



PAN AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY

Specialized Organization of the
Organization of American States

REPORT ON ACTIVITIES

GENERAL SECRETARIAT

2021



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1. INTRODUCTION

This document contains the main activities of the General Secretariat during 2021, being a report that has been divided into three areas: Scientific, Financial and Administrative.

The actions performed during 2021 had as their main focus:

- a) To elect the Authorities (2022-2025),
- b) To approve the Budget for 2022, and
- c) To reach consensus for approving the new Organic Statute.

In the process of achieving the objectives, work was done on organizing the statutory meetings: 95th and 96th Meetings of PAIGH Authorities, Consultation Meetings of the Commissions and the 22nd General Assembly.

The Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH) as a whole and with the special support of the personnel of the Secretariat, the Authorities and members of the National Sections, has made suitable use of technology for the purposes of fulfilling the objectives that have been set. It should be mentioned that in 2021 the PAIGH, as with the rest of the world, was obliged to carry out its activities in virtual mode.

In this way and just as in 2019 and 2020, on the occasion of the Directing Council meetings run on line, in 2021 there is the new challenge of holding the 22nd General Assembly.

Putting emphasis on being efficient, effective and pragmatic is a necessary condition to be fulfilled in order to achieve the objectives of adapting the activities from in-person to virtual modes.

2. SCIENTIFIC AREA

The scientific area covers those activities that are related to the encouragement, coordination and publication of the studies belonging to the areas of interest of the PAIGH, with the cooperation of the General Secretariat and the Commissions, also with the support of the National Sections.

In this sphere of activities, the Technical Assistance and Publications programs should be highlighted, as should the support provided by the grants and awards.

2.1. Technical Assistance Program

In 2021, the Technical Assistance Program, through the four Commissions, financed [14 projects](#), which put into effect work on issues of interest multinationally, with the participation of professionals from 17 Member States.

All together, the projects, the grants provided in each Commission and the awards assigned add up to a total of USD 138,400.

Up to September 30th, 2021, USD 47,595 (34% of the budget) has been spent and used for putting the above-mentioned projects into effect.

In 2021 an additional sum of USD 96,000 was assigned to the PAT to complement the rest; which could be used and spent on the condition that, by the 6th of December 2020, the States in arrears contribute a figure equal to or greater than this additional sum. This situation did not occur.

Projects financed by the PAT in 2021

ID	Project title	Participating Member States
CART 01 GEOF 01	<i>SIRGAS 2021: geodesic reference frame for the sustainable development of the Americas)</i>	Argentina - Chile, Colombia, United States of America, Peru, Dominican Republic and Uruguay
HIST 01	Migration, crisis and pandemic in the first decades of the 21st century	Argentina - Chile and Uruguay
CART 02 GEO 01	Workshop on design and creation of inclusive cartography for teaching geography and its commitment to Sustainable Development Objectives	Chile - Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, United States of America, Mexico, Peru and Dominican Republic
GEOF 02	Seismic micro-zoning of the city of Concón as a tool for seismic design of structures	Chile - Argentina and Ecuador
GEO 02 GEOF 03	State of the art and potential for geo-tourism in Central America	Costa Rica - Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama
HIST 02	Aquatic paleo-environment and landscape in America: coastal, lakeside and riverine societies	Costa Rica - Mexico
GEO 03 GEOF 04	Geoeduca de las Américas	Ecuador - Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Paraguay and Dominican Republic
CART 03 GEO 04 HIST 04 GEOF 05	Increasing the quality and visibility of the journals of the PAIGH	Mexico - Chile
HIST 03	Historic development of tourism and the repercussions of Covid-19: comparative study on local Caribbean communities in Mexico and Costa Rica	Mexico - Costa Rica
CART 04 GEO 05	Integrated Map of North America	Mexico - Canada and United States of America
GEO 06	Between desirable sustainable development and possible development of the Yucatan peninsula, Mexico, in the context of climate change	Mexico - United States of America
CART 05 HIST 05	3rd International Seminar: Historic Atlas of America: 19th and 20th centuries	Peru - Chile and Dominican Republic
CART 06 GEOF 06	Geodesic measurements for quantifying the deformation of the terrestrial crust of the earth in the central region of Peru	Peru - Ecuador
CART 07 GEO 07	Catalogue of geographic objects and multi-scale symbols	Uruguay - Argentina, Chile, Ecuador and Dominican Republic

2.2. Grants

Based on the understanding that the grants are a valuable opportunity for those people who seek to gain new skills and knowledge, the PAIGH encouraged its commissions to put this type of support into effect. As follows, the grants made by each Commission in 2021 are described.

2.2.1. Cartography Commission

The Cartography Commission awarded eight grants for the [“Diploma in Geospatial Information Analysis”](#), a distance-learning course run by the Center for Research in Geospatial Information Sciences (CentroGEO), a Mexican academic institution attached to the National Council for Science and Technology (CONACYT).

2.2.2. Geography Commission

For the [46th International Course in Applied Geography](#) titled “Strengthening of capabilities in modeling with a focus on climate change, at local and regional levels”, given by the Pan American Center for Geographic Studies and Research (CEPEIGE), 28 grants for remote participation were provided.

2.2.3. History Commission

For its part, the History Commission, by means of an agreement with the Latin America and the Caribbean Research Center (CIALC), of the Autonomous National University of Mexico, provided 10 grants for the [“History of America”](#) Diploma. This course started in November 2020, with 120 hours of classes distributed across 40 sessions, of three hours each one.

2.2.4. Geophysics Commission

Concerning the upkeep/support grant of the PAIGH for the post-graduate course in the Earth Sciences (PCT), of the Autonomous National University of Mexico (UNAM), for the second semester of 2020, there were no applications, mainly due to the conditions arising from the pandemic.

2.2.5. Grants from the NGII of the Republic of Korea

In the same way, in 2020 the 21 grants offered by the Republic of Korea (in its capacity as Permanent Observer) were postponed. These grants had been offered to one citizen of each Member State of the PAIGH for an in-person workshop about “Geographic Names” at the [National Geographic Information Institute](#) (NGII) of the Republic of Korea.

Considering current circumstances, the PAIGH, in conjunction with the NGII, decided to provide and run a webinar in virtual format in the month of November, 2021. This virtual course will consist of three relevant issues:

- Progress in Standardization of Geographic Names
- Spatial Information Industry Development
- Publication of National Atlases

2.3. Publications and Communications Programs

In this section the activities of the Publication and Institutional Communication Programs are described. The latter program covers the web site, the Pan American Professional Network and the activity of the PAIGH in the main social networks. Finally, the provision of the PAIGH awards completes this section.

2.3.1. Publications Program

Scientific journals

During 2021, issues of the Cartographical Journal, numbers 102 (January-June, 2021), 103 (July-December, 2021) and 104 (January-June, 2022); of the Geographic Journal, numbers 162 (January-June, 2021) and 163 (July-December, 2021); of the History of America Journal, numbers 160 (January-June, 2021) and 161 (July-December, 2021); and of the American Anthropology journal, numbers 11 (January-June, 2021) and 12 (July-December, 2021) were published.

Moreover and during the whole year, two of the scientific journals of the PAIGH have complied with the quality indicators necessary for being indexed in one or more of the main regional academic indexes: the *Cartographic Journal* ([Latindex](#), [DOAJ](#) and [SciELO](#)), and the *History of America Journal* ([Latindex](#) and [SciELO](#)). In this way, these journals will have greater visibility and ease of access from any place in the world, the reputation of the authors who publish in them will be enhanced, and a greater exchange of knowledge is achieved, which in turn contributes to regional scientific development.

Finally, as the follow-up for the project “Increasing the quality and visibility of the journals of the PAIGH” (PAT, 2021), the business “eScire” put into effect the migration of the site of the scientific journals of the PAIGH to a new server for its hosting, management and technical support. The contract for this service was signed for the period up to February, 2023.



Editors Working Group

In May, the Editors Working Group (GTE) presented to the Pan American community a [series of papers](#) concerning the achievements and challenges of the last three years as editors of the scientific journals.



State of the scientific journals in 2021

Journal	Issue numbers published in 2021	Indexed
History of America Journal	2 (numbers 160 & 161)	Latindex and SciELO
Cartographic Journal	2 (102 & 103)	Latindex, DOAJ and SciELO
American Journal	2 (11 & 12)	-
Geographic Journal	1 (162)	-
Journal of American Archeology	0	-
Geophysics Journal	0	-
Total in 2021:	7 issues published	2 journals indexed in 3 different indexes

At the same time, the Department of Publications have held virtual meetings, during the year, with the GTE, in order to optimize the editorial process and make it more efficient.

Editorial preservation

The National School of Anthropology and History (ENAH) of Mexico has continued the process of converting some of the older books of the PAIGH to digital media. So far, [29 books](#) have been converted to digital formats.

2.3.2. Institutional communication

Web site

The [web site](#) includes a section with the list of names and details of the [principal members of the national sections](#) for the purpose of linking the specialists of the Commissions of each Member State to the tasks and mission of the PAIGH. Moreover, the structure and design of the web site were updated in the parts dedicated to the four commissions. In addition, the [web site of the Geocentric Reference System for the Americas \(SIRGAS\)](#) was re-designed, to be hosted in a sub-domain of the PAIGH.

Pan American Professional Network

The Pan American Professional Network (RPP) is currently made up of 702 researchers from the various areas of interest to the Institute. The goal of this network is to increase the links between the PAIGH and the professional people interested in the sciences that the former is dedicated to.

Social networks

Finally, the number of followers of the Institute in the main social networks has risen to more than 160 thousand people from various parts of the world. The content shared there is about the events, publications and announcements concerning the activities of the PAIGH, also content of general interest for those interested in History and Geography.

Followers on social networks (up to September 30th, 2021)

Platform	Followers
Facebook @IPGH.oficial	146 332
Instagram @ipgh.oficial	6 177
Twitter @IPGH_PAIGH	5 778
LinkedIn IPGH.oficial	2 902
Youtube IPGH OFICIAL	390
Total followers:	161 5799

2.4. PAIGH Awards

At the beginning of February, within the framework of the 93rd anniversary of the PAIGH, the History Commission ran the announcement of its award winners, covering the year 2020, in virtual mode.

For the Awards of the year 2021, the calls for proposals of candidates were published for the following awards: “Award for Master’s Degree Thesis in Cartography, Geodesy and/or Geographic Information”; “Arch C. Gerlach Award”; “Leopoldo Zea” Americas Thinkers Award”; “Award for the Best Master’s Degree Thesis in Pan American History”, “Pan American Medal” and the “Luiz Muniz Barreto Award”. Most of these awards will be given and announced during the Consultation Meeting of the Commissions.

The results of the Calls are shown in the following Table:

Call for proposals for the 2021 PAIGH Awards (up to September 30th, 2021)

Name of award	Type of award	Proposals submitted	Winner
Award for Master's Degree Thesis in Cartography, Geodesy and/or Geographic Information	Diploma and up to 3 special mentions	9	Manuella Anaís Rodrigues Fagundes (Brazil) Special mentions: Gabriel Oliveira Jerez (Brazil) Jose Leonardo Hurtado Abril (Colombia)
Arch C. Gerlach Award	Diploma	3	Instituto Geográfico "Agustín Codazzi" (Colombia)
Award for the Best Master's Degree Thesis in Pan American History	Diploma and monetary recognition	8	Antonia Fonck Larraín (Chile) Carlos Rodríguez Contreras (Mexico)
"Leopoldo Zea" Americas Thinkers Award	Diploma and monetary recognition	6	Elías José Palti (Argentina)
Pan American Medal (Geophysics)	Medal and public announcements	4	Avtandil Gogichaishvili (Mexico - Uruguay)
"Luiz Muniz Barreto" Award	Diploma and monetary recognition	1	Gerardo Cifuentes Nava (Mexico)

2.5 Collaborative scientific-technical Activities

In order to reach a goal with greater success, collaboration becomes fundamental. For this reason, over the whole year, the General Secretariat has searched for synergies among various people and institutions, with the aim of making the scientific function of the PAIGH work with greater effectiveness.

2.5.1 Inter-institutional collaborations

- In order to fulfill the objective of the Joint Action Plan for setting up a Spatial Data Infrastructure for the Americas by means of developing the GEOSUR Platform, and to guarantee the sustainability of that platform, in March a “Letter of Intention” was signed with the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), which will host and provide maintenance to the data. The coordination concerning the transfer of rights is ongoing currently.
- In March, the Secretary General participated in the annual meeting of the National Section of the United States in virtual mode.
- In April, a webinar for coordination was held with the PAIGH National Sections to encourage and raise motivation for their participation in the Hydrography Working Group (of the Cartography Commission) through the SEABED 2030 project, which is intended for performing the mapping of the whole of the oceans of the world by the year 2030.
- In April, the Secretary General gave a conference presentation for the Regional School of the Faculty of Astronomics and Geophysics Sciences of the National University of “La Plata” (UNLP), in the cycle of conference presentations titled “New Geodesic Techniques for Latin America and the Caribbean”. The presentation was called: “SDIs of the Americas, a viewpoint from the PAIGH”.
- The Secretary General participated in the Twentieth Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistics Conference of the Americas of the ECLAC in April.
- In June, a new “Letter of Intention” was signed between the Geographic Institute of Aragón, Spain (IGEAR) and the PAIGH, with the aim of encouraging the development and running of projects and initiatives of common interest.
- In June, the agreement with the “Bernardo O’Higgins” University in Chile (UBO) was

renewed, with the intention of continuing to run the programs, projects or activities focused on by the relationship in the formal agreement.

- The Secretary General presented in June, through virtual media, the “Report on activities of the General Secretariat, 2020” to the Permanent Council of the OAS.
- Throughout the year, the Secretary General has set up meetings with some of the Ambassadors in Mexico of the Member States and the Presidents of various National Sections, for the purpose of coordinating the statutory meetings that will be held in 2021.

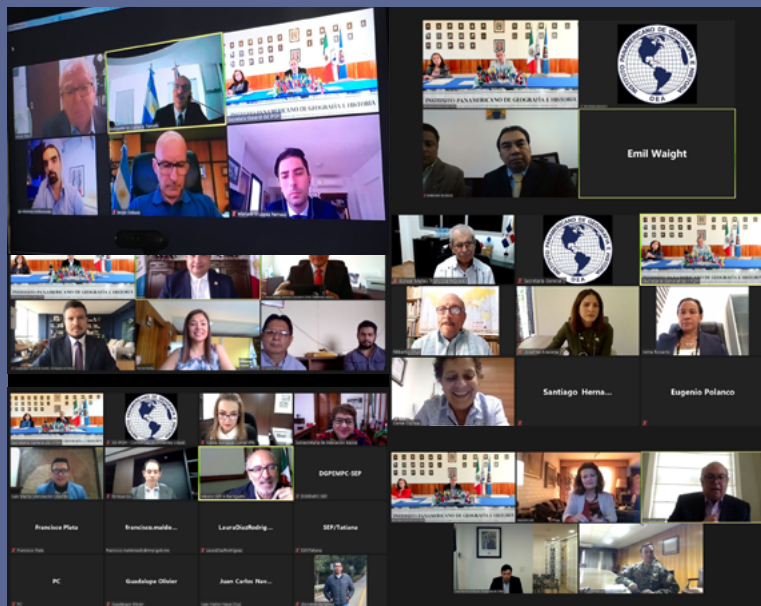


Conference
“SDIs of the
Americas, a
viewpoint from
the PAIGH”



Report on
activities of
the General
Secretariat to
the Permanent
Council of the
OAS

- In September, a webinar was run as part of the XV Sessions of the IDERA (Spatial Data Infrastructure of the Republic of Argentina), in which the Secretary General gave a keynote conference presentation titled “Spatial Data Infrastructure”.
- With the objective of making use of the licenses granted by ESRI, the Secretary General ran video-conferences with personnel at the OAS office in the Adjacency Zone between Belize and Guatemala, with the President of SIRGAS, with the PAIGH National Section Presidents of these countries and with the President of the Cartography Commission.
- At the same time, during the year, the PAIGH responded to the numerous requests for the ratification of coordinates. Replies were issued with the support from the Military Geographic Institute (IGM) of Uruguay.
- In October, the results of the project “Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information in Central America” carried out between the U.S. Census Bureau and UN-GGIM:Americas, financed by the PAIGH, were presented.
- The Secretary General attended the 51st General Assembly of the Organization of American States from November 10-12, held in virtual format.



Meetings with Ambassadors in Mexico of the Member States
and Presidents of National Sections

2.5.2. Debate meetings and seminars

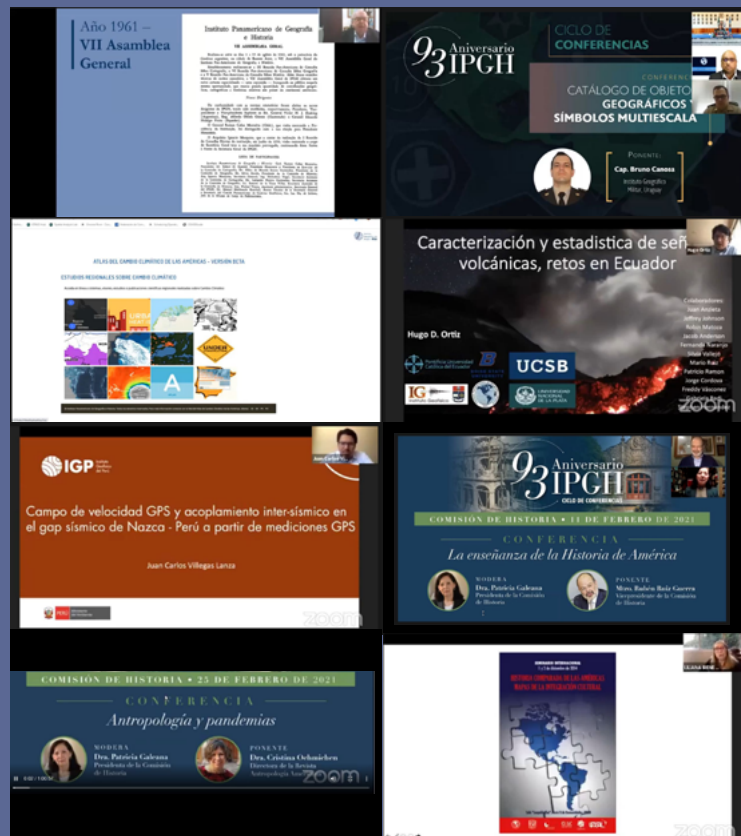
PAIGH debate meetings

To mark the 93rd anniversary of the Institute, the “PAIGH Debate Meetings, 2021” were held, focused on the activities of the Institute, such as the results of the Technical Assistance Program.

The debates were the following:

- [“Certain approaches concerning the history of the PAIGH”](#), given by Professor Héctor O.J. Pena, former president of the Institute.
- [“Geophysics in the PAIGH”](#), a conference session moderated by Doctor Mario Ruiz, president of the Geophysics Commission.

- [“Atlas of Climate Change of the Americas”](#), moderated by the President of the Geography Commission, Doctor Patricia Solís.
- [“Catalogue of geographic objects and multi-scale symbols”](#), moderated by the president of the Cartography Commission, M.Sc. Max Lobo.
- For its part, the History Commission organized three more virtual conference sessions: [“Teaching the History of America”](#), [“Cultural History and intellectual networks”](#) and [“Anthropology and pandemics”](#), moderated by Doctor Patricia Galeana, President of the History Commission.



PAIGH Debate Meetings, 2021

Collaborations with the Cooperating Partners

With the intention of bringing specialized knowledge to the followers of the PAIGH and to continue encouraging the relationship with private initiatives, the General Secretariat, in conjunction with some of the Cooperating Partners of the PAIGH, organized three conference presentations within the 2021 PAIGH Seminars cycle. These events were transmitted through the Zoom platform and by Facebook Live.

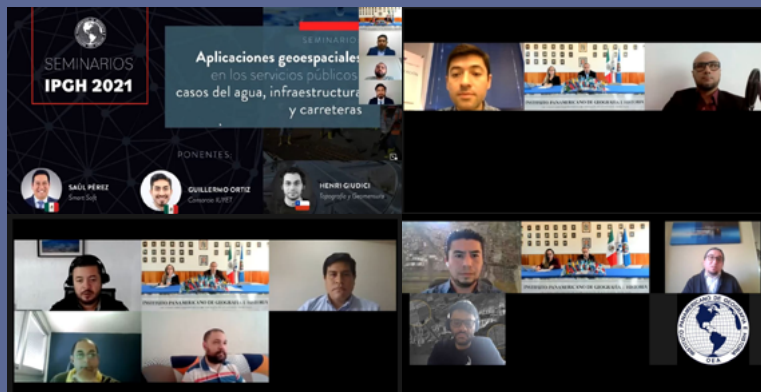
The first conference presentation, "[Geo-spatial applications in public services](#)", was run in May, with the participation of the businesses "Smart Soft" and "Topografía y Geomensura".

In July, the participation of "Systop", "Coatza Drone" and "Terrasat" was given when the title was "[Photogrammetry in the new era for geotechnology](#)".

In August the conference titled "[Applications of cartography, topography, photogrammetry and the new digital era](#)" was held, with the participation of "Global Mapping", "Why Inc", "Omphika" and the ICA.

In order to bring to a close this cycle of seminars, in September the final conference presentation, titled "[Geospatial applications in the framework of geotechnology](#)" was given by "Imagen Geo", "UAS Visión", and "Argeomática".

Moreover, from the 21st to the 25th of June a course in cadastral cartography was run by the company Systop, with the title "Use of technologies for capturing reality", intended for students of geography and related sciences, who are on first degree or postgraduate courses. The company offered five places for participants to the followers of the PAIGH.



2021 PAIGH Seminars cycle

3. FINANCIAL AREA

The financial area is focused on the management and the drafting of the budget, in accordance with that which it is expected to receive, in particular the membership quotas of the Member States. In this aspect, austerity and responsible planning constituted the central guiding concepts, in setting both the scientific and the operational objectives.

This report presents the situation of the payment of quotas in the current year. In the same way, the considerations for drafting the budget for the year 2022 are specified, as are matters involving the Audit and the Financial Report concerning the year 2020.

3.1. Situation of the payment of quotas by the Member States

Analyzing the general context of the PAIGH, one of the main factors that has led to the current situation, is the delayed payment of the quotas by some of the Member States, a debt that has been increasing over the last few years.

On this aspect and as part of the management tasks focused on obtaining resources, letters requesting the payment of the quotas were sent to the Member States.

Up to December 31th, the state of the payments under the quotas schedule is the following:

**State of quota payments
(up to December 31th, 2021)**

Member State	2021 Quota - Regular fund (in USD)	Payment in 2021 (USD)	OUTSTANDING		
			USD	Num. quotas	Years
Argentina	45,882.00	37,206.00	45,882.00	1	2021
Belize	6,794.00	-	19,097.00	3	2019, 2020, 2021
Bolivia	6,794.00	24,606.00	-	0	
Brazil	80,030.00	-	744,124.00	11	del 2011 al 2021
Chile	7,202.00	14,404.00	-	0	
Colombia	8,849.00	8,849.00	-	0	
Costa Rica	6,794.00	6,794.00	-	0	
Dominican Republic	6,794.00	6,794.00	-	0	
Ecuador	6,794.00	6,794.00	-	0	
El Salvador	6,794.00	6,794.00	-	0	
Guatemala	6,794.00	6,794.00	-	0	
Haiti	6,794.00	3,982.45	2,811.55	1	2021 (2,811.55)
Honduras	6,794.00	-	17,171.89	3	2019 (\$3,583.89), 2020, 2021
Mexico	56,944.00	56,944.00	-	0	
Nicaragua	6,794.00	6,769.00	25.00	1	2021 (25.00)
Panama	6,794.00	19,097.00	-	0	
Paraguay	6,794.00	6,425.50	2,063.27	1	2021 (2,063.27)
Peru	6,794.00	12,303.00	-	0	
United States	323,900.00	323,900.00	-	0	
Uruguay	6,794.00	13,588.00	-	0	
Venezuela	30,011.00	-	182,575.82	8	2014 (\$873.82), 2015 al 2021
Total	647,934.00	562,043.95	1,013,750.53	-	-

3.2. Budget implemented in 2021

The four Commissions have had available a total Budget of USD 138,400 for the year 2021, which was handed out as is shown in the following table:

2021 Budget

	Amount assigned by the Commissions (USD)			
	Cartography	Geography	History	Geophysics
Technical Assistance Program	19,200	22,675	21,238	22,500
Grants	8,600	8,600	5,362	8,600
Awards	200		2,000	500
Consultation Meeting	4,000	3,325	6,000	3,000
Others	2,600			
Total	34,600	34,600	34,600	34,600

An additional sum of USD 96,000 was assigned for the secondary priorities of the PAT to complement the rest; usable only on the condition that the Member States in arrears had, by the 6th of December, made contributions equal to or greater than this sum. As those payments were not received, this additional sum was not applied.

3.3. Preparation of the Budget for 2022

In compliance with the established deadlines, the accounting department drafted the Budget for 2022, which will be submitted to the vote during the 22nd General Assembly.

This document was sent to the Authorities in the month of May, to be checked and analyzed during

the 95th Meeting of the Authorities held on the 2nd of June.

Several different scenarios were analyzed for the purpose of dealing with the situation in a responsible way. The main objective was to reduce the decrease in the assets, for which preventive measures were taken.

One of the main measures was to take as a basis the income that was expected to be received in reality; in other words, the quotas from the countries with the greatest debt are not included.

Another important measure is the restructuring of expenses as compared with the budget of the previous year, that is to say, the expenses arising from the statutory meetings are reduced, as are the operating costs.

The drafting and setup of this Budget was governed by the following considerations:

- The income, in accordance with the annual quotas scale, is USD 647,934. Nevertheless, the budget for 2022 is planned based on the supposition that the countries with the greatest debt are not paying their contribution.
- The budget for PAT 2022 was increased by 20%, which represented going from USD 138,400 to USD 166,000.
- Just as was done in 2021, an additional sum of USD 96,000 was assigned to the 2022 PAT; this sum could be used on the condition that, by the 6th of December, the States in arrears had made contributions equal to or greater than this additional sum.
- The Budget for the Publications Program was increased by 5.11%.

3.4. Reports

3.4.1. Financial Report 2020

The content of the [Financial Report](#) makes it possible to analyze and interpret the resources available to the Institute for decision-making, detailing the movements of the financial year that has fully been completed, including the Equity Funds.

3.4.2. Audit Report 2020

The external audit of accounts and the current status of the funds of the Institute was put into effect, covering the year 2020. This was run by the “Despacho de Contadores Certificados y Asesores de Negocios Vieyra Mota y Asociados, S.C.” (office of certified accountants and business consultants).

The external office provided [a consolidated accounting report](#) about the Institute to the President of the PAIGH before the 95th Meeting of the Authorities.

This report was submitted to the Authorities, National Section Presidents and the Ministries of the Member States on the 4th of August, thus giving compliance to the deadlines set in the “Financial Regulation” of the PAIGH.¹

3.5. Cooperating Partners

The search for additional income has continued; on this aspect, there are 26 [Cooperating Partners](#) affiliated to the Institute, of which 20 have paid their annual contribution in order to link themselves with the activities of the PAIGH.

¹ “The external auditors will address their report to the President of the Institute going through the Secretary General, at least four months before the meeting of the Directing Council or the General Assembly. / Moreover, the General Secretariat will send this report of the auditors to the National Section Presidents and to the Ministries or Secretariats for Foreign Relations of the Member States, at the same time as providing the documentation for these meetings”. (Article 57, “Financial Regulation” in [Organic Statute, Regulations and Agreements](#), 2018, page. 105).

4. ADMINISTRATIVE AREA

During 2021, the administrative area concentrated on organizing the statutory meetings and on drafting the final proposal for the new Organic Statute.

Concerning this aspect, the Consultation Meetings of the Commissions and the 22nd General Assembly in October constitute a milestone, as these were the first meetings of this type to be held through virtual media. Moreover, during the above-mentioned meetings, the election of the PAIGH Authorities (to hold office in the 2022-2025 period) took place, (for the elections of the Secretary General, it was the first time that there was more than one candidate for this post).

Concerning the proposal for the new Organic Statute, its outline was defined in the search for consensus in the drafting of the final proposal submitted to the Member States in June, 2021. The support obtained, the comprehension and the efforts made are all appreciated and given thanks for.



4.1. Statutory Meetings of the first semester of 2021

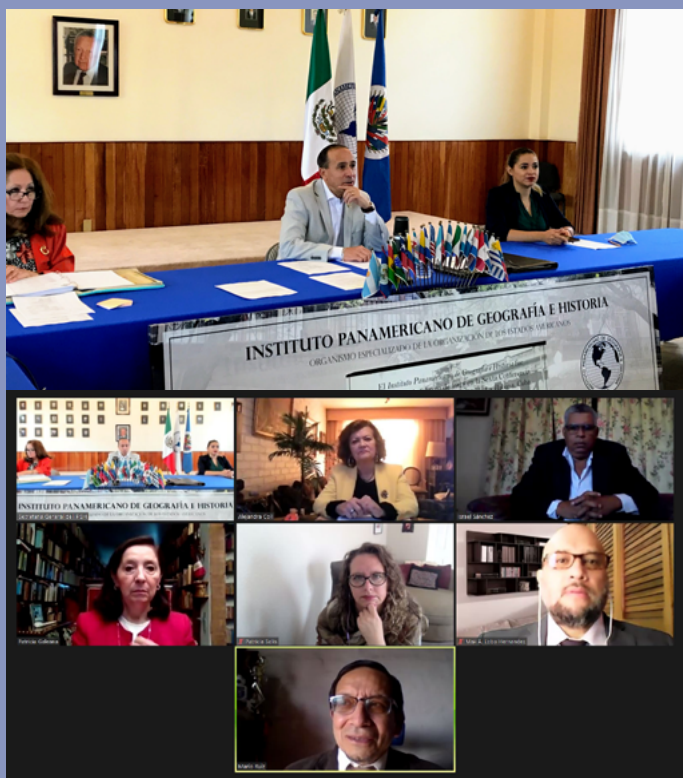
These meetings were held in June and had the objective of preparing the way for the Consultation Meetings of the Commissions and the 22nd General Assembly.

4.1.1. 95th Meeting of PAIGH Authorities

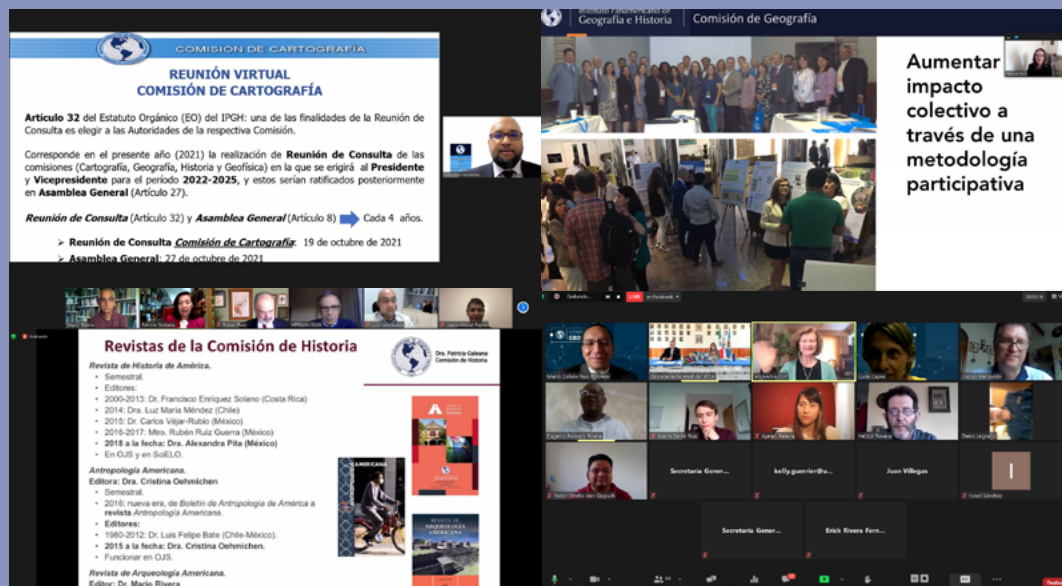
In June, in virtual media, the 95th Meeting of PAIGH Authorities was held. At this meeting, the documents, reports and resolutions that will be presented during the 22nd General Assembly were reviewed and checked.

4.1.2. Meetings of the Commissions

In the same way, in June, meetings of the four Commissions were held, these being run as preparations for the Consultation Meetings that will be held in the month of October.



95th Meeting of PAIGH Authorities



Meetings of the Commissions

4.2. Statutory Meetings of the second semester of 2021

As was mentioned at the beginning, these meetings were the first of this type to be run by virtual means. At these events, the election of the Authorities of the PAIGH (for the 2022-2025 period) was run, as was the vote on the proposal for the new Organic Statute.

4.2.1. 96th Meeting of PAIGH Authorities

It was held on October 14 with the attendance of the Authorities and Presidents of Commissions. The five draft resolutions were presented, which were approved with 19 epistolary votes of the Member States with the right to vote, which were received before October 7 at the General Secretariat. Final

arrangements and preparations were made for the Consultation Meetings of the Commissions (October 19-22) and the 22nd General Assembly (October 27).

4.2.2. Consultation Meetings of the Commissions

At the joint inauguration of the Consultation Meetings of the Commissions, the election of the Presidents and Vice-Presidents of each Commission was held. On the other hand, an assessment of the projects put into effect in 2021 and the final checks on the Technical Assistance Projects proposed for 2022, which would be approved during the 22nd General Assembly was managed.

The winners of the awards of each Commission, 2021 edition, were also recognized.



96th Meeting of PAIGH Authorities



Joint inauguration of the Consultation Meetings of the Commissions

4.2.3. 22nd General Assembly

As every four years, the General Assembly was held. On this occasion, the following objectives were fulfilled:

- Election of the Secretary General, President and Vice President of PAIGH for the 2022-2025 period and ratification of the Presidents and Vice Presidents of the Commissions.
- Approval of the new Organic Statute of the PAIGH.
- Presentation of the results of the epistolary vote of the Member States for the approval of the resolutions, which include the acceptance of the 2022 Budget.

This meeting had the uniqueness that two nominations for Secretary General were submitted.

The voting on the new Organic Statute was also held. The document was worked on by the National Sections as of February, where they made their recommendations in order to prepare the final proposal. In June, it was distributed to the pertinent organs in a timely manner, as established by the Statute² in force on that date.

The proposal considered among other modifications, that the General Assembly be held every year, in order to grant flexibility in decision-making; the aims of the Institute, its Mission, Vision and Principles were reconsidered.

In addition, it establishes that intergovernmental organization and other entities may join as Permanent Observers to set links with institutions with the same mission.

² “These Statutes may be amended by the General Assembly pursuant to the provisions of Article 7. These respective draft amendments shall be transmitted by the Secretary General of PAIGH to the governments of the Member States and the pertinent body of the Organization of American States, in accordance with the provisions of the agreement in force, at least four months before the date set for holding the General Assembly.” (Article 48, “Organic Statute” in [Organic Statute, Regulations and agreements, 2018](#), pp. 28-29)

Lastly, the results of the epistolary vote of the following resolutions were presented:

1. Election of the Secretary General of the PAIGH
2. Election of the PAIGH Authorities and Commission Vice Presidents
3. 2022 Budget Program
4. Annual quotas of the Member States for the year 2022
5. Voting of the new Organic Statute of the PAIGH
6. Ratification of Memorandums of understanding, Letters of intention and their equivalents, subscribed between various entities and the PAIGH
7. Location and host for the annual Statutory Meeting of the PAIGH – 2022
8. Honorary award to the Geographer Jean Parcher Wintemute



Quorum 22 Asamblea General del IPGH

Países	Asistencia
Argentina	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bolivia	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bolivia	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chile	<input type="checkbox"/>
Colombia	<input type="checkbox"/>
Costa Rica	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ecuador	<input type="checkbox"/>
El Salvador	<input type="checkbox"/>
Estados Unidos	<input type="checkbox"/>
Guatemala	<input type="checkbox"/>
Haití	<input type="checkbox"/>
Honduras	<input type="checkbox"/>
México	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nicaragua	<input type="checkbox"/>
Panamá	<input type="checkbox"/>
Paraguay	<input type="checkbox"/>
Perú	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Dominicana	<input type="checkbox"/>
Uruguay	<input type="checkbox"/>

Quorum: 19

Nota: Brasil y Venezuela sin derecho a voto de acuerdo con el Artículo 23 del Reglamento Financiero



22nd General Assembly

Authorities 2022–2025

President	PhD. Patricia Solís (United States)
Vice-President	BA. Rocsa Pahola Méndez Mata (Guatemala)
Secretary General	MA. Antonio Campuzano Rosales (Mexico)
Cartography Commission	
President	M.Sc. Max Alberto Lobo Hernández (Costa Rica)
Vice-Presidente	M.Sc. Christian Núñez Solís (Costa Rica)
Geography Commission	
President	PhD. Hermann Manríquez Tirado (Chile)
Vice-President	PhD. Rodrigo Barriga Vargas (Chile)
History Commission	
President	PhD. Filiberto Cruz Sánchez (Dominican Republic)
Vice-President	PhD. Reina Rosario Fernández (Dominican Republic)
Geophysics Commission	
President	PhD. Mario C. Ruiz Romero (Ecuador)
Vice-President	PhD. Alexandra Alvarado Cevallos (Ecuador)

4.5. Infrastructure of the Offices of the General Secretariat

In the area of the technological and physical infrastructure of the General Secretariat, a system of monitoring by video with eight cameras was set up, as a preventive security measure.

Moreover, the old fluorescent lighting was replaced by other lights with high-performance LED technology and low energy consumption.

Concerning information technology aspects, the RAM memory of some of the work stations was increased and the software used by the accounting and finance area was updated.

At the same time, the fibre optic internet connection was set up; this will make it possible to have a faster and more reliable connection.



Installation of the video surveillance system and LED luminaires

