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# Inter-American Bar Association

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## INTER-AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

JOHN O. DAHLGREN  
*Secretary General*  
*Inter-American Bar Association*

### XIX CONFERENCE — CARTAGENA, COLOMBIA

As this issue is going to press, the XIX Conference of the Inter-American Bar Association is being held in Cartagena Colombia—September 27 to October 3, 1975—hosted by the *Colegio de Abogados de Bolivar*. The central theme of the Conference is: “Judicial Aspects and Documents Relating to Latin American Economic Integration, Including Those Relating to the Andean Pact.”

Following are the topics on the Agenda of the XIX Conference, to be considered by the various committees:

#### I. PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL LAW

Topic 1. Immigration policies in the Western Hemisphere.

*Sec. A. Oceanography and the Law of the Sea*

Topic 1. The present status of the freedom of the high seas.

Topic 2. Enforcement of the Law of the Sea.

Topic 3. Legal and economic effects of the proposed Law of the Sea Convention.

Topic 4. Legal effects of inflation on the Law of the Sea.

Topic 5. The law relating to oceanographic research.

Topic 6. Legal standards relating to marine pollution.

Topic 7. The law of aquaculture.

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(\*) Topics marked with an asterisk are translations from original Spanish texts.

(\*\*) Topics marked with two asterisks are those suggested since the Council meeting in Puerto Rico.

*Sec. D. Inter-American Air Law*

- \*\*Topic 1. Environmental effects of high altitude flights. (jointly with Com. XV, Sec. C.).

II. PRIVATE INTERNATIONAL LAW

Topic 1. International judicial cooperation in penal proceedings.

Topic 2. Analysis of the results of the Inter-American Specialized Conference on Private International Law (CIDIP), Panama, January 1975, and study of the six Conventions approved by the Conference.

*Sec. A. International Judicial Procedure*

Topic 1. Recognition and enforcement of foreign country money judgments.

Topic 2. Comparison of The Hague Convention on the Obtaining of Evidence Abroad in Civil and Commercial Matters (1968) with the Inter-American Convention on the Taking of Evidence Abroad as adopted by the OAS Specialized Conference (1975).

III. CONSTITUTIONAL LAW

\*Topic 1. Relation between the Legislative and Executive Powers.

\*Topic 2. Relation between Treaties and National Legislations.

\*Topic 3. Impeachment

\*Topic 4. Rights of Women (jointly with Com. XVIII).

Topic 5. Study of the role of the Armed Forces under the Constitutions of the American nations (jointly with Com. XVII, topic 2).

IV. MUNICIPAL LAW

*Sec. A. Housing and Urban Law*

Topic 1. Legislation pertaining to housing, planning and zoning.

Topic 2. Laws pertaining to condominiums.

V. CIVIL LAW

*Sec. A. Law of the Person and of the Family*

\*\*Topic 1. Uniform Interstate Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Act.

\*\*Topic 2. A comparative study of the divorce laws in the Americas.

*Sec. B. Law of Personal Property, Obligations and Contracts*

- \*Topic 1. Comparative study of the general principles of the Law of Personal Property, Obligations and Contracts. Possibility of unification.
- \*Topic 2. Adhesion contracts. Legal protection to consumers.

*Sec. C. Intellectual and Industrial Property*

- Topic 1. Decisions 24 and 85 of the Commission of the Cartagena Agreement as they affect transfers of technology (jointly with Com. XI-A, Topic 2).
- Topic 2. Current legislation of Argentina, Brazil, Mexico and Venezuela on industrial property and transfer of technology jointly with Com. XI-A, topic 2).
- Topic 3. Up-dating inter-American Conventions on Industrial Property.
- Topic 4. WIPO's Ad-Hoc Group of Governmental Experts on the Revision of the Paris Convention (for the needs of developing countries).
- Topic 5. The role of UNCTAD and its treatment of industrial property rights in the Americas.
- \*Topic 6. Activities of the Inter-American Copyright Institute.

## VI. CIVIL AND COMMERCIAL PROCEDURE

*Sec. A. Inter-American Commercial Arbitration*

- \*Topic 1. OAS—1975 Inter-American Convention on International Commercial Arbitration. Recommendation for ratification.
- Topic 2. UN—1958 Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards.
- Topic 3. Judicial intervention in ex-parte Arbitration (Arbitraje en rebeldia) in the Western Hemisphere.
- Topic 4. Arbitration and other means for developing legal rules for regional enterprises (jointly with Com. XI-A, topic 1-d).

## VII. COMMERCIAL LAW

*Sec. B. Transportation*

- \*\*Topic 1. Freight Preference Laws.
- \*\*Topic 2. Application of a unified Code of highway safety to the Pan American Highway.

- \*\*Topic 3. The unusual tax treatment given steamship lines by various countries.
- \*\*Topic 4. Diversity of customs laws, regulations and procedures (jointly with Com. X-B).
- \*\*Topic 5. Status of transportation under regulatory and anti-trust principles, particularly in the Latin American countries.

*Sec. C. Corporation Law*

- Topic 1. Up-dating Conflict-of-Laws Rules of Corporations in the Americas.
- Topic 2. Multinational Corporations. (jointly with Com. XI-A, topic 1).

*Sec. F. Communications*

- Topic 1. Legal problems of allocation, assignment and use of frequencies for public broadcasting in the Americas.
- Topic 2. Regional telecommunications agreements and organizational arrangements.
- Topic 3. Legal structures of telephone systems in certain Latin American countries.
- Topic 4. Work of the Legal Committee of the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO).

*Sec. G. Capital Markets*

- Topic 1. Regional regulation of investments. (jointly with Com. XI-A, topic 1-c).
- \*\*Topic 2. Procedural remedies for vindicating intracorporate rights and duties.

## VIII. CRIMINAL LAW AND PROCEDURE

- Topic 1. Legislation concerning highjacking and kidnapping.
- Topic 2. Laws pertaining to narcotic drugs.
- \*Topic 3. Compensation to victims of crimes.
- Topic 4. Up-dating penal legislation in the light of increasing violence.
- Topic 5. Extradition.
- Topic 6. Legal aspects of pornography.

## IX. LABOR LAW

- \*\*Topic 1. Industrial peace under labor law.
- \*\*Topic 2. New sources of international labor law.

## X. FISCAL LAW

### *Sec. A. Taxation*

- Topic 1. Bases upon which income and state tax treaties could be entered into between the United States and other countries in the Western Hemisphere.
- Topic 2. Tax consequences in the various countries of restoration of trade relations between Cuba and other countries in the Western Hemisphere.
- Topic 3. Appropriate methods of determining taxable income in inflationary economics.
- Topic 4. Taxation of royalties and payments for technical services flowing between countries in the Western Hemisphere.
- \*Topic 5. The value-added tax in the tax legislation of countries in the Western Hemisphere.
- Topic 6. Methods of income taxation on regional enterprise (jointly with Com. XI-A, topic 1-b).

### *Sec. B. Customs Law*

- Topic 1. Diversity of customs laws, regulations and procedures. (jointly with Com. VII, topic 4).

## XI. LEGAL ASPECTS OF DEVELOPMENT AND INTEGRATION

### *Sec. A. Legal Aspects of Economic Development and Integration*

- Topic 1. The development of the rules of law for regional multinational business enterprises. (jointly with Com. VII-C).
  - a) Regional legal development in Latin America—European and United Nations background.
  - b) Methods of income taxation of regional enterprises. (jointly with Com. X-A, topic 6).
  - c) Regional regulation of investments. (jointly with Com. VII-G, topic 1).
  - d) Arbitration and other means for developing legal rules for regional enterprises. (jointly with Com. VI-A, topic 4).
- Topic 2. Legal rights, rules and regulation of technology and “know-how” in international development. (jointly with Com. V-C, topic 2).

### *Sec. B. Monopoly and Restrictive Commercial Practices*

- \*Topic 1. Developing legal rules for regional markets and monopoly regulations.

### XIII. LEGAL DOCUMENTATION

\*Topic 1. Annotated Codes, Digests and Indexes.

Topic 2. Computer assisted Legal Research in the Americas: Opportunities and challenges in the light of North American experience.

### XIV. ACTIVITIES OF LAWYERS

*Sec. B. Assistance and Social Security for Lawyers*

\*Topic 1. Draft of model law on social security for lawyers.

### XV. NATURAL RESOURCES

*Sec. A. Oil and Gas Laws*

Topic 1. The juridical protection of energy production investments in the sea-bed beyond national jurisdiction.

Topic 2. The legal regime of energy resources production from the sea-bed area of the Antarctic.

*Sec. B. Laws Concerning Agriculture*

Topic 1. Erosion and sediment control.

Topic 2. Agrarian Reform.

*Sec. C. Environmental Law*

Topic 1. Legal problems concerning pollution.

### XVI. SPACE LAW

Topic 1. Current status of aerospace law.

### XVII. MILITARY LAW

Topic 1. Study of the appropriate judicial measures that the Armed Forces must take against the illegal use, possession and sale of drugs and similar substances by members of the Armed Forces.

Topic 2. Study of the role of the Armed Forces under the Constitution of the American nations. (jointly with Com. III, topic 5).

Topic 3. Study of the jurisdiction of Military Tribunals acting under emergency situations.

Topic 4. Study of legal aspects of the role of women in the Armed Forces of the Hemisphere.

Topic 5. Legal basis for civic action by the Armed Forces.

Topic 6. Rights of insurgents to belligerent status.

## XVIII. HUMAN RIGHTS

\*Topic 1. Study of the judicial and nonjudicial complaint handling mechanisms in the American countries for violation of human rights by Government authorities.

\*Topic 2. Rights of Women. (jointly with Com. III, topic 2).

## XIX. FOOD AND DRUG LAW

Topic 1. Up-dating annual study of Food and Drug Laws in the Americas.

## XX. NUCLEAR LAW

Topic 1. Support of the Special Legal Committee of IANEC.

Topic 2. Development of training in nuclear energy law.

*The Tentative Program for the Conferences (dated July 1975) is as follows:*

### *Working Sessions*

#### *Saturday—Sept. 27*

9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Registration of delegates and other participants

#### *Sunday—Sept. 28*

10:00 a.m. Meeting of the Council

2:00 p.m. Organizational Meeting with Chairmen and Co-Chairmen of Committees

6:00 p.m. Opening Session

#### *Monday—Sept. 29*

9:00 a.m. Committee meetings (throughout the day)

2:30 p.m. Meeting of the Council

#### *Tuesday—Sept. 30*

9:00 a.m. Committee meetings (throughout the day)

9:00 a.m. Meeting of the Council (throughout the day)

#### *Wednesday—Oct. 1*

9:00 a.m. Committee meetings (throughout the day)



- 9:00 a.m. Meeting of the Council
- 2:00 p.m. IABF meeting
- 2:30 p.m. Plenary Session

*Thursday—Oct. 2*

- 9:00 a.m. Plenary Session (throughout the day)
- 2:30 p.m. Meeting of the Council

*Friday—Oct. 3*

- 9:00 a.m. Plenary Session (throughout the day)
- 4:00 p.m. Closing Session
- 5:00 p.m. Meeting of the New Council

Some Chairmen and Co-Chairmen of Committees and Sections have supplied additional information concerning their programs.

*Law of the Sea—Sec. A. Com. 1*

The Law of the Sea Section anticipates a large attendance at its meetings in Cartagena. Several papers will be presented on the approved topics of general interest in the evolving uses of the oceans. Full discussions will be held concerning the various proposals at the last three sessions of the United Nations Law of the Sea Conference. The meetings scheduled to start on Monday, September 29, will open with a full-length color movie on various aspects of the Law of the Sea.

*Inter-American Air Law—Sec. D. Com. 1*

This Section is sponsoring a program on the topic "Environmental Effects of High Altitude Flight" and will start its meeting on Monday, September 29, jointly with Section C. Environmental Law, Com XV. Natural Resources.

There has been an increasing concern as to possible adverse effects on the biosphere of a reduction of the ozone about the Earth. This program concerns effects which may be occasioned by high altitude aircraft flight. Recent studies in the United States by the Department of Transportation (DOT) and the National Academy of Science (NAS) expressed concern over aircraft engine emissions by sizeable future fleets of air carriers. The reports on these studies stressed that early international understanding, cooperation and accord were essential for abatement of foreseeable problems.

The Section's program will include a presentation of the salient findings of the DOT and NAS reports, to be followed by a Workshop

discussion as to possible legal implications and remedial international actions. All attendees to the Cartagena Conference are invited by the Section to attend the program and to present a paper or to participate in the Workshop discussion.

*Civil Law—Com. V*

This Committee will have an interesting program as a number of papers will be presented for consideration by its 3 Sections: Sec. A. Law of the Family, Sec. B. Law of Personal Property, Obligations and Contracts, and Sec. C. Intellectual and Industrial Property. Some of the discussions of the latter Section will be held jointly with Sec. A. of Committee XI.

*Inter-American Commercial Arbitration—Sec. A. Com. VI*

This Section is planning to hold its meeting starting Monday, September 29. Included in the topics for discussion will be the new OAS Inter-American Convention on International Commercial Arbitration adopted by the OAS Specialized Inter-American Conference on Private International Law held in Panama, in January 1975.

*Transportation—Sec. B. Com. VII*

Five major subjects for papers and oral discussion will be considered by this Section which starts its meeting on Monday and will continue through Wednesday, if necessary.

*Corporation Law—Sec. C. Com. VII*

The Section plans an active program which will focus on two main topics—Updating of Rules of Conflict of Laws of Corporations in the Americas; and Multinational Corporations (jointly with Sec. A. of Com. XI). All Section members have been invited to submit papers on these topics.

*Communications—Sec. F. Com. VII*

A feature of the meeting of this Section on Monday, September 29 will be a report on the legal aspects of the IMCO International Conference on the Establishment of an International Maritime Satellite System which took place in London this year. This topic has important implications for both the communications and shipping industries. The continuing expansion of telephone systems in the countries of the Americas and the legal developments which this has brought about will also be considered.

The Section will draw up plans for the establishment of working groups in each country to provide current information on developments in telecommunications laws in individual countries.

*Criminal Law and Procedure—Com. VIII*

This Committee is organizing and will include in its program for Tuesday afternoon, September 30, a symposium on the legal aspects of pornography. Dr. Juan Mayorca, former Director of Prevention of Crime, Venezuela and Dr. Philip F. Herrick, former U.S. Attorney for Puerto Rico, will be the main speakers.

*Labor Law—Com. IX*

The Committee is planning to hold a meeting on Monday, September 29. Papers on the two topics assigned to the Committee are being prepared and will be considered at this meeting. Committee members plan to have a luncheon on the same day in order to discuss future plans.

*Legal Aspects of Development and Integration—Com. XI*

Section A of this Committee is closely related to the Central Theme of the Conference. Its program includes discussion of two topics of current interest dealing with the development of the rules of law for regional multinational corporations and with the legal rights, rules and regulation of technology and "know-how" in international development. The Section's meeting will be held jointly with other Committee Sections. Section B will discuss a topic on developing legal rules for regional markets and monopoly regulations. Several interesting papers are being prepared and a large attendance is anticipated at the sessions of this Committee.

*Natural Resources—Com. XV*

This Committee is concerned with three major areas of natural resources law — oil and gas law, agriculture law and environmental law, which there is currently great interest and activity. The Committee is planning a well balanced and thought-provoking program that will be of benefit to all lawyers interested in developments in the natural resources field.

*Space Law—Com. XVI*

The Eighteenth International Symposium on Aerospace Law, sponsored by this Committee, and the Federal Bar Association, will be held in Cartagena on Monday, September 29. In addition to aerospace law

topics, Committee organizational matters will be discussed, including future meetings scheduled and proposed international conferences.

*Military Law—Com. XVII*

For planning purposes, it is anticipated that the Committee will meet for five sessions of a half day each, at the Navy base, in Cartagena. There are six approved topics which will be discussed, ranging in subject matter from a study of Military utilization of appropriate judicial measures against illegal use and sale of drugs, to the role of women in the Military. The meetings will offer an opportunity to explore a number of interesting problems that should stimulate thought and discussion.

*Human Rights—Com. XVIII Seminar on Legal Status of Women*

A seminar on the Legal Status of Women in the Western Hemisphere is being organized by this Committee, in cooperation with the Inter-American Bar Foundation. The seminar which will be chaired by Dr. Carlos A. Dunshee de Abranches, of Brazil, is in recognition of the United Nations International Women's Year and the growing importance of the subject matter.