



Briefing Book Table of Contents

Americas Regional Conference on the Right of Access to Information April 28-30 2009

Introduction

- A. Conference Objectives: Laura Neuman
- B. Agenda
- C. List of Participants
- D. Conference Logistics Memo
- E. Participant Biographies

Background and Panels

- A. General
 - 1. Executive Summary of 2008 International Conference
 - 2. The Atlanta Declaration and Plan of Action for the Advancement of the Right of Access to Information
 - 3. Banisar, David, Map of Freedom of Information Around the World.
 - 4. Inter-American Court of Human Rights, Claude v. Chile Case Summary: www.corteidh.or.cr/docs/casos/articulos/seriec_151_ing.doc.
 - 5. Participant Resource Links
 - 6. Bibliography of Recent Books on Transparency and Access to Information
- B. Plenary Sessions
 - 1. Roberts, Alasdair. "Future Challenges for the RTI Movement," Keynote speech to the Fifth International Conference of Information Commissioners, Wellington, New Zealand, November 27, 2007.
 - 2. Suggested Background Reading

In collaboration with



- Gonzalez-Arechiga, B, *Transparencia en el Rescate Bancaria*, 2006
<http://www.corrupcion.unam.mx/documentos/ponencias/GzIzArechiga.pdf>.
- Islam, Roumeen, *Does more Transparency Go along with Better Governance?* *Economics & Politics*, Vol. 18, No. 2, pp. 121-167, July 2006,
http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=909633.
- “Liberty and Security: Recommendations for the Next Administration and Congress”, 2008
http://2009transition.org/liberty-security/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=11&Itemid=21
- *Voice and Choice: Opening the Door to Environmental Democracy*, World Resource Institute, 2008
<http://www.wri.org/publication/voice-and-choice>
- Meherz, Gil and Daniel Kaufman, *Transparency, Liberalization and Financial Crisis*, World Bank Working Paper Series, 2000
<http://129.3.20.41/eps/fin/papers/0308/0308008.pdf>

Working Groups

A. Working Group Guidelines

Working Group One

Politics and Economy: Shifting the Balance toward Openness

Facilitator: Roberto Saba

Rapporteur: Meg McDermott

- A. Participant Working Group List
- B. Working Group Concept Note
- C. Summary of Group Work from 2008 International Conference
- D. Suggested Reading
 1. Hernández-Valdez, Alfonso. *Budgeting Implications for ATI Legislation: The Mexican Case*, World Bank Institute Working Paper Series, 2009, <ftp.freedominfo.org/documents/WBI-Hernandez-Valdez.pdf>.
 2. Rosendorff, Peter B. “Democracy and the Supply of Transparency.” University of Southern California, Typescript, 2004, homepages.nyu.edu/~bpr1/papers/Transparency.pdf.
 3. Stein, Ernesto, Mariano Tommasi, Koldo Echebarría, Eduardo Lora, and Mark Payne. “The Politics of Policies: Economic and Social Progress in Latin America.” Chapter 1. The Inter-American Development Bank, 2006 Report. <http://www.iadb.org/res/ipres/2006/PDFs/chapter1.pdf>

Working Group Two

Structural and Cultural Context: Creating an Environment for Transparency

Facilitator: Mitch Pearlman

Rapporteur: Suzanne Piotrowski

- A. Participant Working Group List
- B. Working Group Concept Note
- C. Summary of Group Work from 2008 International Conference
- D. Suggested Reading
 1. Neuman, Laura and Richard Calland. "Making the Law Work: The Challenges of Implementation." In The Right to Know: Transparency for an Open World ed. Ann Florini (2007): 179-213, <http://www.cartercenter.org/accesstoinformation.html>.
 2. Roberts, Alasdair, "Dashed Expectations: Governmental Adaptation to Transparency Rules" In Transparency the Key to Better Governance, Ed. Christopher Hood & David Heald (2006) 107-125, http://www.aroberts.us/Site/Articles_%26_Chapters.html.
 3. Neuman, Laura. "Enforcement Models: Content and Context." World Bank Institute Working Paper Series, 2009, right2info.org/resources/publications/World%20Bank%20Institute.pdf.

Working Group Three

Non-State and Multilateral Actors: Examining Roles and Responsibilities

Facilitator: Anel Townsend

Rapporteur: Patrick Schmidt

- A. Participant Working Group List
- B. Working Concept Group Note
- C. Summary of Group Work from 2008 International Conference
- D. Suggested Reading
 1. Blanton, Thomas. "The Struggle for Openness in the International Financial Institutions." The Right to Know: Transparency for an Open World. Ed. Ann Florini (2007): 214-242, <http://www.cartercenter.org/accesstoinformation.html>.
 2. Calland, Richard. "Prizing Open the Profit-Making World." The Right to Know: Transparency for an Open World. Ed. Ann Florini (2007): 243-278, <http://www.cartercenter.org/accesstoinformation.html>.
 3. Roberts, Alasdair. "Structural Pluralism and the Right to Information." The University of Toronto Law Journal 51.3 (Summer, 2001): 243-271, http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/cf_dev/AbsByAuth.cfm?per_id=383666.

Working Group Four

Regional Norm Building: Examining Roles and Responsibilities

Facilitator: Miguel Pulido

Rapporteur: Andres Mejia

- A. Participant Working Group List
- B. Working Group Concept Note
- C. Summary of Group Work from 2008 International Conference
- D. Suggested Reading
 - 1. Florini, Ann. "The Evolution of International Norms." International Studies Quarterly 40 (1996): 363-389, <http://www.jstor.org/pss/2600716>.
 - 2. Neumayer, Eric. "Do International Human Rights Treaties Improve Respect for Human Rights?" Journal of Conflict Resolution. 49:6 (2005): 925-953, <http://jcr.sagepub.com/cgi/content/abstract/49/6/925>.

Working Group Five

Demand: Identifying the deficits and expanding the pool of users

Facilitator: Carolyn Gomes

Rapporteur: Chris Hale

- A. Participant Working Group List
- B. Working Group Concept Note
- C. Suggested Reading
 - 1. Puddephatt, Andrews, Exploring the Role of Civil Society in the Formulation and Adoption of Access to Information Laws: The Cases of Bulgaria, India, Mexico, South Africa, and the United Kingdom, World Bank Institute Working Paper Series, 2009, <http://right2info.org/resources/publications-1>.
 - 2. Holsen et al., Journalist's use of the UK FOIA, Open Government: a journal on Freedom of Information. Volume 2 Issue 1, April 2007, <http://www.opengovjournal.org/article/view/771/791>.