

The Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee on Ports(S/CIP) of the Organization of American States (OAS) is pleased to share with you its e-Bulletin "CIP Highlights"

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**The Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee on Ports (S/CIP) sends a message of solidarity to the OAS Member States affected by the hurricanes and earthquakes that have occurred in recent weeks. In these difficult times, the S/CIP expresses its condolences to the victims and reiterates its commitment to the development of the countries in the hemisphere.**

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**November 6 – 9**

**XXVI Latin American Congress of Ports: Latin American Ports, Between Globalization and Protectionism**

Convened by the American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA) Latin American Delegation, in partnership with the National Port Administration of Uruguay (ANP, in

its acronym in Spanish), the XXVI Latin American Congress of Ports will take place in the Convention Center of the Conrad Hotel in Punta del Este, Uruguay. The three days of technical sessions will serve to present and discuss major international port projects. Also, there will be intense social and networking activities and a prominent space destined to commercial displays, in which industry suppliers participate. For more information about the XXVI Latin American Congress of Ports, please click [here](#).

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**October 6 – 10**

### **9th Edition of BlueTech Week**

Maritime Alliance, a CIP associate member, hosts the 9th Edition of BlueTech Week in San Diego, California. With the main theme "Smart Ocean, Smart Water," the event will promote the exchange of best experiences on blue economy, smart ships, development of human resources, and marine robotics. Representatives from different sectors such as academia, finance industry and government will attend the event. The agenda includes conferences, panels and an exhibition area of innovative products and services related to blue economy. For more information on the agenda, [click here](#).



**CIP/OAS will be awarded the “2017 Government Agency” of the NAMEPA  
Marine Environment Protection Awards**

The North American Marine Environment Protection Association (NAMEPA) will celebrate its Marine Environment Protection Awards and will recognize the CIP/OAS for its efforts on behalf of preserving the marine environment in the category of "2017 Government Agency". The selection criteria included aspects such as activities related to environmental performance and improvement, as well as the impact of a long-term and substantial program. “CIP-OAS has demonstrated such a commitment on behalf of the marine environment and has been proactive in protecting the health of our seas. For these reasons, we are pleased to be giving this award to you,” states Carleen Lyden Walker, NAMEPA’s Co-Founder and Executive Director. The awards will be presented at NAMEPA’s 10th Anniversary Awards Dinner, to be held on October 26th, aboard the Hornblower Infinity in New York City. The dinner caps the all-day NAMEPA 10th Anniversary Conference and Annual General Meeting. For more information about the Award, the Conference and the Annual General Meeting, [click here](#).



## **Global Treaty to Halt Invasive Aquatic Species Enters into Force**

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) announced that key international measure for environmental protection that aims to stop the spread of potentially invasive aquatic species in ships' ballast water entered into force on September 8, 2017. The International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments ([BWM Convention](#)) requires ships to implement a ballast water management plan to remove, render harmless, or avoid the uptake or discharge of aquatic organisms and pathogens within ballast water and sediments. All ships have to carry a ballast water record book and are required to carry out ballast water management procedures to a given standard. For further information about the obligations and technical information of the Convention, click [here](#).

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## **Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean 2017: Dynamics of the current economic cycle and policy challenges for boosting investment and growth**

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean published the 2017 issue of the Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean. Divided into three parts, the study suggests that the global trade volumes are picking up, with stronger growth than in recent years although they remain at low levels. Commodity prices

have also picked up relative to last year's average levels. In 2017, GDP growth in Latin America and the Caribbean will average 1.1%, with Central America and Mexico continuing to exhibit notably stronger growth than South America. Particularly, Panama and the Dominican Republic will be the subregion's two fastest-growing economies, with rates of 5.6% and 5.3%, respectively. For more information, [click here](#).

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### **COMPAS Launches New Platform for Virtual Meeting**

COMPAS, the multipurpose port company and CIP associate member, presents its new online platform for virtual meetings to process port operations including container movement. The platform can be accessed on the Cartagena Container Terminal Operator (CCTO) portal. This tool will also allow exports to be managed directly online in order to automate processes. For more information [click here](#).

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### **Interested in becoming an Associate Member of the CIP?**

Click [here](#) for further information on the benefits of joining, opportunities for collaboration and the formal application procedures or contact the [CIP Secretariat](#).