



COPANT
Comisión Panamericana
de Normas Técnicas



**INSTITUTO ARGENTINO
DE NORMALIZACIÓN
Y CERTIFICACIÓN**

2008 COPANT Assembly



Buenos Aires - Argentina, 5 - 8 May 2008

PROGRAMME

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Welcome to IRAM



José Francisco López

It is a great honor to host the 2008 COPANT General Assembly. IRAM's commitment to standardization started in the mid 30s, in the last century, during the aftermath of the economic crash of 1929, when all countries were suffering from the sequels of the first global crisis of the XXth century.

Already in those times, those who founded IRAM considered standardization as the basis for the development of an industrialized country, which could become a successful competitor worldwide. They consequently propagated this idea throughout Latin America, fueling the creation of national standards bodies.

History allows us to state that local populations are the result of the merger of immigration waves from the most diverse origins, with a lot of the temperance and determination of our ancestors. This leads us, Argentineans, into striving to join the countries of the world. We know that an active involvement in international fora is an effective means for achieving this objective.

Despite the fact that we have experienced and are still facing the difficulties inherent to a country that is part of a developing region, those difficulties have never stifled Argentina's wish to make progress and become part of the world. Our goal is to join globalization with the purpose of developing our industry and the public and private services, always having in mind, as an ultimate goal, the progress and general well-being of the population, as well as respect for the environment.

The opportunity to host this Assembly was given on the basis of our will to face challenges, and to set a course that will promote the entrance of our country into world markets, not just as spectators but as fully-fledged actors. A workshop will be held in the framework of the Assembly, which will deal with the theme of standards and certification in the public policies, energy efficiency and renewable energy.

That is why we heartily await your attendance, so that, at the same time as you take part in an important gathering of the standardization family, you can also enjoy our hospitality and the opportunity to become acquainted not only with our capital city, but also with Argentina's geographical diversity.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized initial 'J' followed by the name 'Francisco López' in a cursive script.

José Francisco López
President and CEO



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**INSTITUTO ARGENTINO
DE NORMALIZACIÓN
Y CERTIFICACIÓN**

2008 COPANT ASSEMBLY

PROGRAMME

Meeting Dates and Places

The 2008 COPANT General Assembly will take place in the City of Buenos Aires, between May 5 and 8, 2008.

2008 COPANT General Assembly will be carried out on Tuesday, May 6 and Thursday, May 8, 2008, at the INTERCONTINENTAL BUENOS AIRES HOTEL.

On Wednesday, May 7, the Workshop: PUBLIC POLICY: STANDARDS AND CERTIFICATIONS TO IMPROVE GOVERNANCE, will be held between 09:00 a.m. and 12:30 a.m. and the Workshop POLICIES ON ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY: STANDARDS IN SUPPORT OF THEIR DEVELOPMENT will take place between 02:00 p.m. and 05:30 p.m. Both are to be staged at the INTERCONTINENTAL BUENOS AIRES HOTEL and both delegates and public in general are invited.

The meetings of the Board will be held at IRAM's HQ.

INTERCONTINENTAL BUENOS AIRES HOTEL
MORENO 809 (C1091AAQ)
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA
TEL +54 11 4340 7100
FAX +54 11 4340 7119
E-mail: buenosaires@interconti.com
Web site: www.buenos-aires.interconti.com

IRAM, INSTITUTO ARGENTINO DE NORMALIZACIÓN Y CERTIFICACIÓN
CASA CENTRAL PERÚ 556 (C1068AAB)
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA
TEL +54 11 4346 0600
FAX +54 11 4346 0601
E-mail: iram-iso@iram.org.ar
Web site: www.iram.org.ar

Registration

All delegates, appointed by Active and Adherent Members, and their accompanying people are required to register by completing the Registration Form.

Please complete the information requested as to your attendance and that of your accompanying people, if any, to meetings and social events.

The Registration Form needs to be sent **before April 4, 2008**, to copant2008@iram.org.ar

For on-line registration:

www.iram.org.ar/copant2008

Accommodation

Rooms with special rates have been pre-booked for delegates at the following hotels: INTERCONTINENTAL BUENOS AIRES HOTEL, GRAND BOULEVARD HOTEL, IMPERIAL PARK HOTEL and 562 NOGARÓ BUENOS AIRES HOTEL.

The hotels are located at the historical center of the city, the Montserrat neighborhood. You can locate them on the map.

DELEGATES WILL NEED TO MAKE THEIR OWN RESERVATIONS

ROOM PRE-BOOKINGS AT THE ABOVE HOTELS AND SPECIAL RATES WILL BE VALID UNTIL APRIL 4, 2008.

THE RATES BELOW ARE PER ROOM, PER NIGHT. BREAKFAST AND TAX ARE INCLUDED.

INTERCONTINENTAL BUENOS AIRES HOTEL (5 stars)

Moreno 809 C1091AAQ – Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires, Argentina

Tel: + 54 11 4340 7100 Fax: + 54 11 4340 7119

E-mail: reservas@interconti.com.ar

Web: www.buenos-aires.intercontinental.com

King De Luxe/ Twin De Luxe:

Up to March 21: US\$ 192.39.-

Up to April 4: US\$ 216.59.-

GRAND BOULEVARD HOTEL (4 stars)

Bernardo de Irigoyen 432 C1072AAJ – Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires, Argentina

Tel: + 54 11 5222 9030 Fax: + 54 11 5222 9070

E-mail: reservas1@grandboulevard.com

Web: www.grandboulevardhotel.com

Standard Single / Standard Double: US\$ 152.46.-

IMPERIAL PARK HOTEL (4 stars)

Lima 101 C1073AAC – Buenos Aires, Argentina

Tel: + 54 11 4383 0555 Fax: + 54 11 4382 8686

E-mail: reservas@imperialpark.com.ar

Web: www.imperialpark.com.ar

Standard Single: US\$ 97.59.-

Executive Single: US\$ 101.48.- / Executive Double: US\$ 105.39.-

562 NOGARÓ BUENOS AIRES HOTEL (4 stars)

Av. Julio A. Roca 562 – Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires, Argentina

Tel: + 54 11 4131 8015 / +54 11 4331 0091 Fax: + 54 11 4331-6791

E-mail: furraco@562nogarohotel.com

Web: www.562nogaro.com

Standard Single / Standard Double: US\$ 96.80.-

INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR BOOKING:

Credit card number, cardholder name, validity date, security code and name of issuing bank, signature and name.

- Hotels do not require down payment.
- Hotels will penalize “no shows”.

For information about other hotels in Buenos Aires, please refer to:

www.turismo.gov.ar

Arrival and Accreditation

Delegates are invited to get their accreditations at the Accreditation and Information Desk upon their arrival in Buenos Aires, as soon as they possibly can.

The Accreditation and Information Desk will be located at the Grand Foyer, Level -2 of the NTERCONTINENTAL BUENOS AIRES HOTEL, and will be open on the following days with the following time schedules:

May 5: 08:00 a.m. to 06:00 p.m.

May 6: 08:00 a.m. to 06:00 p.m.

May 7: 08:00 a.m. to 06:00 p.m.

May 8: 08:00 a.m. to 13:00 p.m.

Upon accreditation in Buenos Aires, each delegate will receive:

- The preliminary list of delegates attending the Assembly.
- A badge with the full name of the delegate, the organization and the country he / she represents.
- Badges for accompanying people.
- Invitations to social events.
- An updated version of the Agenda and general information.
- A map of downtown Buenos Aires.
- The location of restaurants near the venue of the event.

Badge colors will be as follows:

- white, for delegates
- yellow, for accompanying people

- blue, for COPANT's Board members
- green, for IRAM's staff.

Delegates are kindly requested to carry their badges along to their Assembly activities and social events.

The Accreditation and Information Desk will supply assistance and information to delegates and accompanying people regarding the City of Buenos Aires, City Tours, tours prior to and after the Assembly, reservations and flight confirmations.

Transport

The Ministro Pistarini International Airport (Ezeiza) is 38 km away from the INTERCONTINENTAL BUENOS AIRES HOTEL (35 minutes approximately by car).

The Jorge Newbery Domestic Airport (Aeroparque) is within the boundaries of the City of Buenos Aires (15 minutes approximately by car).

Upon arrival at the airport, delegates are suggested to use the cab services of the companies located at the "Arrivals" area, just beyond the Customs desks, to get to their hotels. They can rent a private cab with a driver: a "remise" for approximately US\$ 25.- from Ezeiza and US\$8 from Aeroparque.

Passengers will need to pay a US\$ 18. - airport duty when leaving the country.

Passports, Visas and Vaccines

People from certain countries are required for visas and certain vaccines to enter Argentina. Please check with the Argentinean Embassy or Consulate in your country to find about this request.

If a visa is required, and you need to, you may request a formal invitation. Please indicate so on the Registration Form.

Currency

The Peso (ARS) is the Argentinean currency. The exchange rate of the Peso (ARS) vis á vis the US Dollar (USD) floats.

There are 2, 5, 10, 20, 50 y 100-Peso notes. There are 1-Peso and 1, 5, 10, 25 and 50-Cent coins.

Exchange Rate:

USD 1	ARS 3,16
EUR 1	ARS 4,62

Foreign currency and traveler checks can be exchanged at banks, authorized exchange offices at the airport and in most hotels.

All major credit cards are honored at hotels, restaurants and stores.

VAT is 21 % in Argentina.

When leaving the country, by showing the passport and invoices for purchases for ARS 70 or more, foreign visitors may get up to 16 % reimbursements. Stores that adhere to this system display the sticker that reads: "TAX FREE".

2008 COPANT Assembly – Buenos Aires, Argentina – Official Agenda

Date	Activity	Place	Time
Monday 5	Board	IRAM – HQ	02:00 pm to 05:30 pm
	Welcome Cocktail Party		07:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Tuesday 6	General Assembly	INTERCONTINENTAL BUENOS AIRES HOTEL	09:00 am to 06:00 pm
Wednesday 7	Workshop	INTERCONTINENTAL BUENOS AIRES HOTEL	09:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. 02:00 p.m. to 05:30 p.m.
Thursday 8	General Assembly	INTERCONTINENTAL BUENOS AIRES HOTEL	09:00 a.m. to 01:00 p.m.
	Board	IRAM – HQ	03:00 p.m. to 06:00 p.m.
	Gala Dinner	INTERCONTINENTAL BUENOS AIRES HOTEL	08:00 p.m. to midnight

General Information

IT and Comms Availability

Phones will be available close to the meeting room.

Delegates will have available a room with IT and Comms at the BUENOS AIRES INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL: PCs with Internet connection.

Banking Hours and Stores-Open Hours

Banks are open Monday to Friday between 10:00 a.m. and 03:00 p.m.

The mail office is open Monday to Friday between 09:00 a.m. and 08:00 p.m. and Saturdays between 09:00 a.m. and 01:00 p.m.

Stores are typically open Monday to Friday between 09:00 a.m. and 08:00 p.m. and Saturdays between 09:00 a.m. and 02:00 p.m. Shopping Malls are open daily till 10:00 p.m.

Weather

You may check the weather in Buenos Aires at:
<http://www.smn.gov.ar>

Dressing Code

Business attire or traditional attire is suggested for meetings and social events.

Electric Power

Electrical voltage in Argentina is 220 VAC, 50 Hz.

A special country-wide plug is required to connect electric appliances to the mains in Argentina.

Hotels, however, have power outlets that support Euro-plugs or US plugs.

A 110/120-V - 220-V transformer is required to connect 110/120-V electrical appliances to the mains.

First Aid and Medical Care

The hotel medical service can be contacted, or else, medical care can be requested at the Accreditation and Information Desk.

Insurance

The host, IRAM, will not be liable for accidents or losses, damage or lost luggage or personal items as may be suffered by participants or accompanying people.

Delegates and accompanying people are suggested to buy their own insurance to cover travel, medical, personal, accident and luggage risks before leaving their countries of origin.

Local Time

Buenos Aires, in May, is 4 hours behind GMT (Greenwich Mean Time).

Mobile Telephony

Mobile telephony in Argentina is based on AMPS and DAMPS.

Restaurants

A variety of restaurants are located in the neighborhood of the hotels. Please locate them on the map.

Tip

In Argentina, tipping is customary when the service has been good.

At restaurants, bars and coffee stores, the regular tip is 10% of the bill. Other services are left for the customer to decide.

Tour Schedules

The following **City Tour** has been organized for your accompanying people so that you have a great time in Argentina:

Date: Wednesday, May 7.

Approximate tour time: 3 hours, 30 minutes.

Spanish and English-speaking tourist guides.

No minimum number of participants required.

Place of departure: INTERCONTINENTAL BUENOS AIRES HOTEL.

Time of departure: TBC.

Please go to the hotel's Front Desk 10 minutes before the time of departure.

PLEASE BOOK YOUR TOUR THROUGH THE RELEVANT REGISTRATION FORM SECTION

The **City Tour** will start on 9 de Julio Avenue, where you will be able to see the Obelisk, a monument that is a symbol of the city, and the world-famous Colón Opera House, with its beautiful architecture and excellent acoustics.

The tour then heads for the San Telmo neighborhood, the cradle of the city, and the Mayo Square, the historical and political center, surrounded by the House of Government or Pink House, the seat of the National Government, the historical Cabildo building, which is the center of the colonial political life, the Metropolitan Cathedral and the Municipal Palace, the seat of the City's Government.

The journey then explores the La Boca neighborhood, a unique area where Italian immigrants first settled, famous for its Caminito street.

The tour then eases along Mayo Avenue, a remarkably Spanish street, up to the Two Congresses' Square, across which you will find the impressive Parliament, the seat of the National Congress.

In continuing northward, the journey reaches the Recoleta neighborhood, with its world-famous Cemetery, and Palermo, a big beautiful park in one of the most elegant areas in the city.

Tourism in Argentina

Delegates and their accompanying people who would like to enjoy the variegated landscapes found in Argentina are suggested to contact the following tourism agencies:

AMERICAN EXPRESS ARGENTINA S.A.

Arenales 707 - C1061AAA
Buenos Aires, Argentina
Tel: + 54 11 4310 3354
Fax: + 54 11 4315 1111
E-mail: amexbuegrupos@aexp.com
Web: www.americanexpress.com.ar

LES AMIS Viajes (LEG 2114 IATA)

Av. Maipú 1270 - C1006ACT
Buenos Aires, Argentina
Tel: + 54 11 5246 6600
E-mail: aereos@lesamis.com.ar
Web: www.lesamis.com.ar

TUNNEL TRAVEL SERVICES

Avda. Santa Fé 882 - Piso 11 "F" - C1059ABP
Tel: + 54 11 4313 5350
Fax: + 54 11 4314 4556
E-mail: stella@tunneltravel.com.ar
Web: www.tunneltravel.com.ar



- 1** IRAM Sede Central - Perú 556
- 2** InterContinental Hotel - Moreno 809
- 3** Grandboulevard Hotel - Bdo. de Irigoyen 432
- 4** Imperial Park Hotel - Lima 101
- 5** 562 Nogaró Buenos Aires Hotel - Av. Julio A. Roca 562

Bars and Restaurants near INTERCONTINENTAL BUENOS AIRES HOTEL

- 6** Café Tortoni - Restaurant - Bar - Av. de Mayo 825
- 7** Palacio Español - Restaurant - Bdo de Irigoyen 180
- 8** Petit Bijou - Café - Pizza - Restaurant - Adolfo Alsina 894
- 9** Terrazas del Virrey - Restaurant (InterContinental Hotel) - Moreno 809
- 10** Bidou de las Luces - Restaurant - Perú 269
- 11** Moreno Deli - Fast food - Café - Moreno 935
- 12** Iñaki Restaurant - Moreno 1341
- 13** Montserrat Restaurant - Moreno 888
- 14** Piacere - Panetteria Caffetteria - Bdo. de Irigoyen 378
- 15** Ristretto - Resto Bar - Pizza - Café - Piedras 342
- 16** El Querandí Restaurant - Perú 302
- 17** San Martín - Café - Bar - Restaurant - Belgrano 901/ Tacuarí 389
- 18** Rey Castro - Restaurant - Perú 342
- 19** Campo Dei Fiori - Restaurant - Venezuela 1401
- 20** Plaza Mayor - Restaurant - Venezuela 1399
- 21** La Vinería - Restaurant - Salta 490
- 22** Diablada - Restaurant - Venezuela 1402
- 23** Primer Corte - Restaurant - Venezuela 1290
- 24** Prosciutto - Restaurant - Venezuela 1212
- 25** Cuba Mía - Restaurant - Salta 508
- 26** Petite Rue - Restaurant (Grandboulevard Hotel) - Bdo. de Irigoyen 432

For more information

<http://www.bue.gov.ar/servicios>