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Inter-American Council for Integral Development  
(CIDI)



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### **REPORT TO THE SECOND MEETING OF THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMITTEE ON CULTURE (CIC) ON PROGRESS ON THE COMMITMENTS CONTAINED IN THE PLAN OF ACTION OF MEXICO AND ACTIVITIES PURSUED IN SUPPORT OF THE CIC**

Washington, D.C., August 25 and 26, 2005

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## **INTRODUCTION**

This report to the Second Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Culture (CIC) contains two documents: a report from the Chair of the CIC, Jaime Nualart of Mexico's National Council for Culture and the Arts (CONACULTA), and a report from the OAS's Office of Education, Science, and Technology (OEST) in its capacity as the CIC's Technical Secretariat. The latter report includes a section on culture and sports, submitted by Canada in its capacity as the permanent liaison between the authorities responsible for youth, culture, and sports policy in the member states.

**I. REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE CIC, JAIME NUALART OF MEXICO'S NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR CULTURE AND THE ARTS, ON PROGRESS WITH THE PLAN OF ACTION OF THE SECOND INTER-AMERICAN MEETING OF MINISTERS OF CULTURE AND HIGHEST APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES**

The creation of the Inter-American Committee on Culture (CIC), in compliance with one of the priority areas of the Plan of Action of Cartagena de Indias, was in response to the need for a permanent body for communications and coordination among cultural authorities and for building the intergovernmental inter-American dialogue for pursuing the mandates of the Summits of the Americas and the agreements adopted at the ministerial meetings. As is already common knowledge, the first meeting of CIC elected the CIC's officers, with Mexico's National Council for Culture and the Arts (CONACULTA) chosen to serve as chair.

Between this first meeting of the CIC and the Second Inter-American Meeting of Ministers of Culture and Highest Appropriate Authorities, held in Mexico City on August 23 and 24, 2004, two planning meetings were held in March and July 2004; these served to review compliance with the CIC's work plan and the commitments arising from the first ministerial meeting (Cartagena de Indias, Colombia) and to plan for the second ministerial meeting. In March 2005, the CIC's officers held a planning meeting to plan out the Committee's second meeting and to review progress with the commitments agreed on at the ministerials.

In light of this, a report is needed on the implementation of the commitments of the Plan of Action of Mexico as agreed on at the Second Inter-American Meeting of Ministers of Culture and Highest Appropriate Authorities, held in Mexico City on August 23 and 24, 2004, the discussions of which focused on the role played by culture in our hemisphere's social development and economic integration.

**1. Declaration of Mexico**

The need for strengthened dialogue on cultural diversity enshrined in the Declaration of Cartagena de Indias – an essential element in promoting economic growth with equity in order to reduce and fight poverty and an indispensable prerequisite for social development – was readdressed in the Declaration of Mexico. Similarly, the Declaration of Mexico emphasized greater cooperation between governments, civil society, and the private sector, in order to develop new, dynamic cultural policies and programs for promoting the diversity of cultural expressions in the hemisphere, thus maximizing the benefits of globalization and mitigating its negative impact on the preservation and promotion of cultural diversity in the Americas.

In addition, the countries of the hemisphere underscored their interest in establishing a regional dialogue regarding the drafting negotiations for the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Contents and Artistic Expressions, as agreed on at the Third Intergovernmental Meeting of Experts, which is expected to be adopted at the 33rd General Conference of UNESCO next October. Consequently, during that agency's intergovernmental meetings, the GRULAC held informal gatherings to discuss common positions and, in addition, bilateral consultations were also held.

Consequently, the *Declaration of Mexico* addresses the three broad themes that framed the analyses and debates of the second ministerial meeting, regarding which cultural diversity is a crosscutting issue: (1) culture as an engine for economic growth, employment, and development, (2) the challenges faced by cultural and creative industries, and (3) culture as an instrument for social cohesion and fighting poverty.

With reference to the first of these, the meeting agreed on the need to set indicators to tie cultural policy in with economic, social, and fiscal policies and to strengthen alliances at the national and regional levels and with international agencies. In connection with the second, on the need to devise and introduce legislation and policies for promoting cultural industries, strengthening them, and making them more competitive. As regards the last topic, on the need to develop policies or programs aimed at reducing poverty and creating job opportunities, and to establish alliances with civil society for promoting initiatives in this direction, allowing additional recognition of its role in the ministerial dialogue as a useful tool for identifying cooperation needs and proposals and as a consultation mechanism.

## **2. Plan of Action of Mexico**

One year after the second ministerial meeting, it is too early to offer opinions about the achievements of the Plan of Action of Mexico. However, significant progress has taken place in the various initiatives agreed on by the ministers and cultural authorities.

The initiatives where progress has taken place since the second ministerial meeting are described in the following sections; however, as indicated by the meeting's agenda, they may very well be tackled in greater depth at a later juncture.

## **3. National Commitments**

For my report to this second meeting of the CIC, in my capacity as Chair of the Committee I requested information on the progress your countries have made with the National Commitments set out in the Plan of Action of Mexico, such as: conducting studies to analyze the economic impact of culture; developing cultural indicators to measure the contribution of culture to the social and economic development of the countries of the Hemisphere, in particular in the fight against poverty and in job creation; implementing horizontal cooperation pilot projects aimed at developing management and commercial skills; training professionals in heritage stewardship and law enforcement, at the national and regional levels; designing and implementing public policies or programs geared toward educating and promoting our peoples' understanding of the benefits of intellectual property; etc.

In response, reports were received from 9 countries, and the Technical Secretariat will report further on these at a later juncture.

## **4. Civil Society**

We offer heartfelt thanks for the outstanding efforts of Chile, both in organizing the Civil Society Consultation Workshop held in Santiago in July 2004 and in moderating, through the offices of its delegate to the CIC, Ms. Pilar Entrala, the virtual forum on the document "Civil society

perspectives for the Second Inter-American Meeting of Ministers of Culture and Highest Appropriate Authorities,” which will be presented and expanded on during this Meeting.

#### **5. Inter-American Foundation on Culture and Development**

Pursuant to the task given to the CIC (with the support of the Technical Secretariat) of monitoring the creation of the IDB’s Inter-American Foundation on Culture and Development with a view to identifying possible areas for cooperation, the meeting of CIC officers held in Washington last March heard detailed information about the mission, structure, and funding of the Foundation for the next three years. We were told that during its initial phase, it would work to fund studies into cultural indicators to identify culture’s contribution to GDP, together with projects for the development of satellite accounts. Mention was also made about an agreement signed with the Andrés Bello Convention for sharing with other countries in the region the experiences of Chile and Colombia with their satellite accounts, and information was also given on the Inter-American Cultural Policy Observatory (ICPO) initiative, which could receive funding from the Foundation and the IDB. The importance of tying the Foundation’s projects in with the cultural policies and priorities of the member states was also underscored. Finally, it was proposed that the CIC, perhaps in the person of its Chair, could be given a seat on the Foundation’s board, a possibility that is to be addressed at this meeting.

#### **6. Inter-American Cultural Policy Observatory**

The Inter-American Cultural Policy Observatory (ICPO) is one of the initiatives that we would like to make a reality, and the topic has been discussed at the two ministerial meetings. It should be noted that regardless of the changes in the OAS, which prevented the desired progress in this regard, other lines of action were agreed on at the March meeting of the CIC’s officers, including the tasking of the Secretariat with setting up a network to interconnect the hemisphere’s existing cultural policy observatories. Consequently, an invitation was issued yesterday for the first meeting of the Network of Cultural Policy Observatories of the Americas, intended to create an initial arena for work so that bodies with similar goals, such as the hemisphere’s six identified observatories, can establish contacts and exchange information on the issues they deal with, their working methods, the resources they have available, and collaboration mechanisms and possible ties with the CIC and, when it is set up, the ICPO.

Attention was also paid to the topic of cultural information systems as a first step in building a regional cultural information infrastructure, and the possibility of sharing experiences to support the creation and strengthening of observatories in other countries. In Washington, during June 2005, a meeting was held to plan out the workshops on cultural information systems that are to be hosted in the region. This was a commitment entered into at the first meeting of the CIC, at which Mexico, Canada, and Chile, together with the Andrés Bello Convention, offered subregional workshops on this topic, to compare the systems in use in the three countries, define a common platform, and set goals to be pursued and actions to be taken.

The Technical Secretariat will report on the results of those events and the agreements reached at a later juncture.

**7. Horizontal Cooperation Strategy**

Further to the OAS General Secretariat's mandate to continue strengthening the Horizontal Cooperation Strategy and updating the Permanent Portfolio of Exemplary Cultural Programs, a seminar on Integral Projects for Community Conservation and Development, organized by Mexico, will be held on September 19 to 23, 2005. Its goal is to analyze the problems of preserving cultural heritage at the local level in Latin America and the Caribbean and to define strategies for community participation in identifying local problems related to heritage conservation.

Honduras is interested in holding the Workshop on the Rescue Program for Indigenous and Traditional Handcraft Production in Honduras (PROPAITH), and confirmation will be forthcoming in due course.

Finally, I would like to note my deepest thanks for the honor of chairing the Inter-American Committee on Culture that Mexico has enjoyed for the past two years, and of hosting the Second Inter-American Meeting of Ministers of Culture and Highest Appropriate Authorities.

The work of this meeting will determine the path to be followed in the cultural sphere by all the region's countries over the coming two years, a path that will enable us to take resolute steps forward and make progress on an agenda for cultural cooperation in the Americas.

Jaime Nualart  
Chair of the CIC  
National Council for Culture and the Arts, Mexico

## **II. REPORT OF THE OFFICE OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE, AND TECHNOLOGY (OEST) OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES (OAS) TO THE SECOND MEETING OF THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMITTEE ON CULTURE**

The OEST, as the Technical Secretariat of the Inter-American Meetings of Ministers of Culture and Highest Appropriate Authorities and of the Inter-American Committee on Culture (CIC), is pleased to submit the following report which covers the activities carried in compliance with the Plan of Action of Mexico and a review of progress with the initiatives adopted at the first meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Culture, held in Mexico City in 2003.

### **1. Plan of Action of Mexico**

Document CIDI/CIC/Inf.1/05, "National Commitments to the Plan of Action of Mexico," and its annexes, if any, gathers together the reports submitted by the OAS member states. As of the time of writing, it contains submissions from Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Honduras, Mexico, Peru, and the United States.

The national commitments set out in the Plan of Action of Mexico establish:

1. "States shall conduct studies to examine the economic impact of culture, in areas such as the music industry and cultural tourism associated with cultural heritage, festivals, and the arts, among others, and submit these studies to the CIC. The CIC is to report on the conclusions of these studies at the Third Inter-American Meeting of Ministers of Culture and recommend inter-American cooperation activities in this field.
2. States shall work toward the development of cultural indicators capable of measuring the contribution of culture to the social and economic development of the countries of the Hemisphere, in particular in the fight against poverty and in job creation. States shall share these results through the CIC to further cooperation in this area.
3. To urge member states to consider mechanisms for supporting job creation in the cultural sector through horizontal cooperation pilot projects aimed at developing management and commercial skills and report on these initiatives at the next Meeting of Ministers of Culture.
4. To urge states to design educational and cultural policies and programs that will ensure an environment in which creative expression and cultural industries may flourish and in which our peoples, particularly the young, may strengthen their identities. In addition, to urge states to take measures to generate public interest by encouraging artistic creativity. States shall report on these programs at the next Meeting of Ministers of Culture, in 2006.
5. Intensify inter-American cooperation in the identification, documentation, preservation, and appreciation of movable and immovable cultural resources vulnerable to pillage, illicit trafficking, and misappropriation of cultural objects by through existing mechanisms, including, bilateral and multi-lateral agreements and treaties. Integral to fulfillment of the goals of agreements are national and regional capacity-building efforts



for professionals in heritage stewardship and law enforcement, and public education programs.

6. To design and implement public policies or programs geared toward educating and promoting our peoples' understanding of the benefits of intellectual property, as well as to increase awareness of traditional knowledge, popular culture and folklore. To acknowledge the work carried out by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).
7. To continue strengthening regular consultative mechanisms, through the pertinent organs of the OAS, so as to ensure that civil society plays an active role in decisions on cultural policy and in the implementation of strategic programs at the hemispheric level.
8. States shall report on their activities pursuant to the items in this Plan of Action to the Technical Secretariat six months prior to the next Meeting of Ministers of Culture, in 2006, in accordance with the guidelines to be drawn up by the CIC.”

## **2. Work of the OAS Office of Education, Science, and Technology in its capacity as Technical Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee on Culture (CIC)**

To review the agenda and the implementation of the work plan adopted at the first meeting of the CIC, contained in resolution “Use of excess resources of the reserve subfund of the Regular Fund allocated to the sectoral area of culture of CIDI for the implementation of Summit of the Americas mandates” (CIDI/CIC/doc. 4/03 Rev.2), the OEST and the officers of the CIC (Chair: Mexico; First Vice Chair: Canada; Second Vice Chairs: Chile and Argentina) held a planning meeting in March 2005. Regular meetings between the OEST in its capacity as Technical Secretariat and the officers of the CIC clearly provide a continuous and useful guidance.

## **3. Cultural Information Infrastructure**

Both the Plan of Action of Mexico and the work plan of the first meeting of the CIC adopted a series of initiatives aimed at establishing a cultural information infrastructure to support the member states in building a cultural information system and research to reveal cultural phenomena and to enable their various manifestations to be analyzed. There are several lines of action to facilitate those analyses through the gathering of quality statistics and information that would be useful in the design and monitoring of public policies in the cultural sphere.

Those initiatives – the Inter-American Cultural Policy Observatory (ICPO), cultural information systems, and cultural satellite accounts – have been devised separately. The OEST believes, and will so inform the second meeting of the CIC, that these efforts should be combined and expanded, to turn them into a step-by-step project beginning with the creation and/or strengthening of cultural information systems in the member states and the forging of networks among the existing cultural observatories so they can exchange experiences and support the work of the CIC with their knowledge and studies.

**a. Cultural Information Systems**

The ICPO is the culture ministerials' farthest ranging and most ambitious initiative, and its success depends on its receiving reliable and comparable information, data, and statistics from all parts of the region. Thus, one essential first step in building the ICPO is the implementation of cultural information systems within the member states.

Consequently, the three subregional workshops (Caribbean, Central America, and the Andean/Mercosur group) agreed on at the first meeting of the CIC for dissemination of experiences with information systems in Mexico, Chile, and Canada, are a vital component in this effort. With this analysis in mind and to further progress with these initiatives, in June 2005 the OEST organized a meeting that was attended by cultural information system specialists from Canada, Chile, Mexico, and the Andrés Bello Convention. The goal of the meeting was to study the three national cultural information systems and to identify their common base. With this, it is expected that the workshops to be held in the region, in addition to responding to the subregions' different realities, will also contain commonalities with a view toward their future interconnection and the provision of quality, comparable cultural statistics, data, and information for the ICPO.

The coordination workshop for organizing the subregional workshops on cultural information systems concluded that their starting point must be an analysis of the cultural information production capacity of each of the participating member states. This analysis must address the largest possible number of artistic and cultural subsectors and of leisure-time activities, in addition to all the stages in the value chain generated by the existence and circulation of the cultural goods and services typical of each country. It was also said that the workshops, in addition to the participation of relevant government authorities, could involve nongovernmental agencies such as universities, NGOs, and research centers with a stake in the issue.

Based on this analysis, the needs of each of the member states could be determined; and Canada, Chile, and Mexico, with the support of the OEST and the Andrés Bello Convention, could work on the common contents of the workshops and hold them during the first half of 2006. The OEST will be sending the terms of reference for the analysis to the member states during the fourth quarter of 2005.

**b. Inter-American Cultural Policy Observatory (ICPO)**

As already stated, the ICPO is a broad initiative that will require several years and considerable funding to become a reality. The ministers and cultural authorities, aware of the project's dimensions, ordered the feasibility study that was duly performed by Dr. Yudhishtir Raj Isar, followed by the business plan drawn up by the economist Alejandro Ramos. This latter document was studied at the second culture ministerial in Mexico.

The business plan for the ICPO follows the mandates of the CIC and addresses the conclusions of the feasibility study, particularly the three structure options; it also pays due attention to the funding, governance, location, and functioning of the ICPO.

The business plan basically covers the following:

The ICPO's initial structure will be a managed network with a minimal number of personnel within the OAS Secretariat; with subsequent consolidation, it could evolve into an autonomous entity.

The ICPO will comprise three mutually complementary and supporting levels: the directors' level, comprising a Managing Committee, the executive level, entrusted to OEST/OAS; and a set of five regions: (i) the Mercosur countries, (ii) Andean Community, (iii) Central America, Panama, Dominican Republic, and Belize, (iv) the Caribbean countries, and (v) North America (Mexico, Canada, and the United States). The ICPO's webpage will be the one that the OEST has been developing with suitable OAS technical personnel.

The business plan sets out a one-year preoperational phase for the ICPO, which it calls Stage 1A. During this phase the Managing Committee would be set up, comprising the officers of the CIC (Chair, and first and second Vice Chairs) and representatives of the different subregions. This Committee will receive permanent support from the OEST and will be responsible for: (i) drafting a constitutional statute and a set of rules of procedure for the ICPO's operations; (ii) beginning overtures for contacts with potential sponsors (IDB, World Bank, governments of developed countries, etc.) for initial funding for the first year of project operations; (iii) beginning to seek out, select, and hire regional staff, in consultation with the member countries; (iv) preparing the ICPO's initial budget for the first year of operations (Stage 1B) and, in addition to the regular budget, considering the studies and research contracts that will be required.

In order to progress with this effort, the OEST considers that information alliances should be promoted. That is why it has invited the national and local cultural policy observatories and the agencies with similar aims identified in the feasibility study to set up a network. The first meeting of the Network of Observatories – to which those member states chosen as subregional liaisons during the second culture ministerial (Barbados, Brazil, Colombia, Nicaragua, and the Dominican Republic) and the CIC officers (Mexico, Canada, Chile, and Argentina) have also been invited – will take place one day before the second meeting of the CIC. Its main objective is to create an initial arena for work so that organizations with similar goals can establish contacts and exchange information about the issues addressed, working methods, and available resources. In addition, the observatories will be able to learn about the political discussions and priorities set on the inter-American culture agenda and, to a certain extent, synchronize their research with the topics dealt with by the political forum; exchange opinions with the delegates of the 34 OAS member states to the CIC; and analyze mechanisms to work with the planned ICPO.

The observatories will also address the question of cultural information systems as a first step in building a regional cultural information infrastructure, and the possibility of sharing experiences to support the creation and strengthening of observatories in other countries.

The OEST believes that the next stages in the creation of the ICPO should aim at strengthening the network and **creating** mechanisms for cooperation and interaction in the countries through the subregional nodes. Additionally, joint efforts should take place with the ICPO's Managing Committee and the states sharing their information systems, with a view to create a step-by-step project with its starting point in the workshops on cultural information systems that will serve to gather funds for this purpose from international agencies. In this, a vital role will be played by the support and cooperation of agencies and organizations working toward the same end, such as the Organization of Ibero-American States (OEI), the Andres Bello Agreement (CAB), the recently created Inter-American Foundation on Culture and Development, and the Inter-American

Development Bank. Only by maximizing resources and joining efforts can initiatives of the dimensions of the ICPO be realized.

**c. Cultural Satellite Accounts**

Another important initiative set out in the Plan of Action of Mexico is the development of satellite accounts<sup>1</sup> for culture and technical assistance with indicators. To support this endeavor, the OEST has been closely monitoring the creation of the Inter-American Foundation on Culture and Development and has held talks with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the Andrés Bello Agreement (CAB).

One initiative that is to present its progress and achievements to the second meeting of the CIC is the project being pursued by Colombia and Chile, with technical and financial support from the CAB and the IDB, to transfer Colombia's experience with its cultural satellite account to Chile and to devise a methodology that can be shared with the rest of the region. By bringing this experience to the CIC and supplementing it with a presentation by the UNESCO Institute for Statistics on the use of statistics and information in designing public policies for cultural affairs, the technical body will gain a first-hand understanding of current developments in the field and be able to begin discussions on how to share and maximize those efforts to benefit all our states.

**4. Cooperation**

The section on Cooperation covers the horizontal cooperation strategy, interagency cooperation, and the contributions of civil society to the culture ministerial process.

**a. Horizontal Cooperation Strategy**

The first culture ministerial and the first meeting of the CIC adopted and supported the horizontal cooperation strategy and the creation of a Permanent Portfolio of Exemplary Cultural Programs. The Portfolio contains the most sustainable and important programs carried out by the ministries and cultural authorities and which they wish to share with their colleagues. Thus, the Portfolio is a tool for information on cultural programs underway in the hemisphere and, at the same time, a catalogue of cooperation offers, in that each program enjoys the political support of its government for presentation to, analysis by, and sharing with the other cultural authorities. It should be noted that while the ministers and authorities are willing to share these consolidated programs, the programs also meet the criteria of technical and financial sustainability, with methodologies and materials necessary for them to be adopted elsewhere.

Under this framework, the first critical transfer workshop was held in October 2003, sponsored by the Department of Canadian Heritage and the OAS. The workshop focused on "Cultural Diversity, Employment, and Exchanges for Young People" and was based on the Young Canada Works program. It was attended by representatives of cultural authorities from Antigua and Barbuda, Chile,

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<sup>1</sup> Cultural satellite accounts are conceptual frameworks geared toward determining the link between the economy and culture. They are part of national accounting systems, analyze the contribution of the cultural sector to the GDP, and are a means of developing a harmonious measurement system for the sector. There are two types of satellite accounts: (1) reorganization of the main classification of national accounts and introduction of additional components, and (2) expansion of consumption and production concepts and/or the scope of assets.

Colombia, Dominica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. All the participants at this workshop drew up project profiles for carrying out the critical transfer of the Canadian experience to their respective national contexts. Of particular note is the development of these project profiles in Chile and Dominica, which are planning to launch youth exchange programs combining the promotion of cultural diversity and job creation that are based on the Canadian model.

The first meeting of the CIC also approved a workshop on “Integrated Projects for Community Preservation and Development,” organized by Mexico through CONACULTA and the National Institute of Anthropology and History (INAH). The aim of this workshop, to be held in late September, is to share Mexico’s experiences with preserving cultural heritage with full participation by local communities, which are given training and design plans for the conservation of their cultural assets. Participant selection took place in mid-August and involved 35 candidates from 13 member states.

The third workshop, planned for 2006, shares the experiences of Honduras with its Rescue Program for Indigenous and Traditional Handicraft Production in Honduras (PROPAITH), which promotes and disseminates the handicraft heritage of marginalized groups in order to enhance their living standards and productive capacity. PROPAITH is active across the nation and it has established handicraft centers, cooperatives, home workshops, and technical assistance programs aimed at improving productive processes and training artisans.

Importantly, these two latter workshops rely on funds from the OAS Office of Scholarships, Training, and Information Technology for Human Resource Development, which means that the resources are not guaranteed and that they must compete with other OAS programs and areas to secure financing.

Another mechanism for cooperation partnerships available within the OAS – more specifically, within the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI), the body under the aegis of which the Inter-American Meeting of Ministers of Culture and Highest Appropriate Authorities and the CIC meet – is the Special Multilateral Fund (FEMCIDI). This fund, which is CIDI’s main instrument for subsidies, is financed by voluntary annual contributions from the member states and provides resources directly to eight sectors, one of which is culture.

The framework under which FEMCIDI resources are assigned is CIDI’s Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development, which is currently being updated. The Plan, in its section dealing with culture, prioritizes programs aimed at promoting respect for cultural diversity, initiatives for recognizing, promoting, and disseminating the cultures of indigenous peoples, and programs for the preservation of cultural heritage. The contributions of the CIC, as the political and technical forum for the culture area, will be of great value in that updating effort.

#### **b. Interagency Cooperation**

The agencies and international organizations present at the Mexico City ministerial meeting agreed to support the Declaration and Plan of Action of Mexico. Close cooperation among national and international organizations, agencies, and entities and the development of strategic programs to expand their partnerships and ties are indispensable in responding to the challenges of an inter-American cultural agenda.

The interagency meetings that the OAS has organized prior to the Ministerials have served to establish alliances and action strategies that emphasize cooperation among international organizations and agencies to support, initially, the 2002 Plan of Action of Cartagena and, subsequently, the Plan of Action of Mexico. Thus, at the first meeting of the CIC, the Andrés Bello Convention and the Organization of Ibero-American States agreed to support horizontal cooperation activities in conjunction with the OAS.

Interagency coordination remains a challenge within the framework of the culture ministerials and the CIC. Success depends not only on the willingness and commitment of the agencies, but also on the guidance that the member states can provide in establishing their priorities; as well as the specific, discrete interventions of the participating agencies should also be asked to ensure greater collaboration. Keeping interagency cooperation alive also requires regular coordination and follow-up meetings.

In pursuit of the Plan of Action of Mexico, the OEST has maintained fruitful and continuous contacts with the CAB and the IDB, and it has closely monitored the creation of the Inter-American Foundation on Culture and Development . Joint actions with these agencies and others are aimed at strengthening mechanism for interagency cooperation.

The Inter-American Foundation on Culture and Development is scheduled to give a presentation at the second meeting of the CIC to report on its goals and priorities, on the projects in which it expects to support the member states, and on possible mechanisms for ongoing work with the CIC.

### **c. Civil Society Participation**

Civil society participation is another cooperation mechanism whereby nongovernmental organizations and coalitions of cultural and arts groups can support, the culture ministerial process with recommendations and programs. This endeavor began during the first ministerial and its strengthening has been ongoing since then. In that connection, in preparation for the second culture ministerial, held in Mexico City, the OAS and Chile's National Council for Culture and the Arts jointly held a "Civil Society Consultation Workshop" in Santiago, Chile (July 2004), attended by 30 representatives of civil society organizations from 12 member states. The Workshop produced a discussion document containing recommendations on, inter alia, strengthening cultural industries and the challenges those industries face from free trade agreements; the impact of cultural policies on social cohesion, in particular as regards the ownership of cultural heritage, the promotion of intercultural dialogue, and support for educational programs that emphasize artistic and cultural appraisal; and the importance of the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Contents and Artistic Expression.

This dialogue with the ministers included the organizations' commitment to "provide the technical contributions that are indispensable for the design and implementation of the recommended policies, and to disseminate those principles and processes within each of our countries, paying particular attention to the local level as the arena from which culture arises."

The interaction and dialogue with the ministers in Cartagena and Mexico City and the preparatory activities of the virtual forum and the workshop in Chile were fruitful efforts for including civil society's perspectives in the ministerial dialogue on culture. It now falls to the CIC, in

accordance with the mandates of the Plan of Action of Mexico, to study and review the recommendations offered by civil society and, in due course, to take steps to implement those measures that are consistent with the Declaration and the Plan of Action.

In order to make progress with these consultations with the member states, the OEST established a virtual forum moderated by Chile's delegate to the CIC and intended to gather initial contributions to support the debates of the second meeting of the CIC regarding this issue.

In order to consolidate link with civil society, the process requires feedback and the organizations must be informed about the agreements reached at the second meeting of the CIC.

## **5. Conservation of Cultural Heritage**

The Work Plan adopted by the first meeting of the CIC stated the need to strengthen cooperation for preserving and protecting movable and immovable cultural objects and eradicating the pillage, trafficking in, destruction, and illegal possession of cultural objects. It also instructed that consideration be given to the "advisability of establishing in the framework of the Organization of American States, a list of the cultural heritage sites of the Americas that reflect the fullness of our cultural diversity and foster mutual cooperation to preserve and protect these sites."

The CIC determined the need to set up a working group, open to all the member states, to continue studying the usefulness of devising a register of cultural heritage sites in the Americas. For further reflection on this issue, we have a proposal submitted by the United States chapter of ICOMOS; in addition, this topic is covered in the Plan of Action of Mexico.

To date, the CIC's proposed working group has not yet been constituted, and so it would be useful to use the framework of the CIC to reexamine this initiative.

## **6. Culture and Sports**

The first meeting of the CIC asked Canada to serve as the permanent liaison between the authorities responsible for youth, culture, and sport policy in the member states. Canada reiterates its commitment toward continuing to keep the CIC apprised of issues relating to sports in the Americas and reports on the creation of a ministerial-level forum for interaction in the Americas to deal with sport-related topics. The statutes of this non-binding organization called the Americas Council of Sports (CADE) were adopted at a meeting of Sport Ministers in Mérida, Mexico, in May 2005. The CADE will meet annually in order to "support projects and programs fostering sport as an effective instrument that contributes to physical, psychological and social health in the Americas". There are four sub-committees within the CADE: Sport, Education and Training, Anti-doping and Medicine, and Applied Sport Sciences.

The CADE is chaired by Professor Eduardo Álvarez Camacho, Vice Minister of Sport for the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. Its next meeting will be sometime in the first half of 2006 in Rio de Janeiro. The CADE is a new group which is as yet untested in its capacity to act. It will take several years for it to become a viable functioning body.

This report from Canada will be supplemented by a verbal presentation during the second meeting of the CIC.

#### **7. Report on the Use of Resources from the Reserve Subfund of the Regular Fund as Approved by the First Meeting of the CIC**

The work plan approved by the first meeting of the CIC allocated USD \$190,000.00 for the projects and activities contained therein; this was in accordance with the provisions of Permanent Council resolution CP/RES. 831 (1342/02) on the use of excess resources of the Reserve Subfund of the Regular Fund for capital investments and to meet OAS mandates and the resolution of the Permanent Executive Committee of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development CEP/RES. 89 (LXXXIX-O/03) "Criteria for the use of the surplus resources of the Reserve Subfund of the Regular Fund in compliance with the mandates of the Summits of the Americas." As stipulated in resolution 831 (1342/02), the OEST has been providing regular reports to the Council on the use of those funds, and it includes, in Annex 1 to this Report, a summary of the expenses incurred to date and funds available in each of the components.

As indicated in Annex 1, attached, of the USD\$190,000 assigned during the First CIC Meeting to date a total of USD\$36,016.92 has been spent, there are programmed activities accounting for \$52,000, and there would be a balance of \$ 106,994.86.

The available resources offer this second meeting of the CIC an opportunity to reiterate and update the mandates in light of the commitments acquired at the ministerial in Mexico City.

#### **8. Final Considerations**

In concluding this report on the work of the OEST in its capacity as the CIC's Technical Secretariat, a mention must be made of the renewed dynamism that the OAS expects under the restructuring effort that gathered together, under the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI), all the offices linked to development areas at the OAS.

The SEDI umbrella will bring about, henceforth, closer interaction between the political forums and the areas dedicated to development programs. However, this must also be accompanied by an agenda duly coordinated with other international agencies so that the initiatives aimed at supporting the states in each of these forums complement each other, are coordinated, and are strengthened.

The reminding balance in the Reserve Subfund offers an opportunity for the CIC to reaffirm and update its work plan in light of the mandates of the Mexico City ministerial, to thereby invest it with renewed dynamism, and to reiterate the member states' commitments.

The budgetary difficulties facing the OAS are common knowledge. Both the General Secretariat and the member states are studying mechanisms to maximize resources and tackle the deficit. The culture area has been affected and is facing additional staff cutbacks in 2006. SEDI is, however, working with the various offices of the Organization to mobilize the minimum human



resources needed for us to continue with our commitments and to give our full support to the work being carried out in connection with the culture ministerials and the CIC.

In concluding this report, the Office of Education, Science, and Technology (OEST) would like to reiterate its resolve and willingness to deploy all its efforts and available resources, both human and financial, to make a reality the initiatives and programs that are to be adopted at this second meeting of the CIC in compliance with the mandates of the ministers of culture and highest appropriate authorities.

Alice Abreu  
Director  
Office of Education, Science, and Technology

ANNEX 1

**REPORT ON THE EXECUTION STATUS OF THE RESOURCES OF THE OAS RESERVE  
SUBFUND ALLOCATED BY THE CIC AT ITS FIRST MEETING, HELD IN MEXICO  
CITY ON SEPTEMBER 4-5, 2003**

Balance in the OAS Reserve Subfund as of June 30, 2005:

<b>SG-SDU/026</b>	<b>USD \$</b>
<b>Initial balance as of March 11, 2004<sup>2</sup></b>	190,000.00
<b>Interest accrued as of June 30, 2005</b>	5,011.78
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 195,011.78</b>
<b>Amount spent</b>	
April – June 2004	7,013.05
July – September 2004	24,141.20
October – December 2004	4,836.85
January – March 2005	25.82
April – June 2005	0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 36,016.92</b>
<b>Balance as of June 30, 2005</b>	<b>\$ 158,994.86</b>
<b>Programmed activities for 2006 for Component 2, “Horizontal Cooperation Strategy”</b>	<b>\$ 52,000.00</b>
<b>TOTAL AVAILABLE IF PROGRAMMED ACTIVITIES ARE MAINTAINED</b>	<b>\$ 106,994.86</b>

Culture Area Activities		Amount spent USD \$
<b>Component 1</b>	<b>Inter-American Cultural Policy Observatory (ICPO)</b>	10,000.00
<b>Component 2</b>	<b>Horizontal Cooperation Strategy</b>	0.00
<b>Component 3</b>	<b>Conservation of Cultural Heritage</b>	0.00
<b>Component 4</b>	<b>Culture and Civil Society</b>	15,141.20
<b>Component 5</b>	<b>Support for the Second Ministerial and the Meetings of the CIC</b>	10,875.22
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$36,016.92</b>

<sup>2</sup> The resources were allocated in resolution CIDI/CIC/doc. 4/03 Rev. 2, adopted at the first meeting of the Inter-American Commission (CIC), held in Mexico City on September 4-5, 2003, which sets out the CIC’s Work Plan.

**Component 1 Inter-American Cultural Policy Observatory (ICPO)**

- Consultancy work for drafting the ICPO business plan as submitted to the Second Inter-American Meeting of Ministers of Culture and Highest Appropriate Authorities in Mexico City, August 2005, and for the design of the Observatory's webpage.

**Component 2 Horizontal Cooperation Strategy**

- The workshop on Integral Projects for Community Conservation and Development is scheduled to take place in Mexico during the week of September 19, 2005.
- The workshop on the Rescue Program for Indigenous and Traditional Handcraft Production in Honduras (PROPAITH) is scheduled to take place in Honduras during 2006.
- The workshops on Cultural Information Systems are at the design stage and will be scheduled during 2006.

**Component 3 Conservation of Cultural Heritage**

- This activity has been assigned no Subfund resources.

**Component 4 Culture and Civil Society**

- Organization, with the support of Chile's National Council for Culture and the Arts, of the Civil Society Consultation Workshop on July 26 and 27, 2004, in Santiago, Chile, the main achievement of which was the adoption of a discussion document from the civil society organizations containing recommendations for implementation of the Plan of Action of Mexico, which was submitted to the ministerial. The Subfund covered the traveling expenses to Chile of 11 participants and of two representatives, chosen during the workshop, to attend the second ministerial. It also paid for Spanish/English simultaneous interpreting.

**Component 5 Support for the Second Ministerial and the Meetings of the CIC**

- Three studies to support the three central topics of the Second Inter-American Meeting of Ministers of Culture and Highest Appropriate Authorities, held in Mexico City on August 23 to 24, 2004. These studies focused on the following subjects:
  - Topic 1, "Culture as an engine for economic growth, employment, and development";
  - Topic 2, "Challenges faced by cultural and creative industries"; and
  - Topic 3, "Culture as an instrument for social cohesion and inclusion and for fighting poverty."



<http://scm.oas.org/pdfs/2005/CIDI01509E.xls>