



# CAZALAC

Water Center for Arid and Semi-Arid Zones in Latin America and the Caribbean

Newsletter N°6 - august 2003

## PRESENTATION

Dear Friends:

Through this newsletter, we want to send the Secretariat of the Convention to Combat Desertification and Drought (UNCCD) and the Member Countries of this Convention our best wishes of success for the Sixth Conference of the Convention, which will soon take place in La Havana, Cuba.

We think that this Center, the objectives of which are aimed at achieving a sustainable management of water resources in arid and semi-arid zones of Latin America and The Caribbean, can collaborate and interact in many mutually interesting activities within the UNCCD program outlines related to research, education and culture regarding our regional water resources, mainly in the population sectors that are most affected by desertification processes.

We hereby send our greetings from La Serena, IV Region of Coquimbo, Chile, where CAZALAC's home office is located.

Guido Soto  
Director Ejecutivo

## INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE AS ONE OF CAZALAC'S ASSOCIATE ORGANIZATIONS

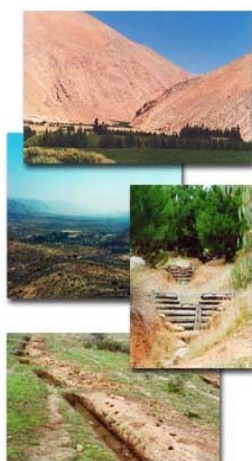
We remind our subscribers that one the resolutions adopted by the Center's Board in the meeting held on July 10, 2003 was to invite every domestic or foreign organization and institution related to water resources research and development to join as CAZALAC's associates. We are pleased to especially invite all those institutions that have supported this project from its onset, mainly institutions from Chile, Latin America and The Caribbean related to the PHI, from whom we expect to continue receiving support.

Regarding requirements and conditions to join as CAZALAC's associates, we invite you to visit our Web site.

<http://www.cazalac.org>



## COURSE ON WATER RESOURCES AND SOILS November 2 – 14, 2003



Since the term to apply for the VII ELAFIS on Hydrology and Soils lapsed on August 15, 2003 we have started the attendants selection process, among the many students, technicians and professionals from LAC who sent the relevant documentation.



Selection results will soon be reported.



## SIXTH SESSION OF THE COP – LA HAVANA, CUBA

Since the term to apply for the VII ELAFIS on Hydrology and Soils lapsed on August 15, 2003 we have started the attendants selection process, among the many students, technicians and professionals from LAC who sent the relevant documentation

This meeting, to be attended by numerous delegations from the Member Countries of this Convention (UNCCD) and many NGOs linked to the desertification issues, will be divided into two sections: The Sixth Session of the Science and Technology Committee (STC), which will take place from August 26 to 28, and the Second Session of the Convention's Committee to Assess Application (CCAA) to be held on August 26-29, 2003.

CAZALAC's executive director will attend this event, where the delegates coming from Latin America and the Caribbean will receive information on the Center and potential regional and sub-regional links and initiatives regarding sustainable water management in the arid zones of LAC will be discussed.



For more information on this event, please visit the Convention to Combat Desertification's website at: <http://www.unccd.int>

## INTERNATIONAL WATER EVENT 2003 – CARTAGENA DE INDIAS, COLOMBIA

The WATER 2003 international event: Multiple Water Uses for life and sustainable development will take place in Cartagena de Indias (Colombia) from September 29 to October 03. This initiative was organized by the Cinara Institute (Universidad del Valle, Colombia) and is mainly addressed to directors, professionals and technicians related to the water resources issue. It will consist of a Conference and three Seminars on: Water information systems in the integrated management of water resources, natural methods to treat domestic sewage water and their environmental and public health implications, and Information and Knowledge

Transfer on the water sector.

The Conference and Seminars' program will be developed as follows:



- International Conference: Multiple Water Uses For Life and Sustainable Development (September 29 & 30)
- International Seminar on Water Information Systems in Integral Water Management (October 1-3)
- International Seminar on Information and Knowledge Transfer in the Water Sector (October 1-3)
- International Seminar on Natural Methods to Treat Domestic Sewage Water and their Environmental and Public Health Implications (October 1-3)

For more information we recommend a visit to the site: [www.cinara.org.co](http://www.cinara.org.co) or to request it from the following address: [agua2003@univalle.edu.co](mailto:agua2003@univalle.edu.co)

## INTERNATIONAL COURSES ON UNDERGROUND WATER RESOURCES – FCIHS

The Foundation - International Underground Water Resources Center, which is based at Barcelona, Spain is preparing two international courses on underground water resources:



The 38th version of the International Water Resources Course for Post-graduates (a course requiring presence) will be developed in Barcelona between January and July 2004.

In addition, the second version of the International Course on Underground Water Resources, At Distance Version (CIHS), will be dictated from October 1, 2003 to September 30, 2004.

Under both modalities, the CIHS educational program is composed of 16 topics: (1) Hydrological balance and cycle, (2) Hydraulics of Ground Water Deposits, (3) Hydro-chemistry, (4) Hydro-geological Exploration, (5) Hydraulics of water catchment, (6) Hydrology of Low Permeability Environments, (7) Solute and Trace Transportation, (8) Construction of Ground Water Catchment Devices, (9) Fresh water- Salt water Relationships, (10) Isotopic hydrology, (11) Quality, pollution and protection of Groundwater deposits, (12) Groundwater simulating models, (13) Hydro-economy, (14) Planning, Management and Optimization of Groundwater Deposits, (15) Legislation, (16) Underground water resources and geological engineering.

These courses are jointly sponsored by the Universidad Politécnica de Cataluña and UNESCO, among others, and are mainly aimed at forming underground water specialists among professionals of different specialties.

Once the requirements of the study program have been fulfilled, students will be entitled to obtain the Aptitude Diploma granted by the FCIHS and the Postgraduate Diploma of the Universidad Politécnica de Cataluña.

Additional information can be found at: <http://www.fcihs.org> or by requesting it from the e-mail: [gerencia@fcihs.org](mailto:gerencia@fcihs.org)

## SEMINAR WORKSHOP – CHOAPA RIVER, REGION OF COQUIMBO – CHILE

Several modules of the seminar - workshop “Training for Integral Management of Natural Water Flows and Resources in the Choapa River Basin – Region of Coquimbo” are being performed since May 2003.

This event was organized among others by the Programa Más Región (More Region Program – formed up by the Integrated Decentralization and Governability Program of the Region of Coquimbo, the European Union and the Chilean Government) and the General Water Office of Chile. This initiative is aimed at training public and private institutions linked to water management, in order to coordinate a multi-sector and inter-institutional effort among these entities and eventually achieve an appropriate water management in the Choapa River Basin, Chile – IV Administrative Region).



One of the expected results is to form a Water Board of Directors for the Choapa River, which will be composed of the different participating institutions. In the immediate term the board is expected to provide the debated topics with coherence and continuity and to implement any recommendations arising during the process.

Additional Information on this initiative’s development and results may be requested from:

- Carlos Galleguillos (Regional Water Director, IV Region): [carlos.galleguillos@moptt.gov.cl](mailto:carlos.galleguillos@moptt.gov.cl)
- Nancy Matus (Programa Más Región): [nmatus@masregion.tie.cl](mailto:nmatus@masregion.tie.cl)

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