



Press Release:

**LATIN AMERICAN PORTS TO DISCUSS
THEIR LONG-TERM STRATEGIES**

Come to Merida, Mexico, from November 29th through December 2nd,
and take part in the AAPA Latin American Port Congress

Members of the Organizing Committee of the **AAPA 25th Latin American Congress of Ports** visited the city of Merida, Yucatan Peninsula, Mexico, for a technical inspection and kick-off of a new edition of the most important port forum in this part of the continent.

Entitled **“LOOKING TO THE FUTURE: THE AGENDA OF LATIN AMERICAN PORTS FOR THE NEXT 25 YEARS”** the academic program will focus on the sector over the long term, discussing matters that the Latin American industry must be prepared to face under the different scenarios that will unfold in coming decades.

The event, organized by the American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA) in partnership with the Administración Portuaria Integral de Progreso, will count on the collaboration of Mexican ports and the main maritime and waterway terminals in America, as well as many related companies and media, whose participation is already confirmed.

On the first visit to “Ciudad Blanca” (White City), as Merida is also known, the delegation, consisting of *Rafael Díaz-Balart* (AAPA Latin American Coordinator), *Raúl Torre Gamboa* (President of API Progreso); *Gilda Morlet* (Marketing Manager of Puerto Progreso) and *Zulma Dinelli* (International Coordinator of the Latin American Congress of Ports), examined several logistics and organizational elements to ensure outstanding academic and social programs for all attendees, including top leaders of the sector.

The venue this year will be the Hotel Fiesta Americana Convention Center, on the well-known Paseo Montejo, the architecture of which evokes the French presence in the area at the beginning of the previous century, yet with modern-day functionality, comfort and personality.

The exhibit hall will contain a series of stands and commercial displays which will be open concurrently with the conferences. This space has been gaining traction over the years as result of the exponential growth of AAPA Latin American events.

One key element of this edition will be the intense social and tourism activity under preparation to commemorate the *Silver Anniversary* of the Latin American Congresses. To celebrate big, dinners and receptions will be set among the most fascinating “*haciendas*” dating back to the administration of President Porfirio Díaz, a period of extensive henequen (sisal) distillation. The highlight will be a visit to Chichen Itzá, the most outstanding sacred center of the Mayan world.

For further information, please contact: info@aapa2016mexico.com or visit www.aapa2016mexico.com

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