



## Celebrate with us for WAITRO's 55th Anniversary and Enter a New Era of Global Innovation Family

Welcome to our latest newsletter! As the first month of the year, in this edition, the Secretariat will share the outlook and the highlights of WAITRO in 2025. Also, you will discover the inspirational events in Q4 2024, from WAITRO Summit 2024 to regional events on biodiversity. Don't miss the opportunity to showcase your project's impact on WAITRO's communication network. Dive in and embrace the spirit of innovation with WAITRO!

## FROM THE SECRETARIAT



### By Dr Paul E. Burrows, WAITRO Secretary General

For the first WAITRO Newsletter of 2025, and the last of my tenure as Secretary General, it my pleasure to spend my 250 allotted words introducing those who will take WAITRO forward over the next two years. The WAITRO Executive Board is elected by the members in good standing of WAITRO every two years at the General Assembly, with a limit of two consecutive terms in any Board position.

In 2024, [Theresia Ningsi Astuti](#) (BRIN, Indonesia) and [María Eugenia Suárez](#) (INTI, Argentina) left their positions as Regional Representatives on the Executive Board. I thank them for their efforts and sincerely hope that it won't be the last we hear of them! There are many ways to contribute beyond Board meetings, and their expertise and experience are priceless. They were replaced by [Ahmad Sabirin Arshad](#) (SIRIM Berhad, Malaysia) and [Christian Larsen](#) (Fraunhofer Foundation Chile Research, Chile). You can find details on the entire Executive Board on the [WAITRO website](#). Finally, the Secretariat Host (JITRI) has appointed Dr. [Luo Benjin](#) as Acting Secretary General until he can be confirmed at the next General Assembly according to the Constitution and Rules (also on the website)! The rest of the Executive Board, including the President and two Vice Presidents, were re-elected for a second term.

In 2019, I had never heard of WAITRO (which tells you something in itself, after a 30+ year research career). In the ensuing 6 years, however, I came to appreciate its colossal importance in advancing global partnerships in industrial technology and sustainability. As an association of research organizations, WAITRO has the capacity to cross cultural boundaries as well as national borders. In the current era of geopolitics, a strong and vibrant WAITRO is needed more than ever. Perhaps not to save the planet, but most certainly to maintain our quality of life in its ecosystem.

We changed it from its 20th Century structure with the introduction of Associate Members in 2020 and the founding of WAITRO Operations e.V. as a non-profit entity under German law in 2024. We also fine-tuned its style, adding an emphasis on entrepreneurship and public-private partnerships to increase the available pool of funding for its members. These changes make WAITRO stronger and more versatile without compromising its traditional role as the Global Innovation Family. Please contact the Secretariat with your needs and, most importantly your ideas, so that all can get the most out of this most remarkable Association.

WAITRO SUMMIT 2024



November 13-15, 2024, Nanjing, P.R. China – The 2024 WAITRO Summit was jointly hosted by WAITRO, Jiangsu Industrial Technology Research Institute (JITRI), and the National Innovation Center par Excellence (NICE), in partnership with Headway Idea Labs (U.S.), Seneca Impact Advisors (Hong Kong), International Technology Transfer Network (ITTN, China), and the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye (TÜBİTAK). Over 200 representatives from 40 countries and regions gathered at the event, including over 100 overseas guests representing science and research institutions, universities, and commercial companies. This grand gathering shows their endorsement of the *Global Innovation Family* of WAITRO. The 27th General Assembly of WAITRO was held on November 15.

[Summary of Summit by Session](#)

[Video Recording](#)

## NEWS / PAST EVENTS



### **BRIN-TISTR Deepen their Research and Innovation Partnership in Asia & the Pacific Region**

September 4-6, 2024, Jakarta, Indonesia, WAITRO members from the Asia & the Pacific region, including Indonesia's National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN) and Thailand's Institute of Scientific and Technological



Research (TISTR), attended the Food Ingredients Asia (Fi Asia Indonesia) held at the Jakarta International Expo, Kemayoran. This gathering marks a significant milestone in the collaboration between Indonesia and Thailand in research and innovation.

[Read more](#)



### **CSIR hosted “5C for Global Sustainable Development” event during the Science Summit at 79th United Nations General Assembly**

On September 18 and 19, 2024, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), the largest industrial R&D organization of India, launched its two-day event entitled “CSIR for Connect, Collaborate, Converge and Convert (5C) for Global Sustainable Development” during the Science Summit at the 79th United Nations General Assembly 2024 (SSUNGA79).

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### **Leitat hosted WAITRO Cooperation for Development Online Workshop**

On September 18, 2024, Leitat, WAITRO’s European Regional Focal Point, hosted an online workshop on Development Cooperation Capacity Building. The webinar was held to enhance understanding and participation in development cooperation. The event focused on exploring opportunities in regions such as Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia, and Africa.

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### **WAITRO Secretary-General Highlights Global Innovation and Sustainability at the 7th G-STIC in India**

October 22<sup>nd</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, New Delhi, India – The 7th Global Sustainable Technology & Innovation Conference (G-STIC) was organized



by the Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) in partnership with VITO and eight other not-for-profit independent technology research institutes. This year's theme was "*Harmonising Technology, Policy, and Business Pathways for a Sustainable Future and Coexistence.*" Dr. Paul E. Burrows, WAITRO Secretary General and Vice President of JITRI, was invited by G-STIC as a panelist in the plenary session themed "*Digital Technologies to Achieve the SDGs*" and also delivered a speech at the closing ceremony.

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## **Strengthening Biodiversity and Innovation Partnerships Through the WAITRO Network: A Collaboration Between TISTR and BRIN for Sustainable Development**

On November 22, 2024, the Thailand Institute of Scientific and Technological Research (TISTR) welcomed Dr. Ratih Damayanti, Director of Scientific Collection Management from the National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN), Indonesia, for a discussion meeting and study visit on Culture Collection Management at TISTR Technopolis, Pathum Thani, Thailand.

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## **Capacity Building Online Workshop: Technology and Innovation – A Catalyst for An Entrepreneurial Environment**

Prof. Raj Siriram, the RFP for Sub-Saharan Africa, invited the Africa members to a webinar on Technology and Innovation: A Catalyst for An Entrepreneurial Environment. This session will serve as a precursor to the Special Interest Group meeting taking place in China in November 2024. The webinar was on October 29, 2024.

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## SIRIM Berhad & TISTR Co-Hosted the Convention on International Halal Healthcare & Beauty

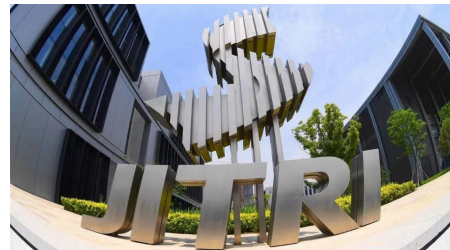
CTA and CIB hosted a webinar on Intellectual Property of Technology, led by Carlos Salazar Lopera. It covered the protection of inventions, trademarks, industrial designs, and creative works. The session emphasized practical applications in science and innovation centers, highlighting the importance of policies to protect and transfer intellectual property through licenses and agreements, thus supporting regional economic and social development.

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## OPEN OPPORTUNITIES TO ENGAGE

### JITRI-WAITRO Fellowship

The JITRI-WAITRO Fellowship program provides a comprehensive learning experience at the nexus of science and technology. It is an outstanding opportunity for exceptional mid-career research professionals and innovation-supportive managers interested in advancing science and technology and their transition from these into sustainable businesses. The fellows will participate in research or industrial transitional process at an international research institution in foreign countries. That experience aims to promote a global network for partnership and innovation in science and technology, which fills a technological gap in some member countries or excels in the technologies of others.



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## WAITRO Fellowship (travel)

The WAITRO Secretariat launched a new fellowship that offers subsidies for international travel for researchers and managerial personnel from WAITRO member organizations. This fellowship further consolidates WAITRO's commitment to fostering global collaboration, knowledge exchanges, and partnerships, which is aligned with the SDGs. The WAITRO fellowship is co-created and funded by JITRI's generous contributions.



In January 2024, TÜBİTAK and BRIN launched their WAITRO fellowships, which support early-stage researchers in extending their international networks through unique academic exchange programs lasting 6 months to 2 years.

New Fellowship Schemes are planned to be published in 2025, too.

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## SAIRA Update: Exciting Developments Ahead

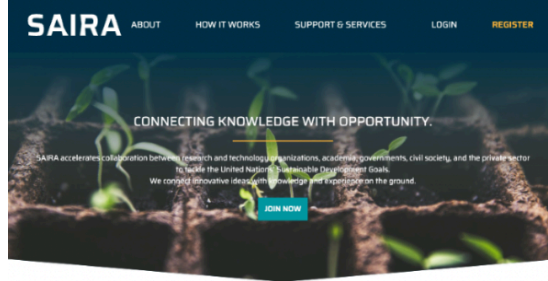
ASAIRA 2.0 is currently offline due to the expiration of the backend license (BSCW). Since the WAITRO Secretariat (WAITRO Office Germany) transitioned from Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft in Germany, reactivating the existing platform has proven to be a challenge.

Rather than attempting to restore the outdated 2021 version, WAITRO Operations e.V. is embarking on an ambitious journey to develop **SAIRA 3.0**—a modernized and improved platform.

If you are interested in learning more about this initiative or would like to contribute to the development process, we encourage you to connect with [Dominik Reinertz](#), Managing Director of WAITRO Operations e.V., based in Germany.

Stay tuned for updates as we shape the future of SAIRA together!





OPPORTUNITIES / ALL OPPORTUNITIES

## ALL OPPORTUNITIES

SEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

RESET ALL FILTERS

SEARCH

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Contact us

## EVENTS

### UPCOMING / SAVE THE DATE



### ANSOLE's 14th Anniversary & WAITRO SDG7 Workgroup Online Conference

Given the ease of meeting online, ANSOLE is celebrating its 14th anniversary by organising the ANSOLE 14th Anniversary International Online Conference (A2IOC2025) as a joint event with the 1st WAITRO SDG 7 Working Group Online Conference (WAITRO-WG7-25).

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## NEW MEMBERS



**UPA - Universidad Paraguayo**

**Alemana de Ciencias Aplicadas**

The Universidad Paraguayo Alemana city is a branch of the SRH Hochschule Heidelberg of Germany and shares the local consortium with the Paraguayan

Industrial Union, the industrial guild of reference in Paraguay. Its mission is to train professional leaders capable of solving problems with creative and innovative practices reflected in an international higher education, and to achieve its objectives it has a staff of teachers and researchers of reference in their areas.

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## Pragmatec

Founded in 2011 in Guadalajara, Pragmatec is a technology transfer office recognized by the Ministry of Economy and by CONACYT due to its results, specialized consultants, infrastructure, processes, and network of strategic partners.

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## Universidad Panamericana

**Panamerican Univeristy** (Spanish: *Universidad Panamericana*), commonly known as **UP**, is a private research, Roman Catholic university founded in Mexico City. It has four campuses and the oldest campus was founded in 1968. It is one of the most prestigious universities in Mexico.

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## Istanbul Technical University

ITU, with a long history dating back to 1773, is a research-intensive university conducting scientific research at the

utmost level. ITU has constantly led the way in reform movements and has accomplished this with extensive collaboration with the industry. ITU currently hosts about 30,000 students, it has graduated much more: including presidents, prime ministers and many ministers. Offering 99 undergraduate and 192 graduate programs, ITU thrives to be the leading university in engineering and architecture in the Republic of Türkiye and has a very strong influence in its region.

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### **CuBio Innovation**

CUBIO provides innovators with access to lab infrastructure, business consulting and mentorship, financial support, and worldwide market resources and networks. Our mission is to provide an unparalleled platform to serve innovators' unmet needs in the biomedical field, both within Texas and around the world.

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### **Universidad Nacional Abierta y a Distancia**

The **National Open and Distance University (UNAD)** is a national Colombian public university. Its headquarters are located in the city of Bogotá, on the José Celestino Mutis campus. Since its foundation, the university has had technical, technological, professional, and postgraduate training through virtual education. It has 73 higher education



programs, including technological, professional, and master's degrees. It currently has more than 165,000 students, making it the largest university in the country.

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## SINTEF

SINTEF is an independent research organization founded in 1950 that conducts contract research and development projects. SINTEF has 2,000 employees from 75 countries. SINTEF has expertise in Horizon Europe, waste management in LMICs, close collaboration with industry, and experience in funding from Norwegian development cooperation funds.

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## Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile

The **Pontifical Catholic University of Chile** based in Santiago, Chile. It is one of the thirteen Catholic universities existing in Chilean university system. Founded in 1888, it is one of Chile's oldest universities. The university is widely recognized as the most traditional and prestigious in the country.

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## Medeniyet Teknopark - İstanbul

**Medeniyet Teknopark Yönetici A.Ş.**

By ensuring cooperation between universities, research institutions, organizations, and production sectors, the park aim is to produce technological knowledge that makes the country's industry internationally competitive and export-oriented. This involves developing innovation in products and production methods, increasing product quality and standards, enhancing efficiency, reducing production costs, commercializing technological knowledge, supporting technology-intensive investment and entrepreneurship, creating job opportunities for researchers and qualified individuals, and contributing to technology transfer.

[Learn More](#)



## **Suzhou Automotive Research Institute of Tsinghua University**

The institute, established in 2011, is Tsinghua University's first specialized research institute focused on a specific industry. It is also a comprehensive automotive industry research institute jointly built by Tsinghua University and the Suzhou Municipal Government, dedicated to automotive application technology research and development, technology transfer, and high-tech enterprise incubation.

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## Atlantix Portal LLC

Atlantix offers a wide range of the latest and most advanced technologies. With over 10,000 innovations available on our platform, you have access to a vast array of groundbreaking solutions to meet your business needs.

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## HolistiCrm Kft.

HolistiCRM has been founded by MarkTech professionals with the mission to leverage data in Marketing & Sales to increase customer experience.

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## Materials Academy, JITRI

Materials Academy, JITRI vigorously shapes an industrial technology innovation system with the deep integration of industry, university, research and application, and creates an innovation ecology including talent ecology. Around industrial demands, new mechanisms and new resources are introduced in discipline setting, training methods, course arrangement, mentor recruitment, evaluation system and other aspects, to effectively improve the quality of talent training and the ability to solve practical problems.

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## HUST- Wuxi Research Institute

The HUST-Wuxi Research Institute, established in October 2012, is a collaborative effort between Huazhong University of Science and Technology (HUST), the Wuxi Municipal Government, and the Huishan District Government. It joined the Jiangsu Industrial Technology Research Institute in 2015 and was approved as the Jiangsu Digital Design and Manufacturing Innovation Center in 2020. The institute focuses on industrial technology research, technology transfer, and promoting local innovation and development.

[Learn More](#)



## Daegu Gyeongbuk Institute of Science and Technology

As a science and engineering university established by the Korean government, DGIST benefits society through the advancement of science and engineering. DGIST, founded as a research institution in 2004, expanded its roles and responsibilities as a research-oriented university by opening its graduate program in 2011 and undergraduate program in 2014. With the aim to lead in innovation and new discoveries, DGIST conduct cutting-edge research to resolve the major challenges facing humanity, and educate talent to make the world a better place.

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**UNIVERSIDAD  
DE ANTIOQUIA**

## Universidad de Antioquia

Universidad de Antioquia, also known as UdeA, is a public research university located in Medellín, Colombia. Established in 1803, it is one of the oldest and most prestigious universities in the country. UdeA offers a wide range of undergraduate, master's, and doctoral programs across various fields of study. The university is known for its strong emphasis on academic excellence, ethics, and social responsibility.

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## Yangtze River Delta Carbon Fiber And Composite Material Innovation Center

CCIC is a collaborative initiative located in the Changzhou National High-tech Zone. It was established to advance the industrial application of carbon fiber and composite materials in strategic fields such as aerospace, clean energy, advanced engineering, and rail transit. The center focuses on technology research and development, product innovation, and market development of green composite materials.

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## Khalifa University of Science and Technology

Khalifa University of Science and Technology is the one university in the

UAE with the research and academic programs that address the entire range of strategic, scientific and industrial challenges facing the UAE's knowledge economy transformation and our rapidly evolving world.

[Learn More](#)



## Shanghai Microport Medbot (Group) Co., Ltd

MedBot<sup>®</sup> commenced its development for laparoscopic surgical robots in 2014 and established a company in China in 2015 when its began to develop SkyWalker<sup>™</sup> orthopedic surgical robot. Medbot is committed to meeting the peak demand for robotic surgery. By integrating cutting-edge research and robot ontology, control algorithms, electrical engineering, image-based navigation, and precision imaging, we provide comprehensive intelligent surgical solutions to prolong and reshape patients' lives, lead the maturity and development of robotic surgery, and shape the era of super-intelligent surgery.

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## WAITRO Members

WAITRO currently has 192 members in 82 countries and areas.



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## Reports and Readings

### NEWSletter

December 2024 • Issue 14

WAITRO  
WORLD ASSOCIATION OF  
INDUSTRIAL  
TECHNOLOGICAL  
ORGANIZATIONS

#### EDITORIAL

WAITRO Team CTA



Dear Members and Friends of WAITRO,

As we approach the end of 2024, it is the perfect time to reflect on what we have accomplished together throughout the year. We are proud to share that, thanks to everyone's collaboration and effort, we have significantly consolidated and strengthened our network in the Asia, America, and Africa regions.

Since the beginning of the year, we have witnessed a remarkable increase in member participation in the activities we proposed in our 2024 plan. The consistent support by all has been truly inspiring. The active participation from our community and also throughout the world has created a perfect environment for innovation, development, and growth.

One of WAITRO's core objectives is knowledge transfer, and we have made significant strides in this area throughout the year. We have organized a series of webinars and networking sessions that have provided our members with access to valuable information and best practices in research, technology, and collaboration in projects. We are convinced that the exchange of knowledge has empowered each of our members, enabling them to drive and innovate solutions to be developed for future challenges.

It is also an honor to announce that Latin America had outstanding representation at the most recent Summit held in November in China. We have looked forward to a platform to share our experiences, but also an opportunity to establish connections and collaborations with organizations from around the world. Our region's participation in the global gathering highlighted the growth and relevance of our network on an international scale.

As we reflect on these achievements, we must also look toward the future. The coming year brings new opportunities and challenges, and we are excited about what lies ahead. We encourage you to remain actively engaged in our initiatives and to make the most of the collaboration opportunities that await us.

Finally, we would like to express our gratitude to each of you for your continued support and dedication to our mission. Together, we have created a space where innovation and cooperation can flourish. Let us continue working hand in hand to face future challenges and build a more sustainable and thriving innovation.

Thank you for being part of the incredible WAITRO community. We look forward to your participation in our upcoming activities as we close out 2024 and, in the year ahead, where we will continue strengthening our network, sharing knowledge, and fostering collaboration to tackle the challenges before us.

### WAITRO REGIONAL NEWSLETTER ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

VOL 2/2024

Created by TISTR as a WAITRO Regional Focal Point (RFP) for Asia and the Pacific, 2023-2024



CONGRATULATIONS ON THE SUCCESSFUL WAITRO SUMMIT 2023 AND 77th GENERAL ASSEMBLY HELD ON NOVEMBER 13-15, 2024, IN NANJING, CHINA

**Dato' Indera Ir. Dr. Ahmad Sabirin bin Arshad FASC**  
President and Group Chief Executive Officer of SIRIM BERHAD

#### WAITRO Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific 2025-2026

We are pleased to announce that Dato' Indera Ir. Dr. Ahmad Sabirin bin Arshad FASC, President and Group Chief Executive Officer of SIRIM BERHAD, Malaysia, has been elected as the WAITRO Executive Board as the Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific for the 2025-2026 term.

With this role, Dato' Dr. Ahmad Sabirin aims to enhance the capacity of WAITRO member organizations in driving innovation and fostering impactful global collaboration through strategic capacity-building programs and collaborative partnerships. With Malaysia set to assume the ASEAN Chairmanship in 2025, he envisions aligning WAITRO's initiatives with ASEAN's priorities, and creating synergies.

We look forward to the continued progress and success that Dato' Dr. Ahmad Sabirin's leadership will bring to WAITRO and its members.



[More Readings](#)

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