



**19th General Assembly**  
Quito, Ecuador October 28 – 30, 2009

## **RESOLUTION No.4**

### **“DECALOGUE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PAIGH 2010-2020 PAN AMERICAN AGENDA”**

The 19th General Assembly of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History –PAIGH,

#### **CONSIDERING:**

The relevance of guiding and promoting the scientific activities of the PAIGH for the benefit of the Member States and the specialized community by means of the consolidation of the PAIGH 2010-2020 Pan American Agenda;

The content of Resolution V “PAIGH 2009-2019 Pan American Agenda” (Colombia, 2007) and Resolution 3 “PAIGH 2010-2020 Pan American Agenda” (El Salvador, 2008) regarding the PAIGH 2010-2020 Pan American Agenda which state its fundamental bases and principles;

The importance of the 19th Assembly deciding on the scope and purpose for the implementation and assessment of the results;

The recommendations of the 71st and 72nd Meeting of Officers and the Scientific Policy Committee,

#### **RESOLVES:**

1. In order to redefine, encourage and consolidate the role of the PAIGH as identifier and assembler of regional and institutional competencies, among other initiatives to be defined in the future, to resolutely back and participate in the execution of the following:
  - The GeoSUR Program, sponsored by the Andean Development Corporation –CAF
  - The Geocentric Reference System for the Americas –SIRGAS
  - The Ibero-American Network of Geographic Information Infrastructures - R3IGeo
  - The ISO TC/211 “Geography/Geomatics” Committee of the International Organization for Standardization–ISO
2. In order to consolidate the mission of the PAIGH, to guide the annual technical assistance program so that it backs Pan American projects which:



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- Contribute to capacity building at the Pan American level
  - Foster the application of schemes that advance plurality, a broad view of our history and respect for biological and social diversity
  - Spur interdisciplinary rapprochement and regional integration in priority areas of sustainable development such as the region's risk and vulnerability, climate change, territorial ordering and social and economic progress in border vicinity zones
3. That, with the aim of encouraging the actions of the Commissions of the PAIGH and their committees and workgroups, as the active Pan American community they are, to henceforth make sure:
- Each committee or workgroup corresponds to the existence of a multinational activity or project to develop it. A review could be undertaken during the Technical Meeting held halfway through the period to determine whether to continue forward or to make revisions.
  - That the coordination and composition of the committees and work groups adequately and equitably represent the Member States
  - That, in the terms stipulated in the Financial Rules to back projects, the annual assessment of the results of each project and their contribution to the editorial work of the PAIGH will be determining factors for their continuity
4. With the aim of encouraging innovative variants of the study of Pan American development and fostering a broader vision of the history of the Americas and a plurality of approaches in fields such as environmental history, historiography, historical cartography, regional integration processes, climate change, cultural diversity, the preservation of tangible and intangible cultural heritage, as well as historical archives, the Institute will give precedence to the following actions and activities:
- The establishment of networks of specialists in these fields and the cultivation of projects arising from said networks
  - Deliberation on the possibility of creating committees in the fields of the History of Territorial Space of the Member States and Temporal Geography
  - Endorsement for the meeting of experts on the subject of the History of the Americas
  - Reconsideration of the prospects of education in History and Geography of the Americas as mechanisms to contribute to the formation of historians and geographers
  - Support for sub - regional congresses on History promoted by the PAIGH
  - Furtherance of studies that facilitate comparison amongst countries and development of regional projects
  - Backing of preservation of historical archives, specialized libraries and museums



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5. In order to consolidate the Institute as a regional Pan American forum for the advancement of geographic information in the Member States, it will endorse the following actions, amongst others:
  - Championing modernization programs of Geographic Institutes responsible for national cartography in the Member States in order to facilitate incorporation of new technologies and to adapt their composition to the requirements of each nation and its users
  - Prioritizing the execution of resolutions which embrace declarations approved in the symposiums and scientific activities held prior to the PAIGH's Directing Councils and Assemblies, such as the Declaration on Spatial Data Infrastructure (2007) and the Declaration on Risks and Prevention of Disasters in the Wake of Volcanic Events (2008)
  
6. To back the programmed development of fundamental spatial data bases in Member States and their interoperability, the Institute will undertake the following actions:
  - Agree on a PAIGH policy on Fundamental Spatial Data including: geodesic control networks, base geography, spatial administration, infrastructure, land use and environment
  - Promote the execution of decennial plans to produce, update and maintain the fundamental data bases of the Member States
  - Establish a program of activities to assist geographic institutes responsible for national cartography with human resource training and functional and technological modernization
  - Support national initiatives based on international standards and spatial data infrastructure (SDI) concepts, especially projects that develop a culture of documentation and the creation of geospatial metadata catalogues
  - Assist national entities responsible for cartography with the process of certification of international standards and norms promoted by the International Organization for Standardization –ISO
  
7. In order to identify actions which will articulate and specify institutional competencies that will contribute to regional integration and sustainable development in specific fields such as climate change, territorial ordering and environmental conservation, the Institute will promote the following actions and instruments:
  - Agree upon an institutional policy to encourage the coordination, integration and collaboration of actions undertaken by national sections connected to climate change, territorial ordering and natural disasters
  - Start up the Pan American Laboratory for the Observation of Natural Disasters and with that end in mind, organize an international symposium on "Natural Disasters and Sustainable Development in the Americas: Climate Change Scenario" to reinforce studies conducted on threats posed



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by natural disasters that affect the region and existing risks, according to vulnerabilities

- Hold the “Natural Disasters and Territorial Ordering in the Americas” International Seminar (Peru, 2010)
  - Back projects to build and validate sustainable development indicators, including proposed indicators that will allow comparisons amongst countries and development of projects amongst Member States
8. To contribute to the modernization of our National Sections and foster a heightened sense of co-responsibility with the Institute, we shall place attention on the following actions:
- Boost the number of participating and active entities in each National Section
  - Bolster greater participation of local specialists by backing the Pan American Network of Professionals and its evolution in order to create professional networks in fields and subjects related to the development of the Institute
  - Motivate greater cooperation amongst national sections in projects and regional integration activities
  - Promote institutional development of organizations connected to production of spatial information and national and regional studies on cartography, geography, history and geophysics
  - Reinforce contact between PAIGH Commissions and the respective representatives in each national section
9. In order to make the work of the PAIGH more visible and transcendent, effectively integrate the Pan American community and encourage the participation of national sections, the PAIGH will develop an institutional communications plan that will propose, amongst other actions:
- Undertaking campaigns or associating with initiatives that contribute to rationality in the sustainable use of natural resources and raise awareness vis a vis risks and vulnerabilities
  - Contributing to the institutional commemoration of great historical events on the continent
  - Highlighting and sharing the work and contribution of each National Section
  - Developing networks of specialists and, through them, spur the realization of specialized forums
  - Setting up a link on the PAIGH website for the Pan American Agenda where pertinent information can be uploaded which will rouse community participation in its implementation, follow up and assessment
  - Reaching agreements with international cooperation agencies to coalesce efforts on subjects of common interest and optimize available resources



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10. In order to establish a solid connection between the Institute and the Pan American community and decision-making processes on basic subjects related to their work, study the appropriateness of updating the existing agreement with the OAS (1974) and, if possible, in agreement with the OAS, hold a meeting with its high-ranking officers on the occasion of the Technical Meeting of the Commissions of the PAIGH in 2011.

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