

About the AIA International Practice Committee

The International Practice Committee is a group of architects and allied professionals involved and/or interested in international practice. The International Practice Committee Advisory Group explores and monitors global practice and policy issues to be addressed by the President, the Executive Committee, and the Board of Directors. The committee focuses on facilitating members' practice in global markets, identifying and developing practice resources, and providing an active network of architects engaged in international practice. The committee serves all members by engaging in the global architecture community to advance the highest international standards of education, training, and practice.

The committee's current form (although not always with the same name) began to take shape in the early 1990s; however, the Institute has a history of committees or programs for international relations dating back to 1891. Over the past two decades, the committee has been continually developing in terms of its members and scope. In many ways this committee echoes the development of global practice for the Institute's members, specifically the ever increasing number of members practicing abroad and the new challenges and opportunities of practice internationally. The committee at one time included a liaison to the Architects' Council of Europe (ACE) and an NCARB representative, and currently includes representatives to the International Union of Architects (UIA) and the Pan-American Federation of Associations of Architects (FPAA). Since the 1990s, the International Committee Advisory Group was an advisory committee of largely US based members who were involved in practice internationally. Around 2009, the presidents and leadership of the overseas components joined the committee as ex-officio members; the ICAG became a forum for the overseas components and members to have a voice at the AIA National level. The committee has various tasks and duties that it performs such as recommending Honorary Fellow jurors, developing practice tools and knowledge, advising the AIA President and Executive Committee on international issues, etc. Now that the AIA International Region has been formed, the Institute looks to this committee to refocus on international practice and practice issues; meanwhile, the IR is best suited to support the overseas components on structural, governance and membership issues.

AIA Committees Pertaining to International Issues, 1857-2014

Standing Committees

1891-1908 Foreign Correspondence
1921-1922 Foreign Building Cooperation
1923-1941 Foreign Relations
1945-1978 International Relations
1979-1982 International Practice
1981-1991 International Relations
1992-1993 International Committee
1994-1998 International Markets and Practice
1999-2014 International Committee

International Meeting Committees

1899 Delegates to Fifth International Congress of Architects, Paris 1900
1901-1903 World Congress
1904 Seventh International Congress at London, 1906
1905-1914 International Congress of Architects
1924-1926 Pan American Congress of Architects
1936-1938 International Congress of Architects
1938 Pan American Relationships of the Institute
1961-1964 Pan American Congress 1965
1963-1964 Advisory Council on PAC (Pan American Congress)
1992 1993 AIA/UIA Convention

From the 1860s until 1888, the AIA elected an officer to handle correspondence with architectural societies and architects in foreign countries. The office was initially called Corresponding Secretary, then changed in 1870 to Secretary for Foreign Correspondence. The position was not included in the new bylaws that were developed for the merger between the AIA and the Western Association of Architects in 1889.

International Practice Committee Advisory Group Structure (Current Members):

- Seven core voting members
- Past Chair – last year of three year term (Dr. Christine Bruckner, FAIA)
- Chair – second year of three year term (James Wright, AIA)
- Vice Chair – first year of three year term (George Miller, FAIA)
- Member At Large – two year term (to begin with one year term) (Gregory Yager, AIA)
- Trade Issues Member – two year term (Meredith Ludlow, Assoc. AIA)
- Education/Programs Member – two year term (Geok Ser Lee, Intl. Assoc. AIA)
- Communications/Resources Member – two year term (to begin with one year term) (James Atkins, FAIA)
- Ex-officio member: UIA Professional Practice Commission (PPC) Co-Director (Rick Lincicome, AIA)

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Resources for Architects Seeking International Projects

US Department of Commerce's Global Design & Construction Team

<http://www.export.gov/industry/architecture/>

The Advocacy Center - <http://export.gov/advocacy/>



The Advocacy Center helps to ensure that sales of U.S. products and services have the best possible chance competing abroad. Advocacy assistance is wide and varied but often involves companies that want the U.S. Government to communicate a message to foreign governments or government-owned corporations on behalf of their commercial interest, typically in a competitive bid contest. Since its creation in 1993, the Advocacy Center has helped hundreds of U.S. companies — small, medium and large enterprises in various industry sectors — to win government contracts across the globe. In short, we are your advocates! In pursuing foreign business opportunities, we encourage you and your company to contact us early and often.

The Advocacy Center also has Commercial Service liaisons to five Multilateral Development Banks (World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, African Development Bank and Asian Development Bank) to assist U.S. firms and advocate on their behalf when they compete for Bank tenders. The liaisons counsel U.S. companies on how to work with the Banks and advocate on procurement and contracting issues to ensure fair and equal treatment for U.S. companies.

World Bank - <http://export.gov/worldbank/>

The World Bank lends and invests billions of dollars in developing countries every year. This constant stream of funds is used to buy goods, consulting services, and civil works projects that contribute to economic development in those countries. The system of doing business with the World Bank is similar to government procurement systems in many countries.

Inter-American Development Bank - <http://export.gov/idb/>

The Advocacy Center Commercial Liaison Office to the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) is an integral part of the United States Executive Director's Office to the Bank. The Commercial Liaison Office's mission is to help American businesses take advantage of commercial opportunities through the IDB's numerous projects. Established in 1959 and with more than \$100 billion in capital, the IDB is the oldest and largest regional development bank. Its primary goal is to help accelerate economic growth and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean. The IDB has 48 member countries: 26 borrowing members and 22 non-borrowing members, including the United States, its largest stakeholder. The region's primary source of multilateral financing, the IDB provides loans, guarantees, and technical assistance for public- and private sector projects and generates tens of thousands of contracts every year, ranging in size from a few thousand to hundreds of millions of dollars. These represent numerous commercial possibilities for businesses, including small and medium-sized enterprises, in public works, supply of goods, and consulting services.

The IDB Group is composed of the Inter-American Development Bank, the Inter-American Investment Corporation (IIC) and the Multilateral Investment Fund (MIF). The IIC focuses on support for small and medium-sized businesses, while the MIF promotes private sector growth through grants and investments, with an emphasis on microenterprise.

European Bank for Development and Reconstruction - <http://export.gov/ebrd/>

The U.S. is the largest single shareholder in the EBRD, the world's newest multilateral development bank. The Bank's program promotes the growth of market-based economies in 30 countries in Central and Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union. With US\$20 billion of capital, the Bank offers a wide range of financing mechanisms to promote privatization, restructuring, and liberalization in this highly dynamic region.

"Architecture & Business in..."

Attached are the first four in a planned series of helpful country brochures from the U.S. Department of Commerce.

TO ACCESS OTHER RESOURCES REFERRED TO IN THE WORKSHOP:

<http://network.aia.org/InternationalCommittee/Home/IntlPracticeResources>

OTHER USEFUL RESOURCES...

RESOURCE	LINK
International Practice Checklist	www.aia.org/aiaucmp/groups/aia/documents/pdf/aia078437.pdf
AIA International Chapters	www.aiainternational.org/
AIA International Committee Website	http://network.aia.org/internationalcommittee/home/
International Union of Architects (UIA) Professional Practice Commission via AIA Website	www.aia.org/practicing/groups/international/uia/AIAP073960
Adjusting to Foreign Business Customs and Practices	www.aia.org/aiaucmp/groups/aia/documents/pdf/aia078937.pdf
AIA Hong Kong	www.aiahk.org/
AIA Middle East "Useful Links"	www.aiamiddleeast.org/general-links/
AIA Continental Europe	www.aiaeurope.org/
AIA Japan	www.aiajapan.org/index.html
AIA United Kingdom	www.aiauk.org
Shanghai (AIA component status in progress)	http://aiashanghai.org/
UIA's "Architectural Practice Around the World" database	www.uia-architectes.org/en/exercer/exercer-dans-le-monde/commission-uia#.UX6SKsqn6JV
UIA Accord of Recommended International Standards of Professionalism in Architectural Practice	www.uia-architectes.org/en#.U5HOZqPD
U.S. Department of Commerce International Trade Administration	www.trade.gov
U.S. Department of Commerce trade promotion events	www.export.gov/tradeevents
U.S. Department of Commerce Architecture & Engineering Website page	www.export.gov/industry/architecture/index.asp
U.S. Department of Commerce Office of Service Industries	www.ita.doc.gov/td/sif/index.html

U.S. Department of Commerce Market Development Cooperator Program	www.ita.doc.gov/td/mdcp/
The Advocacy Center	www.export.gov/advocacy
World Bank	www.export.gov/worldbank/
Inter-American Development Bank	www.export.gov/idb/
European Bank for Development and Reconstruction	www.export.gov/ebrd/
African Development Bank	www.export.gov/afdb
Asian Development Bank	www.export.gov/adb
Overseas Private Investment Corporation	www.opic.gov
U.S. Trade and Development Agency	www.ustda.gov/
League of Green Embassies Program	www.leagueofgreenembassies.org/
U.S. State Department Overseas Buildings Operations	http://overseasbuildings.state.gov
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	www.usace.army.mil/BusinessWithUs.aspx
Millennium Challenge Corporation	www.mcc.gov
U.S. Agency for International Development	www.usaid.gov
Export-Import Bank of the United States	www.exim.gov
U.S. Small Business Administration Office of International Trade	www.sba.gov/about-offices-content/1/2889
Federal Government Business Opportunities	www.fbo.gov/
Getting Paid for International Work	http://info.aia.org/aiarchitect/thisweek09/0501/0501b_getpaid.cfm
Abu Dhabi Urban Planning Council	www.upc.gov.ae/?lang=en-US
Emirates Green Building Council	www.emiratesgbc.org
Abu Dhabi Dept. of Municipal Affairs	www.dma.abudhabi.ae

Dubai Municipality	http://login.dm.gov.ae/wps/portal/HomeEn
China Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development	www.mohurd.gov.cn
China Ministry of Science and Technology	www.most.gov.cn/eng/
China Building Materials Industry Association	http://cbmia.cbminfo.com/english/eindex.htm
Ministry of Environmental Protection of China	www.mep.gov.cn/
U.S. China Build (a program of Evergreen Products Assoc.)	www.uschinabuild.org