

**IAG Global Rio de Janeiro Assembly
March 13 – 16th 2025
with host Daniel Urbano Advogados**

The Rio de Janeiro Assembly was an incredibly colourful and vibrant Assembly!



Everyone enjoying the Saturday Tropical Party at Ilha Fiscal

**Wednesday, March 12th & Thursday, March 13th
Delegates arrival**



IAG was delighted to welcome 60 delegates and guests to the Rio Assembly.

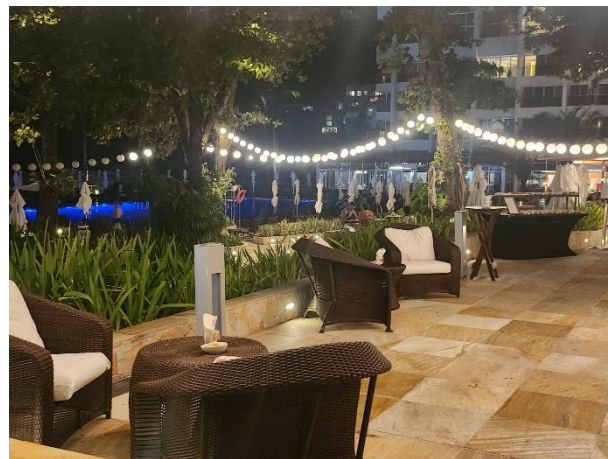
Many arrived early and enjoyed the Brazilian sunshine on Wednesday with a dip in the pool and a cocktail or two!

On Thursday, delegates and guests were invited to visit the Registration Desk to collect their name badges.

Their goodie bags were delivered directly to rooms, and what a delight of treats were inside.



Thursday, March 13th
Welcome Drinks & Dinner
Piazza Belvedere, Sheraton Grand Rio Hotel



The Welcome Drinks event was set up on the Piazza Belvedere, under the tropical Rio sky, with a cocktail bar and Brazilian canapes for everyone to enjoy.

It was a beautiful, balmy night and everyone was excited to be back together in such gorgeous surroundings.





Once everyone had gathered, many with the famous Brazilian Caipirinha cocktail in hand, Tomasz Szarek officially opened the Assembly and thanked Daniel Urbano and his team for hosting the event.

Daniel then took to the microphone and expressed his delight that so many IAG members had made the trip to Rio de Janeiro for the first Assembly of 2025.



He then invited everyone to enjoy the evening, the cocktails, and the canapés that had been carefully created just for the event.

The air got quite heavy and before you knew it there was a tropical rain storm, which added to the atmosphere of the evening.

The evening concluded by 11pm, with everyone having had a wonderful time catching up with old friends and greeting new friends.



Friday, March 14th Business Session

While guests enjoyed a trip to Sugarloaf Mountain, delegates attended the Business Session, in a room that had one of the best views seen at an Assembly.



Tomasz went on to give updates on the progress of the recruitment drive, feedback on the relationship calls, the referrals throughout the membership, the high demand of the Staff Exchange Programme, and changes to the Board.



Tomasz Szarek again welcomed everyone to Rio and made special mention of the two observer firms – DIKE Schindhelm from Italy and AZIZ & KAYE Business Law from Mexico, and Guest Speaker Sergio Leite de Andrade, the President of the Board of Directors of the Brazilian Steel Institute.





As Tomasz progressed to the IAG Business part of the Agenda, Emiel de Joode from Ten Holter Noordam, the Netherlands, was invited to address the room prior to delegates voting on his application to join the Board.

It was a unanimous positive vote, and Emiel was delighted with the result. Cécile Dessapt from Ydès, France, was voted to continue as Interim Treasurer and 2nd Board term to 2028.

Chairman's Address - Rio de Janeiro



Daniel Urbano then took to the stage for a short presentation on his firm, and went on to discuss investment opportunities in Brazil.

Daniel's chosen charity for the event was Instituto Gil Nogueira, whose mission is to reduce functional illiteracy by encouraging reading in childhood, and he introduced representatives who explained more about the work they do.

To learn more about the charity and to make a donation, please click here [Charity-Presentation.pdf](#)



It was then time for the group photo, so everyone gathered outside in the Rio sunshine before going back inside for the coffee break.





The second half of the Business Session was opened by the guest speaker, Sergio Leite de Andrade, President of the Board of Directors of the Brazilian Steel Industry.



He gave an interesting insight into the challenges of the Brazilian steel industry, and at the end Daniel presented Sergio with a commemorative plaque.

The Assembly then moved on to presentations on the Prague General Assembly taking place from 5 – 8 June, and the Luxembourg Assembly taking place from 26 – 28 September. Jude Kenyon from the Executive Office also shared the details of the upcoming IAG Remote Event for Next Generation members happening on 29 April.

Helen Watson, IAG Board Secretary, introduced the two observer firms, who both spoke about their firms, what IAG membership would mean to their firm and what their firm will do for IAG members.



There was then an update from Jim Miller and Cécile Dessapt on the positive growth and recruitment IAG is working on.

Delegates were given a handout asking for suggestions as to where the Board should focus their recruitment efforts, and to share any contact details of firms who could make good members.

If you have suggestions please use the form below and send to marketing@iaq.global

[IAG-Growth-Member-Suggestions.pdf](#)

The final slot of the day was from Tomasz Szarek and Daniel Urbano who shared a case study of an inheritance case in Brazil, which included some very funny anecdotes!



Tomasz then thanked everyone for attending and closed the first Business Session of 2025.



Friday Lunch at Rubayat Jockey Club

In a change from the usual lunch on the day of the Business Session, Daniel had arranged a lunch at the Rubayat Jockey Club for everyone.

The guests were back from their trip to Sugarloaf Mountain, so after the Business Session there was a chance to get changed and the group met back up to board the coaches to the venue.



In the backdrop of the restaurant was Christ the Redeemer, and IAG enjoyed a separate area for their lunch of the most delicious steak, or incredible fish.



Friday Evening

Next Generation Drinks and dinner at Rio Scenarium

It was a quick turnaround for some as the last coach returned from lunch at 5.20pm and the Next Generation Drinks were at 6.30pm!

It was soon time to board the next bus for the journey to Friday's dinner at Rio Scenarium, a three-storey Samba club with 7 different music environments.



The atmosphere was fantastic, with drinks flowing and music playing. Another delicious dinner was served and the dancing began!

During the evening, a Samba couple danced through the room, entertaining everyone.



There was a band performing in another part of the venue so a number of delegates joined in with the locals, dancing and enjoying the music.

The Late Night Special Interest Group was continuing at Rio Scenarium with buses returning to the hotel late into the night.

It was a spectacular evening, full of more vibrancy and lots of fun.

Saturday, March 15th Trip to Christ the Redeemer

It was a slightly later than usual start to the day for delegates with the trip to see the incredible Christ the Redeemer statue – one of the new 7 Wonders of the World.



Constructed over 100 years ago, it is definitely worth the time spent queueing up with other tourists to make the 20 minute train journey up Corcovado Mountain.

It is quite spectacular to arrive at the feet of the statue and look up to take in the overwhelming sight in full.

It was beautifully clear when everyone arrived at the mountain top, but it wasn't long before the clouds rolled in and Christ the Redeemer loomed through the mist, looking very mystical.



An hour or so was spent at the top, before taking the train back down and everyone climbed on board the buses again to go to lunch.

Lunch at Assador Rio's

Assador's is a traditional Brazilian BBQ restaurant where the meat is so delicious it simply melts in your mouth...and it comes round and round until you can eat no more!



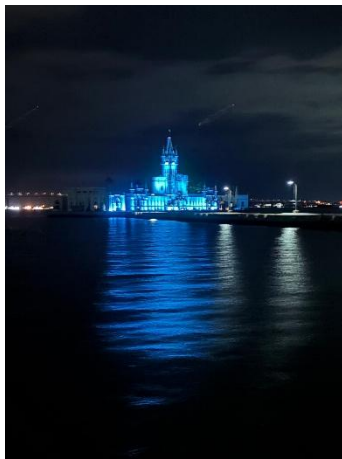
Situated on right on the water, with views of Sugarloaf Mountain, it is another beautiful location.



Saturday Tropical Party Isla Fiscal

After a couple of free hours to relax and maybe get a swim in, it was time for the Tropical Party at Isla Fiscal.

Once dropped off, everyone had to wait for a smaller bus to transport them to the venue as it is situated in an active military base.



Bouncing over the cobbled, narrow tracks was a little disconcerting, but added to the anticipation of the evening, and as everyone realised where they were going you could hear the gasps of excitement.

As guests entered the building they were given brightly coloured garlands to add to the tropical vibe.



Before dinner was served, Tomasz Szarek took to the microphone to thank Daniel Urbano and his team for their outstanding hospitality and to praise what had been a fantastic Assembly.



Gifts were given to Laura Fonseca, Mariana Silva and Flávia Faria, as Daniel's key organising assistants, and also to Daniel.

Daniel then thanked IAG and the Board for giving him the opportunity to host, he was honoured to have been able to, and he thanked Jude and Charlie in the Executive Office for all their support over the past year in helping bring it all together.





He also thanked every single person who had made the trip to Brazil for the Assembly, something he would cherish forever. It was quite obvious that every person there would remember their time in Rio.

Before sitting down to dinner, the golf winners were announced, with Thomas Roeskins and Sophie Marie Allichhammer being joint winners.



Dinner was a lively affair and as the meal was drawing to a close, the music volume increased and in came a Samba troupe!



They proceeded to spend an hour dancing and entertaining, with lots of audience participation.





The dancing went on into the night before it was finally time to bid goodnight to Rio.

And that closed the Rio Assembly. The colours, the atmosphere, the excitement, the chatter.... everything added to make it something extremely special.

Once again, a huge thank you to Daniel Urbano and his team at Daniel Urbano Advogados for their outstanding hospitality.

All the photos from the event can be found in the photo gallery on the members' area of the website [HERE](#)

The full presentation from the Business Session can be found on the Rio de Janeiro Events page in the drop down list of Key Documents [HERE](#)