

4. When deciding on the development or designation of an Institute Research Center, the Conference of the Parties shall take into account:

- a) The need to achieve broad coverage of all biogeographically defined subregions of the Inter-American region;
- b) The need to consolidate a regional network of research components focussing on the different areas of the Scientific Agenda of the Institute;
- c) The ease of access to the site for visiting scientists and technicians;
- d) The availability of logistics support including, inter alia, mail, telecommunications and housing;
- e) The demonstrable interest of scientists and governments in conducting global change research and in cooperating with other institutions;
- f) The existence of a scientific institution or nucleus at the site actively engaged, in whole or in substantive part, in global change research;
- g) The likelihood of long-term stability of interest and support for the research objectives of the Institute;
- h) The ability to contribute resources to the overall Institute through, inter alia, areas of specialty, expertise and location;
- i) The conditions offered by the proposing Parties regarding the open and efficient transfer of institute-related funds, of easy entry to and exit from the State for personnel and equipment which are properly accredited as being associated with the work of the Institute; and
- j) The possibility of access to aggregate data bases and close proximity to more specialized research capabilities in subjects associated with global change and research training.

Article X

Affiliated Research Institutions

1. An institution which submits a proposal for a specific research project, through the appropriate Party, may be designated by the Conference of the Parties as being affiliated to the Institute for the duration of the project. The Conference shall base its decision on a review of the proposal, taking into account the views of the Scientific Advisory Committee as to the scientific merit of the proposed project and its relevance to the objectives of the Institute.

2. Affiliated research institutions shall be responsible to the Institute for the portion of its work sponsored by the Institute.

Article XI

Associates of the Institute

1. The Conference of the Parties may invite States outside the region, regional or international intergovernmental organizations, and industries and other non-governmental and private organizations interested in supporting the Scientific Agenda and programmatic activities of the Institute, to become Associates of the Institute.