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**Inter-American Committee on Ports
Organization of American States**

*“Cooperation for the development of competitive,
safe, and sustainable ports in the Americas”*



Inter-American
Committee on Ports

Maritime Award of the Americas: Outstanding Women in the Maritime and Port Sectors 2016

Business leaders and governments of Latin America and the Caribbean are paying special attention to the social, economic, and financial benefits of promoting gender equality. Studies have found a correlation between a higher business performance and the presence of women in senior management levels.

(II CEO Summit of the Americas 2015)

Terms

1. About

Recognizing the fundamental role women play in the political, economic, social, and cultural development of the Hemisphere, the Organization of American States (OAS) encourages them to take leadership in both public institutions and the private sector. In line with the Cartagena Action Plan 2014-2016, the Inter-American Committee on Ports (CIP) promotes an inclusive, competitive, and socially responsible port system. As women are essential to boosting competitiveness, the CIP aims at empowering female professionals in the port sector of the Americas.

The *Maritime Award of the Americas: Outstanding Women in the Maritime and Port Sector*, organized by the CIP, brings together the Maritime Authority of Panama, the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM), and other relevant institutions to promote gender equality in OAS member countries.

2. Objectives

The Award recognizes significant women from different job levels for their achievements and contributions to the development of the maritime and port sectors of the Hemisphere. It honors careers that demonstrate dedication, leadership, and innovation through verifiable indicators in one of the six categories below.

3. Categories

Candidates can enter in one or more categories, but must submit a complete application for each category.

1. Logistics, Innovation, and Competitiveness

Leadership in the implementation of innovative strategies to increase the competitiveness of the port/terminal/company.

2. Sustainable Port Management and Environmental Protection

Environmental stewardship and contributions to the protection of the marine environment and/or sustainable port management.

Categories cont'd

3. Port Protection and Security

Leadership in the implementation of safety standards in ports and/or terminals.

4. Public Policy, Legislation, and Regulation

Leadership and significant impact on port legislation and the effective implementation of public policies and regulations.

5. Corporate Social Responsibility and Gender Equality

Leadership in compliance with the criteria established by the triple bottom line (economic, social, and environmental sustainability) and/or the promotion of gender equality.

6. Tourism, Ship Services, and Navigation Safety

Leadership in the management and promotion of sustainable touristic destination ports, services to ships, and/or navigation control.

4. Criteria

The jury committee will consider the following evaluation criteria:

4.1. Effectiveness and Measurable Impact

- What are the candidate's most important professional achievements in the respective category?
- What are the measurable indicators that show her impact?
- How does the candidate contribute to increased competitiveness of her institution/company?

4.2. Leadership and Innovation

- How does the candidate show significant leadership in her work?
- How does the candidate take steps that go beyond "traditional" methods, technologies, and/or approaches?
- How does the candidate contribute to professional training and capacity building programs to share her expertise?
- Is the candidate engaged in initiatives that contribute to the community?

4.3 Gender Equality

- Does the candidate develop projects and/or initiatives to promote women's full professional participation in her institution?
- How does the candidate encourage women to take leadership in decision-making processes?
- How does the candidate contribute to breaking the so-called "glass ceiling" that prevents women from advancing in leadership positions?

5. Eligibility

The award is open to women from all job levels working in public or private ports (including terminals), as well as companies and institutions in the port and maritime sector of CIP/OAS member States. Each candidate must submit a complete application to the Secretariat of the CIP.

6. Guidelines

All applications may be submitted electronically to the Secretariat of the CIP in English or Spanish (Word and/or PDF format) and must include the following documents:

1. Application Form
2. Executive Presentation, with indicators and graphs that showcase the candidate's relevant professional experience (Power Point, maximum 15 slides) *NOTE: It is essential to demonstrate with **measurable and accurate indicators** how the candidate contributes to the increased competitiveness of her institution.*
3. Curriculum Vitae and a brief description of the current position the candidate holds (minimum of 5 years of experience in the respective category). (2 pages)
4. Essay on professional contributions that show the candidate's impact in her institution and how she empowers women to take leadership. (500 words)
5. Letter from your organization, institution, and/or company in support of the nomination. (1 page)
6. Proof of contributions to the community, if applicable.
7. List of contributions to professional training and capacity building programs, if applicable.
8. Photographs and graphic material, if necessary.
9. Additional documents such as certificates, diplomas, recognitions, etc.
10. The candidate must be a citizen or resident of any of the 34 OAS member States.

The application form is attached to this document and available on the website of the CIP www.portalcip.org. Please send the application form and all other required documents in PDF and/or Word format to cip@oas.org cc to mwoboda@oas.org. The deadline to submit applications is **March 18th, 2016**.

7. Jury Committee

- Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee on Ports (CIP) of the OAS
- Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) of the OAS
- BlankRome, LLP
- College of Technology, University of Houston
- Iberoamerican Institute of Maritime Law (IIDM)
- North American Marine Environment Protection Association (NAMEPA)
- RightShip

8. Evaluation Process

Each submission will be evaluated using a points-based rating system. The jury committee will select those submissions as winners that, in addition to having received a high score, show significant and measurable impacts and indicators. Once the evaluation process is completed, the winners will be notified directly with copies to the relevant authorities of their countries and their names will be published through the CIP media channels.

9. Prize

The most important part of the prize is the recognition of the winners' outstanding professional leadership throughout the Western Hemisphere. In addition, the winners will be honored at the Awards Ceremony held on April 29th, 2016, in the course of the *Hemispheric Seminar on Corporate Social Responsibility and Gender Equality in the Port Sector: From Awareness to Action*, where they will receive:

- ✓ Award Plaque
- ✓ Certificate from CIP/OAS and organizers
- ✓ Participate in the *Hemispheric Seminar on Corporate Social Responsibility and Gender Equality in the Port Sector: From Awareness to Action*, held on April 27 – 29, 2016, in Panama City, Panama¹
- ✓ Recognition at the Award Ceremony on April 29th, 2016
- ✓ Hemispheric-wide recognition through the website of the CIP – OAS, as well as regional press releases.

10. Timetable

Submission Deadline	March 18 th , 2016
Winners' Announcement	March 28 th , 2016
Award Ceremony	April 29 th , 2016

¹ Please note that each winner is responsible for her own transportation and per diem expenses.