

PAN AMERICAN UNION

Resolution adopted by the Fifth International Conference of American States at Santiago May 1, 1923
Amended by resolution of February 20, 1928,¹ of the Sixth International Conference of American States

Report of the Delegates of the United States of America to the Fifth International Conference of American States, Held at Santiago, Chile, March 25 to May 3, 1923 (U.S. Government Printing Office, 1924), p. 125

ORGANIZATION OF THE PAN AMERICAN UNION

The Fifth International Conference of American States.

RESOLVES:

ARTICLE I. To confirm the existence of the Union of the Republics of the American Continent, which maintains under the name of the "Pan American Union," the institution which serves as its permanent organ and has its seat in the building of the American Republics, in the city of Washington.

ARTICLE II. The functions of the Pan American Union are:

1. To compile and distribute information and reports concerning the commercial, industrial, agricultural, and educational development, as well as the general progress of the American countries.
2. To compile and classify information referring to the Conventions and Treaties concluded among the American Republics and between these and other States, as well as to the legislation of the former.
3. To assist in the development of commercial and cultural relations between the American Republics and of their more intimate mutual acquaintance.
4. To act as a Permanent Commission of the International Conferences of American States; to keep their records and archives; to assist in obtaining ratification of the Treaties and Conventions, as well as compliance with the resolutions adopted; and to prepare the program and regulations of each Conference.

¹ *Post*, p. 730.

5. To submit to the various Governments, at the time of the holding of each Conference, a report upon the work of the institution since the adjournment of the last Conference, and also special reports upon any matters which may have been referred to it.

6. To perform such other functions entrusted to it by the Conference, or by the Governing Board by virtue of the powers conferred upon it by this resolution.

To carry out the purposes for which this institution is organized, the Governing Board shall provide for the establishment of such administrative divisions or sections within the Pan American Union as may be deemed necessary.

ARTICLE III. The Pan American Union will have the cooperation of the following Permanent Commissions, to be designated by the Governing Board:

1. For the development of economic and commercial relations between the American Republics.

2. For the study of all matters relating to the international organization of labor in America.

3. For the study of questions relating to hygiene in the countries of the Continent.

4. For the development of intellectual cooperation, with special reference to cooperation between universities.

ARTICLE IV. In the Capital of each of the Republics of America, that form the Pan American Union, there shall be established a Pan American Committee, attached to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and composed as far as possible of former Delegates to an International Conference of American States, or Pan American offices attached to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Committees or Offices shall have the following duties:

a) To assist in securing ratification of the Treaties and Conventions, as well as compliance with the resolutions adopted by the Conferences;

b) To furnish the Pan American Union promptly and in a complete manner, all the information it may need in the preparation of its work.

c) To present upon their own initiative, projects which they may consider adapted to the purposes of the Union, and to fulfill such other functions which in view of these purposes may be conferred upon them by the respective Governments.

ARTICLE V. The Governments of the American Republics enjoy, as of right, representation at the International Conferences of American States and in the Pan American Union.

The government of the Pan American Union shall be vested in a Governing Board, composed of the diplomatic representatives of the American Republics accredited to the Government of the United States of America, and the Secretary of State of that country.

An American Republic which for any reason may not have a diplomatic representative accredited to the Government of the United States of America, may appoint a special representative on the Governing Board. In case of the temporary absence, due to official leave or illness, of an Ambassador, Minister or Chargé d'Affaires accredited at Washington, he may be replaced on the Board, by a Special Representative of the respective Government, who may be selected from among the other members of the Governing Board, in which case such Representative shall have as many votes as States represented.

The Governing Board will elect its President and Vice President.

ARTICLE VI. The Governing Board shall appoint the following officers:

A Director General, who shall have charge of the administration of the Pan American Union, with power to promote its most ample development, in accordance with the terms of this resolution, with the regulations and with the resolutions of the Governing Board, to which he shall be responsible. He shall attend in an advisory capacity the meetings of the Governing Board, of the Committees, and of the International Conferences of American States, for the purpose of giving such information as may be required.

An Assistant Director who shall act as Secretary of the Governing Board.

The Governing Board shall determine the manner of appointment of the remainder of the personnel, as well as their duties and all matters affecting their welfare.

The Director General shall prepare, with the approval of the Governing Board and in accordance with this Resolution, the internal regulations by which the various services of the Pan American Union shall be governed.

ARTICLE VII. The Director General of the Pan American Union shall present at the regular session of the Governing Board in November, a detailed budget of the expenses of the next fiscal year. This budget, after being approved by the Governing Board, shall be communicated to the Governments members of the Union, with an indication of the quota, fixed in proportion to population, which each Government shall pay into the Treasury of the Pan American Union not later than the first of July of the following year.

The Governing Board shall elect from among its members a Committee charged with examining, on the dates determined by the Board, the accounts of the expenditures of the Union, in conformity with the financial arrangements established by the Regulations.

ARTICLE VIII. Whenever the Governing Board may so decide, publications shall be issued under the auspices of the Pan American Union relative to matters that may have been submitted to it. In order to assure the greatest possible accuracy in these publications, the Governments of the countries that form the Union, shall transmit directly to the Library of the Pan American Union, two copies of the official documents or publications which may relate to matters connected with the purposes of the Union.

All correspondence and publications of the Pan American Union shall be carried free of charge by the mails of the American Republics.

[The countries which participated in the Fifth International Conference of American States were as follows: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, the United States, Uruguay, and Venezuela.]