

**Annex :LATIN AMERICAN ASSOCIATION ON ARCHIVES- ALA**  
**Report to the 2014 ICA Annual International Conference, Gerona, Spain**

**Information to be provided by all:**

**0 Name of Branch, Section**

**Latin American Association on Archives (ALA)**

President: Jaime Antunes da Silva

General Director of Arquivo Nacional do Brasil

Praça da República 173- Centro

Rio de Janeiro- CEP 20211-350- Rio de Janeiro- Brasil

**1 Administration:**

The Latin American Association of Archives-ALA is composed, at present, by Spanish and Portuguese speaking countries of Latin America as well as by Spain and Portugal. It was founded in Lima on April 6, 1973 for the study and establishment of relations between public and private archival institutions and professional organisms in countries of Iberian archive tradition.

**1.1 Changes in membership and management**

In 2011, ALA elected the new Director Committee for the period 2011-2015:

- ✓ President: Jaime Antunes da Silva (Brazil)
- ✓ 1st Vice-President: Virginia Chacón (Costa Rica)
- ✓ 2nd Vice-President: Severiano Hernandez (Spain)
- ✓ Secretary General: Carlos Zapata (Colombia)- since July, 2013
- ✓ Vocal (1st): Alicia Casas de Barrán (Uruguay )
- ✓ Vocal (2nd): Silvestre de Almeida Lacerda (Portugal)
- ✓ Treasurer: Renato Diniz (Brazil)
- ✓ Executive Secretary: Maria Elisa Bustamante (Brazil)

The next General Assembly will be held in the frame of the “IX International Seminar on Iberian Archives – SIATI”, in Quito, Ecuador, in the year of 2015, when a new Director Committee will be formed for the period of 2015- 2019.

## 2 Programme: What We Do

### 2.1 Seminars, Conferences:

### 2.2 Conferences and Seminars

#### 2.2.1- **8<sup>TH</sup> International Seminar on Iberian Tradition Archives-SIATI 2013, July, 02 to 05- Bogotá, Colombia**

- Over 400 participants from Latin American and Caribbean countries;
- Special participation of David Leitch and Didier Grange;
- Annual Meeting of the ALA's Directors Committee;
- XV Meeting of the Intergovernmental for the IBERARCHIVOS- ADAI Program.

#### 2.2.2- **International Superior Conference on Archives/ISCA- 2013, November- 18 to 22- Paris, France**

- ALA gave a great support to the French Government stimulating an expressive assistance from our geographical region at the event;
- 56 professionals from 15 countries applied for 20 vacancies;
- Committee Board of ISCA selected 20 professionals from 11 countries;
- Results: This initiative allowed Latin American professionals a rich and dense exchange of cases, ideas, methods, strategies and experiences between the European and the Latin American continents;
- For this work, ALA's President received from the French Government the *Order des Arts and Letters Medal-OAL* as a distinction and recognition of his contribution to the France's culture.

#### 2.2.3- **ICA 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference- 2013, November, 21-23- Brussels, Belgium**

- Attendance of 10 National Archives Directors and professionals from Latin American (such as Eugenio Bustos Ruz (Chile), Natalia Cantillano Mora (Costa Rica), Mauricio Andrés Vázquez Bevilacqua (Uruguay), Oswaldo Villaseca Reyes (Chile), Eliana Leonor Gonzalez (Chile), María de las Mercedes de Vega Armijo (México), Rocio de Los Ángeles Pazmino Acuna (Ecuador), Jaime Antunes da Silva (Brazil), Carlos Alberto Zapata (Colombia); Bexie Rodríguez de León (Panamá), Douglas Vargas (Honduras) and Vitor Fonseca (Brazil));
- Definition of the activities promoted by ALA with the creation of 2014 ALA/Agenda as follows:

#### 2.2.4- **Elaboration of 2014 ALA's Agenda:**

|                |                     |     |   |
|----------------|---------------------|-----|---|
| 10-11<br>April | Paris /<br>France   | ICA | ICA's EB Meeting / FAN / PCOM / FIDA  |
| 28-29<br>April | Bogotá /<br>Colombi | ALA | Work Group Meeting of the Experts in Digital<br>Management and Preservation |

|                      |                   |           |   |
|----------------------|-------------------|-----------|---|
|                      | a                 |           |   |
| 30 April             | Bogotá / Colombia | ALA       | Technical Workshop with the Experts on Digital Management and Preservation  |
| 30 June and 1st July | Bogotá / Colombia | ALA AECID | XVI Meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee for the IBERARCHIVOS Program - ADAI  |
| 1 July               | Bogotá / Colombia | ALA       | Annual Meeting of ALA 's Director Committee   |
| 2-4 July             | Bogotá / Colombia | ALA       | Iberian-American Seminar on Conservation, Dissemination and Records Security  |
| 6-10 October         | Lisbon / Portugal | CONARQ    | Account balance of the 2012-2013 COLUSO activities  |
| 11-15 October        | Gerona / Spain    | ICA       | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference of the International Council on Archives<br>9 <sup>th</sup> European Conference on Archives |

## 2.3 Publications and Communications

### 2.3.1- E-magazine

- With the subvention of ICA Regional Branch of 5.000 Euros, ALA published in July 2013 its first e-magazine with the speeches presented at the *7th International Seminar on Iberian Tradition Archives - SIATI* held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 2011;
- The second e-magazine, that would be launched by the end of last year, with the speeches from the *8th SIATI* held in Bogotá, in July, 2013, has been postponed due to the fact that ALA hasn't received any article from the SIATI up to now.

### 2.3.2- Newsletter

- To continue stimulating and strengthening the relations with its members, associates and adherents, ALA granted with the Regional Branch, a financial support of 5.000 Euros for an electronic newsletter in its new website.
- 04 newsletter editions have been edited up to this date and sent to Latin American archival community. The last one will be launched in the beginning of October, one week before the ICA Annual Conference.

### 2.3.3- **ALA Website:** <http://www.ala-archivos.org/>

- The website is hosted by *Dreamhost* and the domain “.org” is maintained by *Locaweb*.
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### 2.3.4- **Results and impact on ALA regarding those new communication activities:**

- Increase of **62,5%** in the number of ALA's numbers mainly individual adhesions;
- The website has published 45 posts and has received the visit of 7.773 navigators which represents an increase of 75% over the previous year;
- A total of 2.523 visitors have been returned to the ALA's website which corresponds to 24,50% of the total visitors;
- More participation of experts in the Technical Commission;
- Necessity of introducing a new language version (English) in our site;
- Better communication and dialogue with the local community;
- Necessity of having new technological platforms as Facebook and Twitter;
- ALA is presenting to ICA's Board a new proposal for renovating the Regional Branch subvention for the period of 2014/2015 focusing on the development of a modern interface with the users of screens/smart phones, tablets and desktops based on ISO 1941-2010.

## 2.4 Studies, Actions and Projects

### 2.5 **IBERARCHIVOS- ADAI PROGRAM- Programa de Apoyo al Desarrollo de Archivos Iberoamericanos-(ADAI)-( Support to Development on Iberian Archives Program )**

- Project sponsored by Spain through the International Cooperation between the Spanish government and various Latin American Governments;
- The total amount of the fund in 2013 was 134.969.97;
- The AECID/Spain contributed with € 64.310,00 and the other countries contributed with € 8.500,00 each;
- ADAI's Meeting held annually. The latest happened in Bogotá, July in 2014;
- 05 newly adhered countries: El Salvador, Peru, Paraguay, Ecuador and Philippines (this one, an Iberian Traditional Country is very important to us);
- The total of countries is now 19;
- 47 projects were approved and released for execution; 107 projects were presented in 2014 to be approved and executed in 2015.

#### **2.4.1- Creation of Technical Commission of Experts on Management and Digital Preservation - CT**

- ALA published a Resolution on its website with the names of those 5 experts from Colombia, Mexico, Colombia, Brazil, Chile and Costa Rica and their profiles;
- Bogotá is the official and permanent head office of this Technical Commission – CT;
- This CT will be coordinated by the representative indicated by Colombia.

#### **2.4.2- Signature of a Cooperative agreement with *Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona-ESAGED - UAB* for on-line training**

- On-line courses on Internal Audit and Audit for the ISO 30300 certifications;
- 50 hours of on-line courses during the year of 2014;
- Benefits for ALA 's members: 10% Reduction on the registration fees and 5 scholarships;
- ALA's task: to promote the courses on its website and newsletters.

### **3 Suggestions: What We Would Like for the Future**

#### **3.1 Difficulties faced, solutions suggested**

- Payment of ALA's annuity is a limitation due to the fact that the bank normally consumes a third of the value through the bank commission. All members complain about this form of payment. The ideal process would be via credit card or PayPal;
- The association is suggestion to solve the problem and for the moment, ALA is advising its individual members to give the payment in cash to the Director of the National Archives of their country in order to forward this amount to the next annual ALA meeting. This measure intends to facilitate and stimulate more adhesions among Archival Latin American communities.

#### **3.2 Plans**

- Continue to offer the Seminar on Iberian Tradition every two years (The next edition will be held in Quito, Ecuador on July 2015);
- Promote a seminar or workshop annually;
- Stimulate the regional archivists and archival projects in the region;
- Promote a better dialogue between ALA's members and ICA Board as well all ICA's members;
- Create an English version on its website in order to have an international platform to communicate with the entire archival community;
- Create Technical Commissions on: Terminology, Normalization, Disaster Prevention, Open access and Open Government Partnership with a

permanent home country for each topic; Expand the communication introducing Facebook and Twitter.

### **3.3 Suggestions for ICA's priorities and functioning**

- ALA reaffirms its position in regard to the new strategies adopted by the International Council on Archives: it is in favor of looking for new multinational partnerships with global institutions such as the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the International Council of Museums (ICOM), the World Association of Newspapers and News Publishers (or WAN-IFRA), the International Federation of Film Archives (FIAF), and the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property-ICROM;
- Working with these well qualified partners represents an alternative in order to split the costs in projects of mutual interest and the experience of the worldwide experts in areas related to archival science.

### **3.4 Some reflections:**

- What mechanisms could be developed for improving communication and co-operation among the branches?
- What mechanisms could be developed for improving communication and co-operation between the branches and other ICA bodies?
- What role should branches play in ICA governance and in setting the overall strategic direction of the organization?

***ALA would like to congratulate David Fricker, the new ICA's President, wishing him great success in his new mission.***

Rio de Janeiro, September 29th, 2014.

**Jaime Antunes da Silva**  
**President of Latin American Association on Archives- ALA**