

# Conference of Directors of National Libraries

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## REPORTS FROM REGIONAL CONFERENCES

### ABINIA

#### 2005 A year of satisfactory results and important things to come

We would like to highlight some of our main achievements:

- Advances in improving preservation and conservation conditions in Central America and Dominican Republic national libraries.
- Getting the needed resources to acquire a suitable automated system for the management of above mention national libraries collections and services.
- Creating in most of Latin American national libraries, with Unesco's support, basic centers for digitalization of documents.
- Consolidation of our website: [www.abinia.org](http://www.abinia.org)
- Important advances in 8 of our main projects.

To continue we will center our attention in a resolution, about a new concept of national libraries, adopted by the XV General Assembly of ABINIA, held in October last year in Chile. Following the concept defined by CNDL 1999 Bangkok's Conference, we have maintained the national libraries traditional function of national heritage preservation and access, as theirs main function; additionally, we included, as national libraries a new function, a normative and technical assistance to other libraries of their countries. Oriented by this concept, within the resolution was included a strategy for strengthening our national libraries, which main actions were:

- Given special attention to a definition, in each country, of a national public policy, leading to the approval of national libraries laws, in which were recognized the important of their functions, including sufficient resources to assure their normal functioning and future development.
- Knowing that approval of public policies takes time, the resolution included, as well, short term actions to improve planning and managerial capacities within national libraries.
- For the fulfillment of this resolution, so far, we have written a national library model law that have been distributed among Latin American national libraries and have given technical advice to three of them in this area.
- Additionally we prepare a course about “management of libraries by the detection and solution of problems”, which is been adapted to be dictated via Internet.

For more information about this part, you may visit our web site.

To finish, allow me to inform you that, right now, at the Executive Secretary, we are working in four new projects that would be submitted for their approval to ABINIA's XVI General Assembly, which would take place next October in Bolivia.

Executive Secretary: August 2005

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