

DECLARATION OF LIMA

UNESCO "Training the Trainers in Information Literacy" (TTT) Workshop
Lima, Peru, January 22-24, 2009

In Lima, Peru, the Participants in the "Training-the-Trainers in Information Literacy" workshop, organized and promoted by UNESCO, and held on the campus of the Pontificia Universidad Catolica del Peru (PUCP) as the host workshop institution, meeting from 22 to 24 January 2009, take note of and wish to express the following:

Whereas in all of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean:

- Existing Information Literacy efforts are few and isolated, are focused primarily in universities, and there are very few structured, formal and accredited Information Literacy programs, policies and projects, whether in the operational or in the research and development stage;
- Many very interesting and useful experiences in user studies, actions and programs aimed toward the development of information skills are already available, but need to be taken into account more widely and carefully, and their results and recommendations formally integrated into appropriate policy and programmatic contexts and instruments;
- There is already a small but vocal and pro-active core group of professionals representing different sectors that have the interest, capacity and willingness to engage in the practice and advocacy of Information Literacy virtually full time, or at least as a major part of their endeavors, within their own institutions or even more broadly;
- There are various professional groups, associations and media organizations that could be mobilized, and their efforts coordinated and integrated into public campaigns and other kinds of public events designed to advocate, promote and publicize Information Literacy more widely and diversely; and
- There are available resources, including potential sources of funding, which could be accessed and used to support specific Information Literacy programs, including pilot and prototype projects.

The participants also took note of, and endorsed the principles and recommendations contained in the Declaration of the Symposium "High-Level Meeting of Experts on Information Literacy and Lifelong Learning," held at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Alexandria, Egypt, 6 -9 November 2005.

Therefore, the participants recommend that all Latin American and Caribbean countries:

- Pro-actively facilitate the design, development and implementation of local, regional and national Information Literacy activities;
- Develop Information Literacy programs with the active participation of professionals from different disciplines, who will, in turn, themselves continue to serve as trainers;
- Incorporate the principles and practices of Information Literacy into education programs, both formal and informal, and at all levels and in all modalities - - including both on-campus and online;

- Share and disseminate the results, experiences, lessons learned and educational and training resources generated by various Information Literacy initiatives already, and currently being advocated by Latin American and Caribbean Information Literacy practitioners;
- Utilize diverse available broadcast media (e.g. the press, radio, Internet, etc.) to announce, advocate and promote actions and ideas designed to raise the public awareness of key stakeholder groups, including local community authorities, as to the relevance and importance of Information Literacy to all sectors of society and to all individuals in all walks of life;
- Evaluate and share Latin American and Caribbean Information Literacy academic, research and practitioner Information Literacy initiatives more fully at both the regional and the global level;
- Create in Latin America a focal point for the collection and dissemination of information produced worldwide on the topic of Information Literacy; and
- Recommend strongly that UNESCO continue to encourage worldwide initiatives in the Information Literacy area, and support the international exchange of experiences both within Latin America and with all of the other regions of the world, ideally coordinated with the efforts of various organizations in the fields of Education, Science, Technology and Culture.

Adopted by the TTT Workshop Participants at the UNESCO PUCP Workshop held in the city of Lima, on January 24, 2009.