

NATIONAL AND REGIONAL COOPERATION REGARDING LIBRARIES  
IN LATIN AMERICA

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Abstract

The paper attempts to identify and evaluate the possible relationship between the existence of professional library organizations and the development of library services in Latin America. Considering the small contribution of the professional library organizations in the region, it shows how some national and international centralized institutions have assumed a very important role in this matter, supporting library services development and improvement in spite of the fact that this is not its main and only objective. For this purpose, it introduces the Book Bank in Venezuela and the Regional Centre for the Promotion of Books in Latin America and the Caribbean — CERLAL—.

It emphasizes the need to strengthen professional associations in Latin America so that they may perform their role in close cooperation with centralized services at national and regional levels.

OUTLINE

1. Role of the library associations regarding the development of library and information services in Latin America.
2. Centralized national institutions supporting libraries: the case of the Book in Venezuela.
3. Contribution of centralized international institutions to the library development: The Regional Centre for the Promotion of Books in Latin America and the Caribbean.

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## NATIONAL AND REGIONAL COOPERATION REGARDING LIBRARIES IN LATIN AMERICA

### 1. *ROLE OF THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS REGARDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES IN LATIN AMERICA*

Following the 45th General Conference and Council meeting of IFLA, held in 1979, the Section for Regional Activities in Latin America and the Caribbean started an intensive diffusion of the Federation itself, its aims and its programmes. Immediately, there arose one question from the visited countries and those whom we had written to: How could IFLA contribute to the improvement of professional associations in the region, to the evaluation of their aims, programmes and achievements? How could IFLA work together with these associations to allow them a greater participation in the development of information and library services and programmes?

This problem has been discussed on various occasions during the IFLA General Conference. In 1980, our colleague, Russell Bowden, presented to the 47th General Conference and extremely objective and thorough report in the numerous problems faced by the professional associations, and the way in which IFLA could help solve them. This document has been widely circulated in Latin America and has found a great deal of support among the associations. These would like to see IFLA chair a General Meeting to examine the present situation and suggest long and short term solutions to the problems at hand. (This meeting should be preceded by a preliminary study of said problems to provide the conference with a basis document).

This is considered an essential ingredient for a better integration of Latin America and IFLA, thereby procuring a stronger participation of the Federation in the development of librarianship and library services in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Due to the limitations evident in most Latin American professional associations, many other library and information organizations have emerged over the last five years which claim to provide national coverage and have the same goals as the aforementioned but weak associations. These new associations have tried to incorporate as many professionals and institutions as possible. Naturally, the results have been quite the opposite due to the fact that of the associations identified by IFLA's Section of Regional Activities for Latin America and the Caribbean, there exist around three in each country, each one claiming to have the highest number of affiliates. Nevertheless, it can be said that 90% of these associations comprise under 35% of the potential affiliates. The Appendix No. 1 gives an idea of the number and type of associations presently existing in Latin America and the Caribbean.

A negative answer was obtained when consulting about the commitment of the professional associations of the sector towards the development of the respective programmes for coordinating institutions of National Communications Systems in each country, for those organizations responsible for the national programmes regarding various libraries as well as for the public and private organizations linked in one way or another to the development of the book, reading, libraries and information. There is no cooperating relationship whatsoever and on the contrary, these associations have sometimes showed themselves to be calamitous instruments as regards the development of the respective programmes. There have been some exceptions, although very few, when the associations have joined forces to take care of tasks generally related to inventories and directories; these tasks were completed in the first stages, but lacked the necessary long term continuity. Needless to say, none of these professional organizations offer either centralized services as regards cataloguing and classification among others or meaningful assistance programmes. These centralized services are generally offered the national programmes created for different types of libraries, and are usually located in government institutions as in the case of the Regional Catalographic Center for Central America in the University of Costa Rica, and the different national catalographic centers established (or in the process of being established) in Co-

lombia, Venezuela, Perú, Brazil, Nicaragua and México, which serve universities as well as public and school libraries.

We have a similar situation due to the lack of permanent information media such as bulletins, magazines, etc. In this respect, only the\*of the aforementioned associations periodically issue some sort of Information material which in most cases is too limited, has poor contents and is presented badly.

\* 50 %

Due to in-existent infrastructure, the associations have not been able to respond to the anticipated objectives regarding investigations, even though both the associations and the professionals agree upon the fact that this is a field to be given priority. For this reason, library investigation centres have been created to be annexed to the library departments of universities. Most of these centers suffer from serious economic and infrastructural difficulties, which deprive them of having a group of professionals dedicated exclusively to research, and forces them, on the other hand, to rely upon the department teachers. In some cases, these professionals are so overloaded with the academic tasks, that they cannot do research for a directly get in touch with the national programmes developed in the different libraries and communication areas in their respective countries or in the Region. It is likely that the greatest results have been obtained by the professional associations in Latin America in the field related to professional activity regulation and to the corresponding book laws.

Nevertheless, professional activity in legislation has displayed a characteristic that clearly shows its operative difficulties: in most cases, the respective laws promoted by the associations have taken 10 to 20 years before being approved by the national governments. Furthermore, when speaking to the authors of different bills, one learns that the original texts were submitted to countless modifications that very often did not correspond to the aims. It is worthwhile mentioning that the analysis of the associations operating throughout the Region shows that professional organizations of the Caribbean present better conditions for a more effective achievement of their objective and at the same time a greater integration and participation in professional and library planning and development than the regional associations.

It could be thought that due to the countless number of associations there is great interest among professionals to meet in order to get involved in common programs. For that reason it may be possible to meet in a general assembly to study short and long-term solutions while favouring the reinforcement of the existing associations so that they may become more active in the development of the profession and library and information services.

The concept of international cooperation has been fully accepted by the Latin American librarians and all information professionals as well as the need to establish interactions between these professional organizations and institutions with centralized programmes of national or regional coverage.

There are many organizations and programmes of this kind operating in Latin America and the Caribbean which would be willing to accept the cooperation proposals of professional associations that prove to have a good working capability and soundness. We present below as an example, the cases of the Banco del Libro en Venezuela as a national service centre and the Regional Centre for Book Promotion in Latin America and the Caribbean -CERLAL- in order to give two examples of regional organizations whose programmes can give numberless possibilities for interaction with the associations:

## 2. CENTRALIZED NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS SUPPORTING LIBRARIES: THE CASE OF THE "BANCO DEL LIBRO" OF VENEZUELA

The Banco del Libro is a private non profit institution of cultural, educational and scientific character involved in all aspects of universal thought. It is located in Caracas and is authorized to establish sections or branches anywhere in Venezuela or in any other Latin American country. Decisions to this effect are made by its members at the General Assembly.

The objective of the Banco del Libro is "to encourage educational innovations in those areas related to the process of reading, educational materials and library services to contribute to the formation of a skilled and critical man, able to participate creatively in national development. To fulfill this goal it will perform the following functions" (1):

1. To engender awareness among every sector of the community, especially those having power of decision, as to the importance of reading as an essential ingredient in permanent human formation and development.
2. To make effective the policy of the country related to the promotion and development of reading.
3. To effect surveys and investigations tending to a better knowledge of the process of reading.
4. To elaborate good quality educational materials, printed and audio-visual, which comply with the needs of Venezuela and which will be, if possible, appropriate for other Latin American countries.
5. To promote constant and creative use of the available educational materials and through them, the education of library and school personnel which will in turn result in benefits for the users.
6. To conduct pilot experiments aimed at developing improving national library systems.
7. To give technical assistance to public/private, national/international institutions by means of service agreements.
8. To widen and maintain the exchange of information regarding techniques, materials and services with national/international, public/private organizations having close - linked goals.

The Banco del Libro was founded in Venezuela in 1960 to favour a dynamic and didactic change in a country where education has traditionally leaned on two columns:

School programme: these being the only way of achieving educational goals and the teacher entrusted to transmit and inculcate the so-called principal subjects for which they lack in most cases. The student, passive abettor, learns by heart and finds himself deprived of the possibility of freely starting to search his own fulfilment.

By the end of 1950, obtaining a text book in Venezuela became a very difficult task. This moved a group of mothers, all having professional degrees, to think about creating a Banco del Libro. With this in mind they started a series of experimental activities by establishing small reading parlors where they exchanged used text books. Donations were requested and textbooks were lent to the underprivileged students in Caracas during term time. They studied text-book use and reading promotional surveys which had previously been carried out in U.S.A., Canada, England, Denmark, Sweden and other countries. They also conducted ~~and~~ elaborate text-book survey

in Venezuela. It is worthwhile mentioning that the Banco del Libro conceived its own projects based on purely Venezuelan realities and amended them in a progressive way in accordance with the social changes in the country, and experience gained from the outcome of several investigations carried out in foreign countries. In 1964, this organization succeeded in diagnosing conditions in which the text book was utilized. They discovered difficulties encountered by teachers and pupils to procure and properly use them and the inexistence

(1) From the statutes approved in the extraordinary meeting held in March 1973.

in the local schools and communities of adequate library service for children and young people. Bearing this in mind, the Banco del Libro judged that it was essential to direct its work so as to contribute to the establishment of a national system of public and school libraries as being the fastest and most effective way to obtain greater diffusion and exploitation of educational materials to create and maintain the reading habit.

The Banco del Libro is a special institution in many ways:

- First, it has among its most immediate collaborators, professionals from many areas of the trade vinctulated to the educational process and social development. At the same time, it has succeeded in keeping politically impartial and obtaining support from different governments and diverse political parties.
- It constantly conducts technical evaluation, selection and processing material for those libraries included in the experimental programme, thus contributing to standardization.
- It offers technical assistance and permanent training programmes for the personnel working in these libraries as well as to the advisers that, in turn, will be in charge of training the assistants of the library programmes and who act as multiplying agents.
- It investigates and verifies in practice new elements and modifications to the reading library services developed since the Banco del Libro was founded.
- With its experience and technical cooperation, the Banco del Libro has helped the Instituto Autónomo Biblioteca Nacional y de Servicios de Bibliotecas -IABN- in the development of its library programmes.
- The results obtained by the Banco del Libro from its investigations and experiments have been adopted by IABN. This is a government organization which has been in charge of library development since 1977.

According to the opinion of Ms Virginia Betancourt, principal promotor and long-time director of the Banco del Libro (and currently president of the Directive Council and director of IABN), the Bank has succeeded in gaining recognition of library services as efficient instruments in an individual's upbringing, and in giving the book and reading the importance they really have.

From 1964 onwards, the Banco del Libro extended its activities directing them towards seven areas. New strategies were employed in production, permanent investigation, experimentation, demonstration and standartization. These areas cover:

2. 1. Text books
  2. 2. Experimental Programme of School Library Services in Ciudad Guayana
  2. 3. Experimental Programme of Public Library Service in Caracas
  2. 4. Training
  2. 5. Research
  2. 6. Editions for children, and development of educational material
  2. 7. Reading development activities.
2. 1. Text Books
    - Exchange of used school books
    - Publication of texts for the teaching of reading
    - Symposium held in 1964 on the Text Book, which gave origin to the Cámara Venezolana de Editores.
    - Issue of elementary school text books catalogues
    - Establishment of the Biblioteca Pedagógica "Daniel Navea", relating to with a collection of national and foreign text books.
    - Preparation of evaluation guidelines for text books, as well as for recreational and complementary reading books for children and young people.
    - Evaluation of the educational items offered in Venezuela and production by its own publishing firm, "EKARE", of original materials suited to the characteristics and needs of the country.

## 2.2. School Libraries

### Caracas

In 1962 the Banco del Libro organized and started the operation of nine school libraries in different elementary public schools located in Caracas. This programme has obtained the active cooperation of private enterprises. From then on it has increased its activities in this field.

### Ciudad Guyana

In 1965, the Banco del Libro the Corporación Venezolana de Guyana with a project to establish didactic resource centres to take care of the six existing libraries in the zone, which included equipment and training of personnel responsible for their organization and management, with special emphasis on the experimentation of services and the utilization of special materials such as didactic toys and reading matter. This projects, which still includes the Ministerio de Educación Nacional, the Corporación Venezolana de Guayana and the Banco del Libro, has become one of the pilot experiments of Latin America in the field of school libraries and covers 25 schools. It is one of the professional methodological centres that has outlined, among other plans of special interest, programmes for the integration of public and school libraries services, library orientation and training for the assistant personnel of school libraries, and holiday seasons for school children, all of which function around reading, libraries, books and the knowledge of national reality, and are aimed at proposing the establishment in Venezuela of a national system of school libraries and the inclusion of School Librarianship in university programmes.

Ciudad Guyana's programme has a central school library (apprenticeship centre), circulating libraries, bibliobuses and travelling boxes, school-class libraries, and a professional library specialized in education and pedagogy. This way, the services are evaluated through different means in order to determine the most appropriate ones for the Venezuelan schools and communities, plus those to be recommended to other Latin American countries.

This programme also has one centre for the demonstration, publication and distribution of educational materials and, besides, executes centralized technical tasks for the whole project and workshops to produce materials where the teachers of the region are trained in the preparation of non bibliographic materials to back their educational tasks.

### 2.3. Public library services experimental programme in Caracas

The Banco del Libro is developing in Caracas a public libraries experimental network which was originated in 1961 and 1963 with the creation of four reading parlors in different Caracas quarters. Three of them were located in underprivileged population zones and were oriented towards adolescents.

The programme had backing from the private sector, the community, the official sector and the Banco del Libro.

For the development of the programme there is a central public library which is the network nucleus as well as other libraries located in underprivileged city areas and an active bibliobus service. The "Mariano Picon Salas" library is a network core centralizing administrative functions, concentrating audiovisual equipment and coordinating interlibrary lending.

The programme is also coordinated through the public libraries system in the metropolitan area which depends on the Instituto Autónomo Biblioteca Nacional y de Servicios de Bibliotecas -IABN-. The experiments of the Banco del Libro which prove to be positive, are transferred to the metropolitan system in the regular activities programme after having been evaluated by the IABN.

For this programme the Banco del Libro has specially tested the CERAP model (CERAP is the Resources Experimental Centres for Permanent Learning) which is perhaps one of the most important examples of public and school library integration services. Thanks to this programme, the Banco del Libro is elaborating and testing a learning services model based in the broadening of the field of action as well as of public libraries functions and endowment to convert them into permanent educational services adapted to the needs and characteristics of the social surrounding. In its organizational and administrative basis, the CERAP model is made up of a resources and activities ensemble in the recreational, information, school studies backing and self-educated study backing areas.

## 2.4. Library training

For different reasons, most of the personnel responsible for the organization and functioning of school and public libraries, lack professional library training, making this one of the most urgent needs. To cope with this deficiency, the Banco del Libro has at its disposal a training department whose goal has been defined as follows: "To continuously library personnel required by the Banco del Libro to organize, develop and widen its library services and to develop a training model to be used by those institutions wishing to adopt the Banco del Libro version". (1).

In addition to the practical seminars, offered, it has produced versatile printed and audio-visual material that benefits "in situ" training adaptable to the specific needs of the personnel.

### 2.5. Studies and research

Studies of different kinds are being undertaken in relation to reading habit creation and the influence of public and school libraries in promoting and maintaining this habit. At present, in Venezuela, the Banco del Libro is adapting a Reading Habit, Interest and Capability Research program. This was designed and is being promoted by the Regional Centre for the Promotion of Books in Latin America and the Caribbean -CERLAL- for all countries the region. It is also undertaking important studies orientated towards the establishment and evaluation of public and school library systems in Venezuela.

### 2.6. Children's publishing and Educational Material Development

The work performed by the Banco del Libro in this field is worth special recognition due to the quality of format and content. In 1977, the Bank founded the publishing house, EKARE whose main objective was to produce bibliographic material for Venezuelan children and adolescents. The children's book market in Latin America has greatly welcomed EKARE publications. Presently it is participating in the first Book Copublications Programme for Children with a tale and legend collection from the region in cooperation with Argentinian, Brazilian and Colombian publishers. EKARE has also extensively used bibliobuses in the Banco del Libro that serve as circulating bookshops as well.

The introduction of this publishing branch has turned the Banco del Libro into a pioneer institution in reading promotion in the area.

### 2.7. Reading Habit Promotion Activities

To perform these activities, the Banco del Libro uses its own libraries, bibliobuses and travelling boxes; promotes literary contests, contact with writers, educators, artists, philologists, folklorists, publishers and booksellers with the purpose of obtaining a greater mutual among them understanding and cooperation in activities designed to promote reading. One of its most innovating and original programmes is the one related "Vacational Programmes" that take place at the Central libraries Caracas and Guayana City. During the 30 day vacation period, libraries coordinate an intensive creation and training activity for children that stimulates reading and research habits. Every year an updated theme of interest is selected for children and youngsters to work on, starting with bibliographic research. In this activity, they employ puppets, paintings, dances, musical creations, theatre and literary creations among other things, developed through their previous book research.

(1) Banco del Libro. Annual Report, 1974, pg. 20

### 3. CONTRIBUTION OF CENTRALIZED INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS TO THE LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT: THE REGIONAL CENTRE FOR THE PROMOTION OF BOOKS IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

The Book, that model friend that offers everything and asks for nothing in return, presents us with unique advantages over the cinema, radio or television. It doesn't force us to dwell on what the advertising agencies would like us to and unlike the film industry, it doesn't limit us to the small amount of movies being shown at a given time. On the contrary, a reader has at his disposal a vast selection of the best works from yesteryear to the present day. He can read that which interests him at his own pace, whenever, wherever and however he likes. This versatility bestows upon the Book an inimitable value for both the education and entertainment of the reader. The Book also records and conveys past cultures thereby allowing us a profound understanding of and insight into them.

The Regional Centre for the Promotion of Books in Latin America and the Caribbean -CERLAL- was created to stimulate the production, diffusion and free circulation of books in Latin America and the Caribbean.

#### What is CERLAL?

CERLAL is an international organization formed by an Agreement between the Colombian government and UNESCO, later co-signees being: Argentina, Bolivia, Brasil, Costa Rica, Chile, Ecuador, El Salvador, Panama, Paraguay, Dominican Republic, Uruguay and Venezuela. Spain also forms part of CERLAL as an Affiliate Country. In 1981, Mexico, Nicaragua and Peru made the initial gestures to become members. CERLAL's head office is at: Calle 70 No. 9-52, BOGOTA D.E., Colombia.

#### CERLAL's History

The Regional Centre for the Promotion of Books in Latin America and the Caribbean -CERLAL- forms part of a vast book promotion program sponsored by UNESCO in various areas of the world. Other Centres are located in Tokyo, Japan and Karachi, Pakistan for the continent of Asia; and Jaoundé, Camerun for the continent of Africa.

The creation of this Centre was fostered by UNESCO and the Colombian government. Then in 1969, a group of book publishing and distribution experts met in Bogota and recommended that the Centre should be established in Colombia, a country which happens to have a young but maturing publishing industry and which is geographically placed equidistant from the big publishing poles of Latin America and the Caribbean.

In April 1971, the Colombian government and UNESCO signed an agreement to the effect, which was later endorsed by the Colombian Congress with Legislation No. 27 of December 14, 1971. In 1977, the Agreement was amended and CERLAL's general area was expanded to include the Caribbean. In 1981, talks were initiated to discuss ways to coordinate CERLAL's subregional mechanisms: one in the South and another in the Caribbean.

#### Goals and Operations

According to Article 8 of CERLAL's Constitution, the Centre is committed to stimulate the production and distribution of books and to encourage reading habits, especially by assisting and establishment of local development programmes such as adequate national public and school library systems in each country.

To carry out these objectives, CERLAL is engaged in the following:

1. The stimulation of coordinated policy planning between government and private enterprises in the Region which are involved in the production, diffusion and distribution of books in Latin America and the Caribbean.
2. Encouraging the adoption of certain measures designed to expand and coordinate the regional book market with the aim of eventually establishing a Common Market.
3. Encouraging national books promotion activities and participating in them jointly interested public and private enterprises.

4. Conducting systematic surveys on reading habits, levels and interests.

5. Conducting studies into different educational and socioeconomic sectors to discover the most appropriate form of stimulating reading habits.

6. Creating strategies for the efficient training and equipping of personnel involved in the production and diffusion of books as well as stimulating reading habits in the market.

7. Conducting studies into copyrights while offering legal advice to governments, institutes and individuals so that these laws are respected in international conferences and by national legislation alike. Also in helping to formulate strategies enabling different peoples of the Region to have open access to the sources of universal culture.

8. Offering advice and collaboration to better the services provided by public and school libraries in the Latin America and Caribbean countries.

9. Compiling statistics and cataloging documents showing the production, distribution, commercialization of and demand for books, and making this information available for examination by any of the regional countries.

10. To endeavour to regularly publish an up-to-date bibliography of those books produced in the Region.

11. Establishing an indexed, technical document and information service outlining each step from the creation and diffusion of a book to the reading of it, plus information on copyrights.

#### Organization and Direction

The maximum authority in CERLAL is the "Council" which is made up of representatives from the Founding Country, the member countries and UNESCO.

The Executive Committee, being comprised of representatives from UNESCO, the Colombian government and six countries named by the Council, which are: Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Chile, Spain and Venezuela, offers immediate technical assistance to the Director of CERLAL.

The Director of the Centre is the executor of the policies laid out by the Council and Committee which govern CERLAL's regional activity.

The Director is assisted by a Secretary General and two under-secretaries one technical and one administrative.

#### What does CERLAL do?

CERLAL's plans are not a little ambitious. The Centre is fully aware of the necessity to adapt its operative methods to the vast needs of the Region in the publishing and reading-promotion spheres.

CERLAL has noted that there are a number of different professional qualifications needed in both the public and private sectors of creation, production and circulation of the Book and has organized its programs around several "hubs" of activities which are explained as follows:

A. *Personnel Training* in every branch and section of book production, distribution and circulation.

In its 10 years of operation, CERLAL has organized 20 international and national courses dealing with a wide range of topics related to the publishing industry; namely copyrights, international circulation, art and book illustration to name just a few, to which more than 500 people have participated from every Latin America and Caribbean country.

Lately, these courses have used audio-visual aids which has prompted CERLAL to sponsor the making of new audio-visual courses for librarians, booksellers, artists and book illustrators.

B. *Studies and Investigations.* In order to concentrate on the real needs and pinpoint the specific problems facing book production and distribution in Latin America and the Caribbean, CERLAL is conducting its investigations in collaboration with government and private enterprises from every regional country and various international development agencies.

As a result of this collaboration, studies can be carried out to record book production in every country thereby enabling a positive national book policy to be introduced. It also allows an analytical breakdown of these studies, permitting a comparison of the problems inherent in the different areas plus up-to-date information on various subjects related to books and to reading.

Similar studies are being conducted on import tariffs for books or their raw materials, on costs



structure and the personnel training necessary in the publishing sector, on school and public libraries, on university publishing characteristics and regional needs and on the production and distribution of government publications. These are some of the most important studies that CERALAL is presently involved in.

In the reading field, one of the most important tasks being carried out at the present is an investigation into reading habits and interests in Latin America and the Caribbean. The aim of this investigation is to provide the public and private sectors of the regional publishing industry in each country with facts and figures to enable them to formulate cultural and educational strategies while keeping a balance between the supply of books and the development of reading habits in the market. The investigation concentrates on children's reading habits, abilities and interests, to try and determine the main influencing factors in a child's early years that stimulate reading habits which will consequently remain in the adult. It examines, among other things, the possibilities offered by educational institutions to contribute to stimulating and encouraging reading habits in children. It also monitors the reading habits and interests of teaching staff and their resulting negative or positive effects on children's reading activities; how the frequency of parent's reading habits affect those of their children and whether this depends on the educational and socioeconomical background of the family, etc.; how a child's understanding of what he reads influences his abilities later on in life, his use of vocabulary and the number of words he can read in a minute.

In addition to the above, there are plans to develop an explanatory map that will present social models according to the acquired reading habits of children. This will outline concepts, methods and instruments used to permit similar studies in other Latin American and Caribbean countries. These studies are conducted mainly in collaboration with national and international organizations like UNESCO; the International Development Investigation Centre -IDRC- of Canada; the International Federation of Associated Libraries and Librarians -IFLA-; the Executive Secretary of the Andrés Bello Agreement -SECAB-; the UNESCO Regional Offices for Latin America which deal with culture and education; and the Regional Centre of Superior Education for Latin America and the Caribbean -CRESALC-.

*C. Copyrights. UNESCO-CERALAL Information Service.* The subject, which holds great interest for Latin American and Caribbean countries today is dealt with in part by advice like that previously mentioned. However, constant reference is made to the national copyrights, and any changes which may occur to these due to influence on certain governments from the outcome of international conferences being held on the matter are duly noted.

An important contribution is made by the Regional Information Service which the Centre, in conjunction with the UNESCO's Copyrights Division offers. The Service collects, digests and makes available every piece of information related to this subject either from the Latin American and Caribbean countries or others which are of interest for the regional countries. It also attends special requests from governments and private enterprises while at the same time providing a service to inform and train personnel in the new technologies as they arrive and their resultant effect on copyrights. Comparative studies on copyrights laws in the countries of the Region held through his programme.

*D. Regional Book and Reading Information Service.* In its quarterly magazine, CERALAL provides statistical and bibliographical information on production, translation, adaptation and commercialization of the Book in every Latin American and Caribbean country and the Region as a whole. There is also a list with a brief description of each book printed in the Region during that period; a statistical yearbook on books in Latin America and the Caribbean will be published since 1982. Permanent information on scholarships, conferences, book exhibitions, researches in progress related to books and reading in Latin America and the Caribbean or the other countries, as well as information on specialized courses on book publishing and related themes.

*F. Public and School Libraries* are considered to be the prime factor in the information of reading interests and habits and book circulation. CERALAL puts special emphasis on the careful training of personnel for this type of library while encouraging the collaboration of the regional

governments with these libraries enabling them to offer a better service. It also sponsors the training of professionals, and non-professionals alike in this field and acts as the vehicle for an exchange of knowledge and experience between all the countries in the Region.

*G. Promoting interest in reading.* In order to complement government and international organizations in their efforts to encourage constant reading habits in their populations, CERALAL helps organize national or international campaigns in the Region concerned. These activities to promote interest on reading, depending stances and local conditions, are directed at:

- Authors, illustrators and translators; by offering prizes, encouraging talks in classrooms, and offering television and radio coverage for conferences and public debates.
- Editors, booksellers and distributors; by helping in the organization for national and book trade fairs, helping to establish school bookshops and bookshop-libraries, organizing courses and conferences on book distribution and studies into community book-reading interests and needs.
- Communities, through local schools, libraries, etc.; reminding families of "story time", night-time, reading, encouraging community events to discuss reading matters or books, organizing reading clubs and group lectures and discussions for parents, publishing childrens' stories or literary creations in the community newspapers and other locally-produced publications, teaching children and youngsters to familiarize themselves with the various parts of a book, with basic techniques of book preservation and restoration and where they can choose books to read in their recreation time, while also organizing seminars to teach members of the same community to read, etc.

For these campaigns, help is sought from radio and television to enable an examination of the relationship between traditional oral and written tongues, to encourage the swapping of books and their conservation as instruments to record native cultures; to organize the publication of books describing new books on the market; to organize reading competitions, and particularly, speeches on specific books and the subject of reading; to encourage the printing of postage stamps with book motifs and finally to generally equip speakers for occasional or regular talk shows about books on the radio and television.

When the campaigns have finished, government publishing companies and other professional organizations involved in book production and circulation are encouraged to coordinate policy planning with the aim of developing the sector on a national scale, or to incorporate said policies into the global planning of the Region as a whole, this being done by defining means to adapt them to the particular book-promotion policies employed by the other regional governments. This takes into account administrative laws covering book promotion and copyrights, tax contribution, Customs restrictions, unrestricted circulation, difficulties created by monetary controls which hinder the transfer of funds for importations or exportations and circulation of book within the Region.

*H. Publications.* In addition to didactic materials being prepared for the different courses and seminars being given by CERALAL and UNESCO or to provide back-up material as in the case of audio-visual aids, CERALAL produces a series of regular publications, like "Book News Magazine", which together with "Bibliography Bulletin", is printed quarterly. The "Handbook of Foreign Book Courses and Scholarships", the "Latin American and Caribbean Book Statistics Yearbook", the "Monograph Series" concerned with national studies on the different aspects of book production and circulation and the collection called "Documents" which catalogues the results, conclusions, recommendations and reports on the different seminars organized by CERALAL. Generally speaking, CERALAL's activities cover aspects concerning authors, editors, publishers, distributors, booksellers, librarians, readers and the governments of each country, these being the different stages involved in the creation, promotion and circulation of books.

CERALAL would like to work in close cooperation with the organizations involved in book productions and distribution; in the promotion of interest in reading and the development of school and public libraries.

Said requests could refer to courses, seminars, specialist investigations, help in conducting studies

into CERNAL's specialized areas, financial contributions or technical assistance to organize or take part in international book trade fairs in Latin America and the Caribbean, etc. Once an application has been examined by the Director of the Centre, it is passed on to the Executive Committee for their approval, they being the body responsible for coordinating programs and fixing the yearly budget based on guidelines previously established by CERNAL's Council.

#### Conclusion

Professional library organizations have at their disposal a number of expertly organized programs which they could participate in, if so desired, not only with the idea of receiving benefits but also to contribute to the expansion and improvement of these services to all communities. A side benefit of this is the up-to-date training that all personnel involved in said programmes will receive, enabling a thoroughly professional market attitude in all areas of library and information services.

ANEXO No. 1 - 112/PLE/8-E

#### ASOCIACIONES DE BIBLIOTECARIOS, DOCUMENTALISTAS Y ESPECIALISTAS DE LA INFORMACION EN AMERICA LATINA Y EL CARIBE

##### A. ASOCIACIONES NACIONALES (NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS)

###### ARGENTINA :

ASOCIACION DE BIBLIOTECARIOS GRADUADOS DE LA REPUBLICA DE ARGENTINA  
-ABGRA-  
Rodríguez Peña 846, 2o. Piso, Of. 6 - Casilla de Correo 68, Suc. 1  
1401 BUENOS AIRES  
(Presidente : Nilo Sidero )  
Publica : boletín informativo, memoria anual, documentos ocasionales, actas, documentos  
de base de reuniones nacionales.

ASOCIACION DE EX-ALUMNOS DE LA ESCUELA NACIONAL DE BIBLIOTECARIOS  
C/o. Biblioteca Nacional  
México 564 - BUENOS AIRES

COLEGIO DE BIBLIOTECARIOS DE LA PROVINCIA DE BUENOS AIRES  
Calle 48 No. 633, Piso 3 - Of. 315  
1900 LA PLATA

ASOCIACION ARGENTINA DE BIBLIOTECAS Y CENTROS DE INFORMACION  
CIENTIFICOS Y TECNICOS  
SANTA FE 1145  
(Secretaria Ejecutiva : Olga E. Veronelli)  
Publica : Union catalog of scientific and technical publication

ASOCIACION ARCHIVISTA ARGENTINA  
Avenida Córdoba 1556 - BUENOS AIRES  
Agrupa organizaciones y personas interesados en archivos históricos y administrativos.  
Promueve el estudio, el entrenamiento profesional y la investigación en este campo.  
Publica : boletín

ASOCIACION BERNARDINO RIVADIVA - Biblioteca Popular  
Avenida Colón 31 - 8000 BAHIA BLANCA  
Publica : boletín informativo

COMISION PROTECTORA DE BIBLIOTECAS POPULARES  
Callao 1540 - BUENOS AIRES  
Publica : boletín

###### BARBADOS :

THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF BARBADOS  
P.O. Box 827 E - BRIDGETOWN  
(Secretaria : Joan Brathwaite)  
Publica : Boletín of the Library Association (anual)  
Promueve el desarrollo y mantenimiento de bibliotecas y la cooperación entre ellas; reuniones.

- BELIZE :** BELIZE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION  
Central Library, Bliss Institute  
P.O. Box 287  
BELIZE CITY
- BOLIVIA :** ASOCIACION BOLIVIANA DE BIBLIOTECARIOS -ABB-  
Casilla 658 - COCHABAMBA
- BRASIL :** ASSOCIACAO PAULISTA DE BIBLIOTECARIOS  
Rua 13 de Maio 1100 - 3o. Andar G 32  
01327 SAO PAULO - SP
- FEDERACAO BRASILEIRA DE ASSOCIACOES DE BIBLIOTECARIOS -FEBAB-  
Rua Avanhandava 40, Conj. 110,  
01306 SAO PAULO
- ASSOCIACAO BRASILEIRA DE BIBLIOTECARIOS -IBBD-  
Ave. General Justo 171, 4o. Andar  
RIO DE JANEIRO
- ASSOCIACAO DOS ARQUIVISTAS BRASILEIROS  
Praia de Botafogo 186, Sala B - 217  
22253 RIO DE JANEIRO  
(Presidente : Marilena Leiti Paes )  
Publica : Arquivo e Administracao  
Coopera con organizaciones del gobierno nacionales e internacionales en todo lo relacionado con archivos y documentación; organiza cursos y conferencias.
- ASSOCIACAO RIOBRANDENSE DE BIBLIOTECARIOS  
CP 2344 Porto Alegre  
RIO GRANDE DO SUL
- COMISSAO BRASILEIRA DE DOCUMENTACAO AGRICOLA -CBDA-  
C/o. Museu Paraense Emilio Goeldi  
CP 399, Belem, Para  
(Secretaria : Cely Farias Raphael)
- CONSELHO FEDERAL DE BIBLIOTECONOMIA -CFB-  
Edifício Márcia, Sala 211 - SC Sul - BRASILIA  
(Secretaria Ejecutiva :  
Actúa como cuerpo fiscalizador y de control de las actividades profesionales en el Brasil;  
10 Consejos regionales.
- FEDERACAO BRASILEIRA DE ASSOCIACOES DE BIBLIOTECARIOS  
Comissao Brasileira de Documentacao Juridica -FEBAB/CBDJ-  
Rua Prof. Antonio Maria Tuxeira 120 ap. 802  
Leblon, 22430 - RIO DE JANEIRO  
(Presidente : Nylma Thereza de Salles Velloso Amarante )  
Publica : Revista Brasileira de Biblioteconomia e Documentacao Jornal da FEBAB  
Actúa como coordinador de las asociaciones bibliotecarias a nivel nacional; sirve como centro de documentación y bibliografía para el Brasil.
- COLOMBIA :** ASOCIACION COLOMBIANA DE BIBLIOTECARIOS -ASCOLBI-  
Apartado Aéreo 30883 - BOGOTA  
Publica : Boletín  
Contribuye al desarrollo económico, cultural y social del país, mediante el desarrollo integral de los servicios bibliotecarios, de documentación e información; promueve la cooperación e integración bibliotecaria; fomenta el intercambio de conocimientos y experiencias profesionales y el desarrollo de la enseñanza de la bibliotecología y las ciencias de la información.
- BIBLIOTECARIOS AGRICOLAS COLOMBIANOS  
C/o. Biblioteca de Tibaitatá  
Apartado Aéreo 7984 - BOGOTA  
(Secretaría : Héctor Galeano )
- COLEGIO DE BIBLIOTECARIOS COLOMBIANOS  
Apartado Aéreo 3212 - BOGOTA  
Publica : boletín
- ASOCIACION DE BIBLIOTECARIOS AUXILIARES DE RISARALDA  
Biblioteca Universidad Tecnológica de Pereira  
PEREIRA  
(Saul Sánchez Toro)
- ASOCIACION COLOMBIANA DE ARCHIVISTAS -ACAR-  
Apartado Aéreo 6160 - MEDELLIN
- GRUPO DE UNIDADES DE INFORMACION ESPECIALIZADA DE MEDELLIN -GUIE-  
MEDELLIN  
Elabora herramientas bibliográficas diversas que permitan suministrar información específica en forma rápida y oportuna. Capacitar el personal que labora en estas unidades de información y promover la cooperación y el intercambio de información.
- ASOCIACION DE EGRESADOS DE BIBLIOTECOLOGIA Y ARCHIVISTICA DE LA  
UNIVERSIDAD DE LA SALLE -ASEBIAR-  
Calle 11 No. 1-47  
BOGOTA
- BIBLIOTECOLOGOS JAVERIANOS ASOCIADOS -BIJAV-  
Departamento de Bibliotecología  
Facultad de Filosofía y Letras  
Universidad Javeriana  
Carrera 7a. No. 40-62  
BOGOTA



|               |  |  |             |  |  |
|---------------|--|--|-------------|--|--|
| COSTA RICA :  | <p>ASOCIACION COSTARRICENSE DE BIBLIOTECARIOS<br/>Apartado 3308<br/>SAN JOSE<br/>( Secretaría General : Nelly Kopper )<br/>Publica : boletín (irregular); anuario bibliográfico costarricense; responsable de la bibliografía nacional.<br/><br/>Vela por el mejoramiento y desarrollo de las bibliotecas y la capacitación técnica del personal que presta en ellas sus servicios. Fomenta la cooperación bibliotecaria dentro y fuera del país.</p> <p>COLEGIO DE BIBLIOTECARIOS DE COSTA RICA<br/>Biblioteca de la Universidad de Costa Rica<br/>Telf. 25 73 72<br/>SAN JOSE<br/>Promueve e impulsa el estudio y enseñanza de la ciencia bibliotecaria; vela por la protección y dignificación de la profesión en todos sus aspectos.</p> |  |             |  |  |
|               |  |  | GUATEMALA : | ASOCIACION BIBLIOTECOLOGICA GUATEMALTECA<br>C/o. Director Biblioteca Nacional de Guatemala<br>5a. Avenida 7-26, Zona 1<br>GUATEMALA                                    |  |
|               |  |  | GUYANA :    | GUYANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION<br>76-77 Main Street<br>P.O. Box 110<br>GEORGETOWN<br>Publica : Bulletin  |  |
| CURACAO :     | CURACAOSE ARCHIEF - BIBLIOTHEEK -EN DOCUMENTATIE<br>VERENIGING - CABDV-<br>Drukkerijstraat 4,<br>WILLEMTAD   |  | HONDURAS :  | ASOCIACION DE BIBLIOTECARIOS Y ARCHIVEROS DE HONDURAS<br>3 Avenidas, 4 y 5 Calles No. 416 Comayagüela, D.C.<br>TEGUCIGALPA<br>Publica : Catálogo de préstamo (mensual) |  |
| CUBA :        | COLEGIO NACIONAL DE BIBLIOTECARIOS UNIVERSITARIOS<br>C/o. National Library<br>Plaza de la Revolución<br>LA HABANA  |  | JAMAICA :   | JAMAICA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION<br>P.O. Box 58<br>KINGSTON 5<br>Publica : Bulletin (anual)   |  |
| CHILE :       | ASOCIACION CHILENA DE BIBLIOTECARIOS<br>Casilla 3741<br>SANTIAGO DE CHILE<br>Publica : Bibliotheko   |  | MEXICO :    | ASOCIACION DE BIBLIOTECARIOS DE INSTITUCIONES DE ENSEÑANZA<br>SUPERIOR E INVESTIGACION -ABIESI-<br>Apartado Postal 5-611<br>MEXICO 5, D.F.                             |  |
|               | COLEGIO DE BIBLIOTECARIOS DE CHILE<br>Diagonal Paraguay 383<br>Torre II, Departamento 122, Casilla 3741<br>SANTIAGO DE CHILE<br>Publica : boletín (trimestral); monografías seriadas de documentación; noticias (trimestral);<br>Índices de publicaciones periódicas en bibliotecología (cada 2 años).<br><br>Vela por el prestigio, prerrogativas y ética de la profesión del bibliotecario, mantiene la disciplina profesional, defiende los derechos bibliotecarios y contribuye a su perfeccionamiento.  |  |             | ASOCIACION MEXICANA DE BIBLIOTECARIOS -AMBAC-<br>Apartado Postal 27-132<br>MEXICO 7, D.F.<br>Publica : Noticiero de la AMBAC (trimestral)                              |  |
|               |  |  |             | SOCIEDAD MEXICANA DE BIBLIOGRAFIA<br>Hemeroteca Nacional<br>Carmen y San Ildefonso<br>MEXICO, D.F.<br>Publica : Boletín (trimestral)                                   |  |
| ECUADOR :     | ASOCIACION ECUATORIANA DE BIBLIOTECARIOS -AEB-<br>Casa de la Cultura Ecuatoriana<br>Casilla 87<br>QUITO<br>Publica : Unidad bibliotecaria.   |  | NICARAGUA : | ASOCIACION DE BIBLIOTECAS UNIVERSITARIAS Y ESPECIALIZADAS DE NICARAGUA<br>Apartado 68<br>LEON<br>Publica : boletín - Responsables : René María Meyer ; Walterio López  |  |
| EL SALVADOR : | ASOCIACION DE BIBLIOTECARIOS DE EL SALVADOR<br>Urbanización Gerardo Barrios, Polígono B, No. 5<br>SAN SALVADOR<br>Publica : Informa (mensual)  |  |             | ASOCIACION NICARAGUENSE DE BIBLIOTECARIOS -ASNIBI-<br>Biblioteca Nacional<br>Ministerio de Educación Pública<br>Barrio "La Fuente"<br>MANAGUA                          |  |

|            |  |                     |   |
|------------|--|---------------------|---|
| PANAMA :   | <p>ASOCIACION DE BIBLIOTECARIOS GRADUADOS DEL ITSMO DE PANAMA<br/>C/o. Director, Biblioteca de la Universidad de Panamá<br/>Estafeta de la Universidad<br/>PANAMA 3.</p> <p>ASOCIACION PANAMEÑA DE BIBLIOTECARIOS<br/>Apartado 3435<br/>PANAMA<br/>Publica : boletín</p>   | PUERTO RICO :       | <p>SOCIEDAD DE BIBLIOTECARIOS DE PUERTO RICO<br/>Apartado 22898<br/>Universidad de Puerto Rico<br/>Rio Piedras<br/>PUERTO RICO 00931<br/>Publica : Boletín; Informa; Cuadernos bibliotecológicos; Cuadernos bibliográficos.</p>   |
| PARAGUAY : | <p>ASOCIACION DE BIBLIOTECARIOS DEL PARAGUAY<br/>Casilla de Correos 1505<br/>ASUNCION<br/>Publica : Revista de bibliotecología y documentación Paraguaya</p> <p>ASOCIACION DE BIBLIOTECARIOS UNIVERSITARIOS DEL PARAGUAY<br/>C/o. Profesor Yoshiko M de Freundorfer<br/>Head, Escuela de Bibliotecología<br/>Universidad Nacional de Asunción<br/>ASUNCION</p> <p>COMISION PARAGUAYA DE DOCUMENTACION E INFORMACION<br/>C/o. Instituto de Ciencias<br/>Universidad Nacional<br/>Ave. España 1098<br/>ASUNCION</p>  | REP. DOMINICANA :   | <p>ASOCIACION DOMINICANA DE BIBLIOTECARIOS -ASODOBI-<br/>Biblioteca Nacional<br/>César Nicolás Penson, 136<br/>SANTO DOMINGO<br/>Publica : El Papiro</p> <p>GRUPO BIBLIOGRAFICO NACIONAL DE LA REPUBLICA DOMINICANA<br/>C/o. Emilio Rodríguez de Morizi,<br/>Director Archivo General de la Nación<br/>Calle Chiclana de la Frontera<br/>SANTO DOMINGO</p>  |
| PERU :     | <p>ASOCIACION PERUANA DE BIBLIOTECARIOS<br/>Bellavista 561<br/>Apartado Postal 3760<br/>LIMA 18<br/>Publica : Carta informativa</p> <p>ASOCIACION DE BIBLIOTECAS AGRICOLAS<br/>C/o. Biblioteca, Universidad Nacional Agraria<br/>LA MOLINA, LIMA</p> <p>ASOCIACION PERUANA DE ARCHIVEROS<br/>Archivo General de la Nación<br/>Calle Manuel Cuadros S/n.<br/>Palacio de Justicia<br/>Apartado 1802<br/>LIMA</p> <p>AGRUPACION DE BIBLIOTECARIOS PARA LA INTEGRACION SOCIO-ECONOMICA<br/>-ABIIE-<br/>Apartado 2874<br/>LIMA 100<br/>Publica : Directorio de bibliotecas especializadas del Perú.</p> | URUGUAY :           | <p>ASOCIACION DE BIBLIOTECOLOGOS Y AFINES DEL URUGUAY<br/>Entre Ríos 1118<br/>MONTEVIDEO</p> <p>AGRUPACION BIBLIOTECOLOGICA DEL URUGUAY<br/>Cerro Largo 1666<br/>MONTEVIDEO<br/>Publica : Bibliografía uruguaya sobre Brasil; Bibliografía y documentación en el Uruguay;<br/>Bibliografía bibliográfica y bibliotecológica</p> <p>ASOCIACION DE BIBLIOTECARIOS DEL URUGUAY<br/>N/D Ibicuy<br/>1276 - Esc. No. 3,<br/>Casilla de Correo 1415<br/>MONTEVIDEO</p> |
|            |  | TRINIDAD Y TOBAGO : | <p>LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO<br/>P.O. Box 1177<br/>PORT OF SPAIN<br/>Publica : Bulletin</p>  |
|            |  | VENEZUELA :         | <p>COLEGIO DE BIBLIOTECOLOGOS Y ARCHIVOLOGOS DE VENEZUELA<br/>Apartado 6283<br/>CARACAS<br/>Publica : Boletín informativo.</p>  |

B. ASOCIACIONES INTERNACIONALES (INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS)

Con sede en :

ARGENTINA FUNDACION INTERAMERICANA DE BIBLIOTECOLOGIA  
Franklin  
BUENOS AIRES

COSTA RICA ASOCIACION INTERAMERICANA DE BIBLIOTECARIOS Y  
DOCUMENTALISTAS AGRICOLAS -AIBDA-  
IICA-CIDIA  
Cód. Postal 7170  
TURRIALBA  
( Secretaria Ejecutiva : Ana María Paz de Erickson )

MEXICO  
*Se de 1976  
esta en  
Colombia.*  
ASOCIACION LATINOAMERICANA DE ESCUELAS DE BIBLIOTE-  
COLOGIA Y CIENCIAS DE LA INFORMACION -ALEBCI-  
Colegio de Bibliotecología  
Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México  
MEXICO 20, D.F.

Contribuye de manera organizada y progresiva al perfeccionamiento de la edu-  
cación en bibliotecología y ciencias de la información en América Latina.

PUERTO RICO ASSOCIATION OF CARIBBEAN UNIVERSITY, RESEARCH AND  
INSTITUTIONAL LIBRARIES -ACURIL-  
Box S, University Station  
SAN JUAN - PUERTO RICO 00931

Facilita el desarrollo y uso de las bibliotecas y fortalece las diversas colecciones  
para apoyar toda empresa cultural y educativa en el Caribe. Ayuda a enaltecer  
la profesión del bibliotecario y promueve actividades cooperativas para lograr  
esos fines.

JAMAICA COMMONWEALTH LIBRARY ASSOCIATION  
P.O. Box 534  
KINGSTON

Publica : COMLA Newsletter

Promueve y mantiene vínculos entre bibliotecarios. Promueve el status y la  
educación de bibliotecarios y el reconocimiento recíproco de calificaciones.

Inicia proyectos de investigación.

BRASIL

FEDERACION INTERNACIONAL DE DOCUMENTACION  
COMISION PARA AMERICA LATINA -FID/CLA-  
Avenida W/3 Norte, Quadra 511, Bloco "A"  
BRASILIA

Publica : Informaciones FID/CLA, Documentos de difusión.

Agrupar a nivel internacional organizaciones e individuos interesados en los  
problemas de documentación e información; promueve la investigación y  
desarrollo en el campo de la documentación e información y la aplicación  
de sus resultados; promueve el estudio, organización y práctica de la docu-  
mentación e información con el fin de mejorar la comunicación dentro y  
entre varias disciplinas y campos de trabajo.

COLOMBIA

ASOCIACION REGIONAL DE BIBLIOTECARIOS ESCOLARES  
LATINOAMERICANOS Y DEL CARIBE.

( En proceso de creación ).

IFLA - SECTION OF REGIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR LATIN AMERICA  
AND THE CARIBBEAN.

Apartado Aéreo 21817  
BOGOTA

( Secretaria : Lucila Martínez de Jiménez )

Publica : IFLA Noticias ( en Inglés y Español )

Estimula el desarrollo de programas para el mejoramiento de los servicios  
bibliotecarios y de información en los países de la región, para incorporarlos  
a los programas profesionales de IFLA. Actúa como organismo regional de  
IFLA en los asuntos relacionados con la participación en los programas de  
IFLA y verifica que los problemas de estos países estén reflejados en sus res-  
pectivos proyectos.