

# PAN AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY



## 41st MEETING OF THE DIRECTING COUNCIL

San Salvador, El Salvador November 19-21, 2008

### RESOLUTION 3

#### 2010 - 2020 PAN AMERICAN AGENDA OF THE PAIGH

The 41st Meeting of the Directing Council of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH),

#### CONSIDERING:

That in Resolution V (Colombia, 2007) the Directing Council arranged for the preparation of the Pan American Agenda;

That after constituting the *pro tempore* advisory committee stipulated in the aforementioned resolution, the General Secretariat of the PAIGH held the first workshop for the Agenda in which Officers of the PAIGH, Committee members and National Section chairs participated. That there is sufficient information to establish the bases for the preparation of the 2010 - 2020 Pan American Agenda for the PAIGH;

That the OAS, through the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development, has indicated its support of the initiative;

The recommendations of the 69<sup>th</sup> and 70<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Officers and the Scientific Policy Committee,

#### RESOLVES:

1. To follow these principles while preparing the Agenda:
  - The Agenda must redefine, encourage and consolidate the role of the PAIGH as an identifier and articulator of regional and institutional competencies with more precision and scope.

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- The Agenda must consolidate the goals of the PAIGH and to that end, aim for a continental scale and reflect its broad, relevant, creative and original vision based on multidisciplinary, interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary outlooks, fostering in-depth knowledge and transcending borders and cultural differences amongst the Member States of the PAIGH.
  - Based on integration and concord criteria that are natural to the Institute, the Agenda must encourage the Commissions of the PAIGH and their committees and work teams to act as the active Pan American community they are.
2. To develop the Agenda based on the following non-exclusive aims:
- Consolidation of the Institute as a **Pan American regional forum** to advance geographic information for the integral development of the Member States by strengthening necessary infrastructure, scientific networks and institutional ties. It must also undertake cartographic, geographic, history and geophysics studies and analyses which are key for the understanding and development of the peoples of the Americas.
  - Identification of actions that articulate and pinpoint institutional competencies that contribute to **regional integration** in specific fields such as climate change, territorial organization and natural disasters.
  - Fostering development of spatial data bases, including information obtained from the systematic observation of Earth from space in order to assist with decision making processes and especially to make **early warning systems more efficient and improve disaster response systems.**

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- In order to improve the **rationality behind the sustainable use of natural resources**, assist with the development of quality information required to analyze processes connected to specific fields such as soil degradation, impacts on biodiversity, occupancy of coastal lands, contamination, forest fires, identification and occupancy of risk zones (including adjacent international areas) and the depletion of natural resources, particularly mineral resources.
  - **Promotion of innovative variants for the study of Pan American history**, in fields such as environmental history, historiography, regional integration processes, advancement and conservation of cultural heritage, preservation of historic archives and institutional commemoration of significant regional historic events.
  - Foster the identification of pertinent Sustainable Development Indicators and mechanisms in order to share data bases related to the problem, including proposed indicators that allow for the **comparison of countries and the development of regional projects**.
3. To recommend that the process of preparing the Agenda bear in mind elements that are characteristic of the rapprochement between the PAIGH and the development of Cartography, Geography, History and Geophysics in the Americas, highlighting:
- The need to contribute to the modernization of the National Sections and a heightened sense of co-responsibility with the Institute.
  - The promotion of the institutional development of organizations connected to the production of continental cartographic, geographic and geophysics information.

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- The need to boost the visibility of the work carried out by the PAIGH. To that end the PAIGH should undertake a campaign aimed at a group of international organizations to leverage the full execution of projects.
  - The need to favor the active and multidisciplinary participation of agencies and specialists and the consolidation of the Pan American Network of Professionals in order to effectively integrate the community, especially the next generation of specialists.
4. To coordinate with the OAS, through the General Secretariat, the possibility and opportunity of holding a meeting with ministers and high authorities connected to the subject, in order to submit and adopt the Agenda and get backing for its constitutive elements from the Member States.
  5. To request the Secretariat circulate documents related to the Agenda among the National Sections and active members of the Pan American community in order to consult with the specialists in a timely and adequate manner and take their opinion into account.

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