMAC Peninsular, México.

Jesús Uribe, President Commissioner, State Commission of Government Information, Querétaro, México.

Guadalupe López Mares, Councilor President, Institute of Access to Public Information, Guanajuato, México.

Carlos Bazán Castro, President Commissioner, Institute of Transparency and Access to Public Information, Quintana Roo, México.

Mauricio Tappan Repetto, President Councilor, Institute of Transparency and Access to Public Information, Yucatán, México.

Dorangélica de la Rocha, President Commissioner, State Commission of Access to Public Information, Sinaloa, México.

19:15 - 20:45 hrs.

DISCUSSION AND SIGNATURE OF THE DECLARATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF INFORMATION COMMISSIONERS.

19:45 - 20:45 hrs.

PRESENTATION OF THE BOOK: “TRANSPARENCY: BOOKS, AUTHORS AND IDEAS” CO-EDITED BY CIDE (CENTRO DE INVESTIGACIÓN Y DOCENCIA ECONÓMICAS) AND IFAI (FEDERAL INSTITUTE OF ACCESS TO PUBLIC INFORMATION).

COORDINATOR:

Mauricio Merino, Professor- Researcher, Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas, México.

PARTICIPANTS:

Salvador Nava, Coordinator, Constitutional Law and Government Program; Universidad Anáhuac, México.

Sergio López Ayllón, Professor-Researcher, Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas, México.

Juan Francisco Escobedo, Coordinator, Communication Masters Degree, Universidad Iberoamericana, México.

21:00 hrs.

Dinner

WEDNESDAY

23

8:30 - 9:00 hrs. Registration of participants

9:00 - 9:30 hrs. **PLENARY SESSION**

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH: TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY.

Diego Fernández de Cevallos, President, Cámara de Senadores, México.

Manlio Fabio Beltrones, Presidente, Cámara de Diputados, México*.

9:30 - 11:15 hrs. **ROUNDTABLE**

THE BALANCE BETWEEN NATIONAL SECURITY AND ACCESS TO INFORMATION.

COORDINATOR:

Horacio Aguilar Álvarez de Alba, Commissioner, Federal Institute of Access to Public Information, Mexico.

PARTICIPANTS:

Thomas Blanton, Executive Director, National Security Archive, US.

Toby Mendel, Director, Law Program, Article 19, UK.

NATIONAL SECURITY VS. ACCESS TO INFORMATION: A REVISION OF THE JOHANNESBURG PRINCIPLES.

Alasdair Roberts, Director, Campbell Public Affairs Institute, Syracuse University, US.

NATIONAL SECURITY AND OPEN GOVERNMENT: NATO AND OTHER INTERGOVERNMENTAL SECURITY AGREEMENTS.

Ernesto López Portillo, Director, Instituto Nacional para la Seguridad y Democracia A.C. INSyD, México.

Jorge Islas, General Lawyer, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, México.

11:15 - 11:30 hrs. Coffee Break

11:30 - 13:45 hrs. **SIMULTANEOUS WORKSHOPS**

PRESENTATION DIAGNOSTIC OF THE SITUATION OF ACCESS OF INFORMATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA.

COORDINATOR:

Joan Caivano, Deputy to the President and Director of Special Projects Inter American Dialogue, US.

PARTICIPANTS:

Cristiana Chamorro, Editorial Adviser and Writer, La Prensa Newspaper, Nicaragua.

Vilma Rosales, Chief Editor, Tiempo Newspaper, Honduras

Jaime López, Executive Director, Probidad, El Salvador.

Silvio Gramajo, General Director, DOSES, Guatemala.

Guido Alejandro Rodríguez, Second Co Defender of the People, Special Delegate of Freedom of Expression and Access to Information, Panamá.

ACCESS AND FREEDOM OF INFORMATION.

COORDINATOR:

Ángel Trinidad Zaldivar, Executive Secretary, Federal Institute of Access to Public Information, Mexico.

PARTICIPANTS:

Ricardo Uceda, Executive Director, Instituto Prensa y Sociedad, Perú.

Rossana Fuentes-Berain, Member, Citizen Council for the National Press Prize, Mexico.

Rosental C. Alves, Director, Knight Center for Journalism in the Americas, US.

Darce Fardy, Review Officer, Information Rights and Data Protection Act, Nova Scotia, Canada.

Kela León, Director, Consejo de la Prensa Peruana, Perú.

Donna Mastrangelo, Vice President and Senior Executive Producer, CNN en español, US.

José Buendía, Director, Prensa y Democracia A.C., México.

Miguel Treviño, Under Director, Páginas Editoriales de El Norte (Grupo Reforma). *

13:45 - 14:45 hrs. **FREE Lunch**

14:45 - 15:15 hrs. ***PLENARY SESSION***

TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN POLITICAL PARTIES

Luis Carlos Ugalde, Councilor President, Instituto Federal Electoral IFE, México. *

15:15 - 15:45 hrs. **Relator and Conclusions**

Juan Pablo Guerrero, Commissioner, Federal Institute for Access to Public Information, México.

15:45 - 16:00 hrs. **PRESENTATION OF THE DECLARATION AND OF THE IV INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF INFORMATION COMMISSIONERS ICIC**

16:00 - 16:15 hrs. **Closing remarks**

Words of **José Octavio López Presa**, Commissioner, Federal Institute for Access to Public Information, México.

16:30 - 22:00 hrs. **Visit to Xcaret / Dinner**

Sponsored by Ayuntamiento de Benito Juárez (Cancún) / Grupo Xcaret

Words of **Carlos Canabal Ruíz**, Presidente Municipal Interino de Benito Juárez (Cancún).

*Speakers to be confirmed.