

CARTAGENA ACT

FIRST DECLARATION OF THE SUBREGIONAL PERMANENT COMMITTEE ON SDI FOR CENTRAL AMERICA (CD-IDEAC)

In Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, on May 25th, 2001, the signatories below, convening during the 5th Global Spatial Data Infrastructure (GSDI) Conference, the 8th International Steering Committee for Global Mapping (ISCGM) Meeting, the 3rd Permanent Committee on Spatial Data Infrastructure for the Americas (PC-IDEA) Meeting, and the 2nd Central American Geographic Information Project (PROCIG) Meeting, from May 18 to 25, 2001, and considering that:

- Under the scope of the XVIII Cartographic Week of Central America (SCAC), held in San José, Costa Rica, with official delegates from all the countries in the region, the Final Act's Resolution XIII was pledged to the constitution of the Steering Committee for the Spatial Data Infrastructure for Central America (CD-IDEAC).
- During the 2nd PROCIG Project Meeting such resolution was known and the need for promoting and implementing a regional project for the development of the Spatial Data Infrastructure was determined.
- The participants of the Central American countries in these international meetings have expressed their interest in the activation of the scope of the resolution subscribed in Costa Rica since September 2000.
- In the 3rd PC-IDEA Meeting the statutes of the IDEA were approved, incorporating the final denomination of 'Geospatial Data Infrastructure for the Americas' and keeping the IDEA acronym because of the initial concept of the denomination. With this change, the misunderstanding of spatial data is avoided.
- In this meeting of the PC-IDEA, the new initiative of the Central American cartographic entities was known and, unanimously, the CD-IDEAC as the sub-regional entity for the organization and management of the Geospatial Data Infrastructure for the Americas (IDEA) was approved.

WE AGREE:

FIRST:

To appoint the CD-IDEAC, established in September 2000, as “**Steering Committee of the Geospatial Data Infrastructure for Central America**”, keeping the acronym “**CD-IDEAC**”, and to encourage the use of relevant terms such as “*geospatial information*” or “*geospatial data*” in reference to information or data that are part of infrastructures at different levels.

SECOND:

To manage the establishment of **a specialized unit on Geospatial Data Infrastructure** within the signatories’ entities, with the best attainable technological facilities, and to designate permanently one professional (at a minimum) to be in charge of monitoring planned activities, policies, proposals, agreements and other local, regional or global initiatives.

THIRD:

To encourage, as soon as possible, the creation of a **National Inter-institutional Commission** in each of the countries that has not yet begun the process, in order to promote the development of the **National Geospatial Data Infrastructure (INDE)** involving as collaborators the participants and national authorities of the Central American Geographic Information Project (PROCIG) in each country.

FOURTH:

To initiate the necessary process for the implementation, development and maintenance of a **SDI Web Page** in each country, with the participation of the national entities involved in the different activities using geographic information systems, and to prepare the necessary basis for the creation of the **IDEAC web page**, incorporating links to the web sites related to the Central American region of the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) in Colombia, the Agronomical Tropical Center for the Research and Teaching (CATIE) in Costa Rica and the Cartographic Week of Central America (SCAC), among others.

FIFTH:

To present, by appropriate mechanisms, to the authorities of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH), in its next XVII General Assembly, to be held in October 2001 in Bogotá, D. C., a **proposal for the establishment of a Geospatial Data Infrastructure Committee within the Cartography Commission of PAIGH**, with the objective to promote the development of respective infrastructures, with technical and financial support and aids to strengthen projects, research and technology transfers on this topic.

SIXTH:

To perform, in the shortest time possible, all the necessary efforts to comply with the commitments assumed since September 2000 and revised at this date in Cartagena, Colombia, that permit the solidification of the **2nd CD-IDEAC Meeting**, that could be held in the first semester of 2002 during the 4th CP-IDEA Meeting in Venezuela or, during the *XIX Cartographic Week of Central America (XIX SCAC´ 2002)* in Panama, for the approval of respective statutes, review of agreements, definition of policies and generation of projects of interest to IDEAC.

SEVENTH:

To foster feasible means or mechanisms in each country to establish the sustainability and inter-institutional maintenance of the geographic information systems network, generated by the PROCIG project so as to benefit the entire region.

EIGHT:

To divulge before competent entities and respective authorities at the national, regional and international scope, the resolution put forth at the 3^d PC-IDEA Meeting regarding the acceptance of an entity for the establishment of the Geospatial Data Infrastructure for Central America (IDEAC) and the agreements made in this Act by the representative members of the Steering Committee of the signatory entities.

We endorse this Act as present members of the CD-IDEAC, representatives during these meetings of cartographic institutions of Central America,

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May 25th, 2001, Cartagena de Indias, Colombia.