



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
Between the
PAN AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY (PAIGH)
and the
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF SURVEYORS (FIG)

1. Parties

This document constitutes a Memorandum of Understanding between the Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH) and the International Federation of Surveyors (*Fédération Internationale des Géomètres, FIG*).

2. Background

The PAIGH and the FIG each recognises that the other is an international organization with many complementary activities serving similar professional constituencies.

PAIGH is an Inter Governmental Organization of consultative and technical nature comprising over 21 member states represented by their respective officers. PAIGH is a part of the Inter-American system coordinated by the Organization of American States – OAS. PAIGH objectives include encouraging, coordinating and publicizing cartographic, geographic, geophysical and historical studies as well as related sciences of interest to the Americas. To promote and carry out studies, projects, and training in these disciplines and to promote cooperation among the institutes of these disciplines in the Americas, as well as with related organizations. PAIGH's 2010-2020 agenda focuses on capacity building and the development of specialized networks towards multiple objectives concerning integral development goals comprising climate change, natural disasters and spatial data infrastructures, including land governance and territorial ordering.

The International Federation of Surveyors is an international, non-government organization whose purpose is to support international collaboration for the progress of surveying in all fields and applications. FIG is the premier international organization representing the interests of surveyors worldwide. It is a federation of the national member associations and covers the whole range of professional fields within the global surveying community. It provides an international forum for discussion and development aiming to promote professional practice and standards. It is a UN-recognized non-government organization (NGO), representing more than 120 countries throughout the world, and its aim is to ensure that the disciplines of surveying and all who practice them meet the needs of the markets and communities that they serve.

3. Purpose

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding is to provide a framework for a continuing liaison between the two organizations. This will be achieved by maintaining and increasing the opportunities of scientific, technical and professional as well as academic and educational exchange between their members, through a continuing program of co-operation leading to mutual sharing of knowledge and expertise to the advantage of both organizations.

4. Program of Activities

In accordance with the background and purpose described above, both organizations agree to endeavor to intensify their co-operation for mutual benefit. The following steps will be taken, among others:

- Regular contact is to be established between the two organizations in order to institute and maintain a continuing liaison to address matters of common interest.
- Each organization should inform the other of all academic, scientific or operational established bodies such as commissions, committees or working groups that it has established and invite representation from the other where it is agreed that it would be appropriate.
- Each organization should inform the other of its program of proposed scientific, academic or professional activities such as conferences, seminars and workshops to enable joint participation should it be of mutual benefit and inform its members of these events as appropriate.
- Both organizations should identify opportunities to organize specialized seminars or workshops under joint sponsorship.
- Both organizations confirm their commitment in the work to advance spatial data infrastructures at multi levels and for multiple development purposes, including land governance and administration
- Each organization should invite a representative from the other organization to attend respective General Assemblies/Conferences and offer complimentary registration.

5. Financial Commitment

It is understood that neither organization can commit the other to any expenditure, save that from administering this MoU, without the specific written consent of both organizations.

6. Legal Status

This Memorandum does not create a legal link between the two organizations who will maintain their mutual independence.

This Memorandum of Understanding is valid until PAIGH or FIG proposes changes to it. Each organization has the right to propose changes to this Memorandum at any time. Any changes shall be subject to the consent of both organizations.

This Memorandum of Understanding can be terminated at any time for any reason by one party writing to the other party, signifying its intention to withdraw from the terms of the MoU.

Signed: April 13, 2010 in Sydney, Australia, on the occasion of the XXIV FIG International Congress

On behalf of PAIGH

On behalf of FIG

Santiago Borrero
PAIGH Secretary General

Stig Enemark
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