



**7<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS  
ON DISASTERS**

**3<sup>RD</sup> INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR  
ON RISKS MANAGEMENT**

**DISASTERS'2006**

**“FOR A SAFER WORLD”**

**June 13 – 16, 2006  
Havana International Conference Center  
CUBA**

Havana, April 2005

Dear Colleagues:

*The National Staff of the Civil Defense, along with national and international organizations and institutions, convenes the 7<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Disasters, to be held from June 13<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup>, 2006, in Havana city, Cuba.*

*The Congress is aimed to assembling authorities, officials, scientists, professionals, specialists and activists of the world, devoted to protect people and their belongings, as well as the economy and the environment, against the destructive effects of the potentially catastrophic phenomena. They will exchange knowledge, results, experiences and perspectives in the risks reduction, as well as, foster multilateral and bilateral cooperation projects and programs in this field.*

*A comprehensive Scientific Program will be arranged taking into account the various types of hazards, vulnerabilities and the associated risks and the different stages and elements of disasters reduction. This will encourage the exchange of ideas and criteria and provide the scientific and technological updating of specialists. This is an excellent opportunity for countries, institutions and organizations to present the level already reached and the new challenges ahead. In this occasion, the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Seminar on Risks Management will take place within the framework of the Congress.*

*The Havana International Conference Center, venue of the Congress, is a magnificent specialized institution with a vast experience in the holding of events that will put at your disposal the skills of its specialists in favor of participants. Besides, our historical and beautiful city of Havana will offer to our colleagues its cultural and ethnic diversity, its cheerful character and its unique peace and climate and the hospitality of the Cuban people that will offer a traditional friendly welcome.*

*We will be honoured by your presence here which will be very important for the success of our event.*

Organizing Committee

### ***ORGANIZERS:***

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

### ***SPONSORS:***

- 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 Affairs.
- Ministry of Informatics and Communications.
- Ministry of Higher Education.
- Ministry of Education.
- Ministry of Construction.
- Ministry of the Basic Industry.
- Ministry for the Foreign Investment and Economic Collaboration.
- National Institute of Hydraulic Resources.
- Insurance Enterprises of Cuba.
- Cuban Red Cross National Society.
- Cuban Society of Veterinary Medicine for Disasters Situation.
- Latin-American Center of Disasters Medicine.

### ***PARTICIPANTS PROFILE***

The Congress and its related events are directed to authorities, officers, scientists, professionals, specialists and activists of this field of disasters reduction linked to:

- **Natural Sciences:** Geographers, geologists, cartographers, seismologists, meteorologists, chemists, biologists, physicians, among others.
- **Applied Sciences:** Civil Engineers, architects, hydraulic engineers etc.
- **Medical Sciences:** General practitioners, epidemiologists, legal doctors, health managers, toxicologists, nurses, paramedical staff, sociologists, psychologists.
- **Agricultural Sciences:** veterinarians, zoologists, epizootologists, phytosanitary specialists, etc.
- **Professionals and technicians of protection or civil defense, as well as, others dealing professionally with the management of disasters:** executives, managers, planners, communicators, first-aider (volunteer), firemen, public order, dog unit, etc.
- **Pedagogical and Legal Sciences.**
- **Informatics and communication specialists and professionals.**
- **Mass media activists and professionals and other way of orientation and information to people.**
- **Executives and planners of the socioeconomic development, use of the land and city planning.**

### ***OFFICIAL LANGUAGE***

Spanish and English will be the official languages of the Congress.

Spanish-English and English-Spanish translations will be provided in the opening and closing activities as well as in the main sessions of the Congress according to the Organizing Committee.

### ***MAIN TOPICS***

1. Natural disasters of diverse origins such as tropical cyclones, floodings, earthquakes, tornados, sea penetration, droughts, landslide and huge forest fires among others.
2. Technological disasters caused by hydrocarbons spillages, toxic chemical substances leak and other chemical and radiological accidents, huge urban and industrial fires, transport accident and others.
3. Disasters caused by serious epidemics in human beings, animals and plant plagues and diseases.

The Congress will tackle the aspects related to studies, assessments, and analysis of hazards, vulnerability and risks and prevention elements (mitigation), preparations, response and recovery and the scientific and technological development in interest of disasters reduction and the cooperation and assistance in these cases.

### ***SPECIFIC TOPICS RELATED TO MAIN TOPICS***

- "Legislative and normative aspects and policies formulation for disasters reduction and management".
- "Cuban experiences in risk management before tropical cyclones".
- "The reduction and management of technological disasters". (Chemical, radiological disasters, explosions, dangerous wastes, transport accidents).
- "The seismological risks, their prevention, preparations, response and recovery".
- "Surveillance systems and early warning of hazards in disasters reduction".
- "Education and training of the Civil Defense in the different educational systems and in the community".
- "Social impact of disasters. Psychological aspects before, during and after the occurrence of disasters".
- "Informatics, communications and mass media in disasters reduction".
- "The role of communities, young people and women in preventing and facing disasters".
- "Role of the human, animal and vegetable health systems in the reduction of sanitary disasters".
- "Drought: appropriate management of water resources and preventing culture".
- "Disasters, environment and development: reciprocal influences".
- "The impact of international cooperation and assistance in the community in the field of disasters".
- "The scientific-technical development in the field of disasters and realities of its application".

### ***3<sup>RD</sup> INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON RISKS MANAGEMENT***

The seminar is a collateral event sponsored and organized by the International and National Insurance Enterprises of Cuba. The event will deal with general elements, meteorological, agricultural, industrial, electrical, informatics, financial and political risks as well as risk transfers mechanism and alternatives.

### ***SCIENTIFIC MODALITIES***

The Congress will develop plenary sessions on topics of interest to all participants mainly master thematic lectures and working sessions on aspects related to the specific topics to be discussed in independent rooms. The working sessions will be structured in seminars, panels and round tables and there are also, free topic poster presentations.

### ***MASTER LECTURES***

Lectures on general aspects of the main topics.  
Duration: 45 to 60 minutes each.

### ***TOPIC LECTURES***

The Congress can include topic lectures on one or more specific topics.  
Duration: 30 minutes each.

### ***PANELS***

They will deal with specific topics related to main topics to allow the updating and exchanging of knowledge. They will have a coordinator and a group of panelists.  
Duration: 90 minutes each.

### ***ROUND TABLES***

They will present one of the main topics and the criteria and views of experts. They will have a coordinator as moderator and various members. The audio visual aid is not allowed.  
Duration: 90 minutes each.

### ***SEMINARS***

They will be developed according to the interests of the institution that organizes them.

### ***FREE TOPIC POSTER PRESENTATION***

Those interested in presenting free topic papers about the main and specific topics including other topics of interest linked to the Congress profile can participate in the poster modality. It's assigned date and hours for each work within the scientific program. It's advisable the presence of the author at the arranged time to answer possible questions. Authors will have time for the assembling of works; the panels' size will be 0,82 wide x 1,20 m length.

### ***RAPPORTEUR SESSION***

The Rapporteur should include the result of debates, contributions and suggestions of the working sessions in its different modalities. The report can be sent to all participants by E-mail.

All Congress sessions will have a chairman and a secretary.

### ***PAPERS PRESENTATION***

***DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING PAPERS:  
January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2006***

The Scientific Committee will analyze the papers presented and in case of not acceptance it will communicate the result officially. Foreign people wishing to participate will be accepted without submitting any paper.

Papers received on time fulfilling the requirements and being accepted will be published by the Organizing Committee.

There will be accepted up to five authors per papers that will be included if the paper is accepted. The decision of the Organizing Committee is unappealable.

## **FORMAT FOR SENDING ABSTRACTS AND PAPERS**

(Lectures and free - topic poster presentation)

**Abstracts:** They will present the following format: title, authors, institution, city, country, they should not exceed 250 words and they should be structured in introduction, material, methods, results, discussion and conclusions.

**Complete Papers:** A minimum of 5 pages and up to 15 pages structured in introduction, objectives, material, methods, results, conclusions and bibliographic referentes.

The word processor must be Word 6,0 or a higher version with the following format:

Font: Arial, 12 points.

Text: Justified.

Margins: 2,5 cm on a 8 ½ x 11 sheet of paper.

Title of the paper: Arial 14 points, centered and bold type.

Author data: Full name of the authors in bold type and cursive writing.

Institution's name, address, phone, fax, mail and country: bold type.

Papers containing images, tables and/or graphics should be compacted in the Word document.

The document should not exceed one megabyte.

In case of exceeding 300 Kbytes they must be compacted. If after being compacted it still exceeds that size, then it must be compacted in multivolume format with a maximum of 300 Kbytes each.



### **AUDIOVISUAL AIDS FOR LECTURES AND PANELS**

- Overhead projector.
- Slide projector of 35 mm.
- Data projector.
- Computer.
- Video cassette VHS (NTSC 3,58).

Presentations on computers will follow these requirements:

- Windows Operative System.
- Power Point Presentation.
- Presentations in CD, Diskettes 3.5, Hardware for Iomega Zip of 100mb.
- Compacted presentations with the following applications:
  - WinZip version 8.0 (or a lower version).
  - Winrar version 2.5(or a lower version).
  - Arj.
- Designing images presentations in Corel 9 or 10.
- The applications needing associated programs should enclose their installations (Quick time, Adobe Acrobat, etc).

### **INVITATIONS**

Participants requiring Invitation Letter to attend, and to obtain the permission from their institutions they should apply for it to the Organizing Committee.

### **REGISTRATION FEE:**

Participants:	\$250.00 CUC
Student:	\$150.00 CUC
Accompanying people:	\$ 80.00 CUC

Registration fee include:

**Delegate and Student:** Name badge, participation in the scientific and social activities of the Congress, documents kit with the scientific program, CD with papers and abstracts sent on time and accepted by the Organizing Committee, notebooks and pens, attendance and speaker certificate.

**Accompanying people:** Name badge, participation in the official opening and closing ceremonies, social activities of the Congress and souvenirs.

### **TOURIST PACKAGE FOR THE EVENT**

The accommodation and transport of foreign participants will be agreed with the Official Receptive Agency of the event whenever the travel agencies abroad ask for the service.

**Gaviota Tours S.A.** Travel Agency as event receptive agency offers the following hotels for participant´s accomodation.

PALCO\*\*\*\*(venue hotel)  
Melia Habana\*\*\*\*\*  
Panorama\*\*\*\*  
Kholy-Bosque\*\*\*

Contact:

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For further information:

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Ciudad de La Habana, Cuba  
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Fax: 208-7996 /202-8382  
E-mail: [angel@palco.cu](mailto:angel@palco.cu)

Contact: Ángel Salabarría Lay  
Professional Congress Organizer

The 7th International Congress on Disasters owns a permanent site in the following web pages:

[www.cpalco.com](http://www.cpalco.com)  
[www.loseventos.cu/desastres2006](http://www.loseventos.cu/desastres2006)