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December 17, 2016

**Director of Project – Priority Regional Projects (CONCYTEC, CienciActiva)**  
**“Scientific, legal and financial design of the Scientific Water Institute”**  
**Dr. Nicole Bernex**

Dear Dr. Bernex

One of the goals of the Inter-American Network of Academies of Sciences is capacity building throughout the Americas, especially with respect to our four specific programmes: Energy, Water, Science in Schools and Women in Science. Consequently, we are writing to express our enthusiastic support for the excellent Peruvian project **“Scientific, legal and financial design of the Scientific Water Institute”** currently being led by the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru (PUCP) and the Institute for Research Development of France with the support of Peru’s National Council of Science and Technology (CONCYTEC, CienciActiva), aimed at developing better management of water resources in the Americas.

This initiative has been led by a team of national and international researchers, who drafted the proposal for the *Scientific, Legal and Financial Design of the Scientific Water Institute* the “*Instituto Científico del Agua-ICA*” in Spanish. The specialists in the IANAS water programme from the different countries have contributed in all phases of the conceptual design process of ICA by supporting the National Focal Point of the IANAS Water Programme of Peru.

The proposal will be presented at the *First International Symposium for Water HidrICA 2016, Creating Bridges between Science of Water and the Hydric Sustainability* this month. The conceptual design is of considerable importance and will set the guidelines for establishing and developing the Scientific Water Institute in Ica, Peru.

We would like to congratulate the educational, scientific and governmental institutions in Peru who have been involved in this endeavor and we assure you that the international Focal Points of the IANAS Water Programme are most willing to continue their engagement with ICA, as this center will be critical for generating data essential to the development of better management of this critical natural resource at regional, national and international levels.

With high regards,

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Juan Asenjo, Co-chairs of IANAS

Jeremy N. McNeil, Co-chairs of IANAS

