Resolution 3


The 24th General Assembly of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH), held in the city of Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic,

Considering:

• The fact that geographic names are substantially significant in geographic matters, as it is a proper name that is applied to identify a feature upon the surface of the Earth; their harmonization and standardization is fundamental for facilitating work in the cartographic and geographic sciences. Moreover, in matters of History they make it possible to strengthen the senses of identity and of belonging in human beings relating to a specific geographic site or space;

• The fact that, at the 36th Meeting of the Directing Council of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History, held in and recorded at the city of Aguascalientes, Mexico, from the 4th to the 8th of November, 2002, Resolution number 5 was issued, which assigned to the Course in Geographic Names the name of the distinguished engineer of Dominican origin, José Joaquín Hungria Morell, who, over 53 years provided significant services to the PAIGH and to Geography in his country. This course was run for many years and was interrupted because of the COVID-19 pandemic that harmed humanity from 2020 onwards;

• The fact that the grants for in-person attendance at the course in geographic names which was run in the city of Suwon, Republic of Korea, in November, 2022, these grants being managed and coordinated by the General Secretariat, revitalized the desire to continue the study of and teaching about geographic names in America;

• The fact that there is, currently, the Geographic Names Working Group, led by Mr Roger Payne of the National Section of the United States of America, as part of the Committee for Geospatial Data Infrastructure of the Cartography Commission;

• The fact that the Chair of the Latin America Linguistic Division of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographic Names, Eng. Francisco Javier Medina Parra, established contact with the General Secretariat and with several experts of the various Member States in order to invite the PAIGH to cooperate, by means of a committee, in the performance of jointly-run work that benefits America;
• The fact that the National Section of the Dominican Republic expressed its interest in leading a geographic names committee, to be known by the name of the engineer "José Joaquín Hungría Morell", that unifies, coordinates and encourages the standardization and dissemination of geographic names in America and that represents the PAIGH;

• The fact that some National Sections, through their staff, have requested that the General Secretariat of the PAIGH resume work on the theme and matter of geographic names;

• The fact that it is important to have available a geographic names committee that is part of the Cartography Commission, in order for it to coordinate the efforts and tasks that are carried out upon geographic names in America and to represent the Pan American Institute of Geography and History before the Latin America Linguistic Division of the Group of Experts on Geographic Names of the United Nations;

• That recommended by the 99th and 100th Meetings of Authorities and by the Administrative Policy Committee,

Resolves:

Firstly. To authorize raising the status of the Geographic Names Working Group to that of the "José Joaquín Hungría Morell" Geographic Names Committee, as a part of and integrated with the Cartography Commission. This committee will be coordinated and organized by the National Section of the Dominican Republic, with the mission of unifying and coordinating work on Geographic Names in America, also of representing the PAIGH before the Latin America Linguistic Division of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographic Names, and any other international institution, academic center, entity or organization or of any State;

Secondly. To instruct the Secretary General to, in writing and on behalf of the 21 Member States of the PAIGH that make up this General Assembly, communicate this Resolution and to carry out the following actions:

1. Communicate to the President of the Cartography Commission, MSc. Max Alberto Lobo Hernández, the raising of the status of the Geographic Names Working Group to that of the "José Joaquín Hungría Morell" Geographic Names Committee, subordinated to the Cartography Commission, the concept being that this committee will be coordinated and organized by the National Section of the Dominican Republic.
2. Thank the President of the Cartography Commission, MSc. Max Alberto Lobo Hernández, for his willingness to aid, coordinate and advice on the creation of the Committee referred to here.

3. Thank the the National Section of the Dominican Republic, presided over by BA. Bolívar Troncoso Morales, for their offer to coordinate and organize the “José Joaquín Hungría Morell” Geographic Names Committee, which was authorized by this General Assembly, while appreciating their willingness to provide the services of their nation for the benefit of the Pan American community.

4. Thank Mr Roger Payne of the National Section of the United States of America for his leadership at the head of the Geographic Names Working Group.

5. As part of the Committee for Geospatial Data Infrastructure of the Cartography Commission, request the cooperation and support of Dr. Sergio Rodríguez for raising the status of the Work Group for Geographic Names to that of the “José Joaquin Hungría Morell” Geographic Names Committee, which will be organized by the National Section of the Dominican Republic, also for working in coordination with that entity;

6. Report this matter to the Chair of the Latin America Linguistic Division of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographic Names, Eng. Francisco Javier Medina Parra, as a body that represents the PAIGH before the UN for matters and issues involving geographic names.

7. Recommend that the Member States unite with and participate actively in the “José Joaquin Hungría Morell” Geographic Names Committee.”

“Science in the Service of Peace”

This resolution was adopted at the 24th General Assembly of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH), held and recorded in the city of Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic on November the 2nd, 2023.

MA. Antonio Campuzano Rosales
Secretary General