



CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL POLICY

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**The Center for International Policy Takes Pleasure in Inviting You to
A Conference on U.S.-Cuban Cooperation in Tracking Hurricanes
To be held November 23, 2009, in New Orleans at Mardi Gras World
1380 Port of New Orleans Place**

2 p.m. – Introduction by Wayne S. Smith of the Center for International Policy

2:15 – 2:45 p.m. – Vital U.S.-Cuban Cooperation in Tracking Hurricanes and Warning of their Approach. Jose Rubiera, of the Cuban Meteorological Center (invited) and Lixion Avila of the U.S. Hurricane Center in Miami. Chaired by Jay Higginbotham, Archivist Emeritus of Mobile

2:45 – 4:00 p.m. - U.S.-Cuban Cooperation in the Face of Hurricanes. Dagoberto Rodriguez Barrera, Cuban Vice Minister of Foreign Relations (invited); Lt.General (Ret) Russel Honore, Former Commander of Joint Task Force Katrina; Lt. Col (Ret) Jerry Sneed, Director of Emergency Preparedness of Orleans Parish; Ivor van Heerden, Founder of the Louisiana State University Hurricane Center; Robert Turner, Director of the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority. Chaired by Wayne Smith, Center for International Policy.

4:00 – 4:30 p.m. – The Growing Focus on Disaster Medicine and Disaster Management in Both the U.S. and Cuba. Dr. Guillermo Mesa Ridel, Director, Latin American Center for Disaster Medicine (invited); Dr. Alex Isakov, Founding Director of the Emory University Office of Critical Event Preparedness and Response; Lt. Gen Russel Honore, Board Member of LSU's Stephenson Disaster Management Institute; Chaired by Randy Poindexter, Executive Director of International Cuba Society

4:30 – 5:00 p.m. – President Obama's Prerogative, Despite the Embargo, to Authorize U.S. Companies to Sell Cuba Reconstruction Materials and Equipment. Robert L. Muse, Attorney, Muse and Associates

5:00 – 6:00 p.m. – Open Discussion. Participants from the various delegations to Cuba, and other interested parties, are invited to comment and express opinions as to new initiatives and directions and how we could better organize to advance our objectives

6:00 – 7:30 p.m. - Reception with cash bar in the Grand Oaks Mansion

Admission is free, but seating is limited. RSVP ASAP: Cubaintern@ciponline.org Or
RPointexter@bellsouth.net

**The Center for International Policy wishes to express its appreciation to
Atlantic Philanthropies for the support which made this conference possible**

How to get there:

The new Mardi Gras World site is not to be confused with Blaine Kern's Mardi Gras World on the West Bank. The new location is situated at the Upriver end of the Convention Center just beneath the Mississippi River Bridge, also known as the Crescent City Connection right next to the Port of New Orleans.

If arriving by I-90, exit Tchoupitoulas Street and drive Upriver following the signs to the Port Terminal. From Tchoupitoulas, turn onto Henderson Street, the long avenue lined with palm trees leading to the entrance to the Port of New Orleans and Mardi Gras World. Turn right upon arrival at Mardi Gras World and follow the signs to the "Hurricane Conference." The River City Complex is at the far end of the Mardi Gras building. Park free and enter from the river side of the building to the Iberville Reception Room where our conference is being held