

NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS REPORT

9692

REPORT ON LATIN AMERICA TRAVEL (X)

Concerning

U. S. In Pan American Standards

Commission (Copant) Annual

Meeting of Council and the

General Assembly

January 26, – February 4, 1968

Lima, Peru



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS

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NBS PROJECT

1060104

March 20, 1968

NBS REPORT

9692

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By

LeRoy L. Wyman

Consultant

International Standards

January 26, – February 4, 1968

Lima, Peru

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS

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1. Abstract

The major points of consideration before these bodies were:

1. Revision of Constitution, By-Laws, etc.
2. Establishment of fiscal policy, including dues allotment schedule -- particularly in the light of planned establishment of (a) Permanent Headquarters for COPANT, and (b) Permanent Secretary-General and headquarters staff.
3. Adoption of Standards

The "second draft" proposed by the "Revision Committee" (Mexico, Colombia, and U.S.) was studied in detail on the "constitution" portion, and for part of the "by-laws" section; the decisions being referred to the committee for inclusion in the final draft -- to be circulated in the immediate future for consideration of the members for adoption.

Even after several days of polemic discussion, the dues schedule problem was not resolved, but was referred back to committee for resolution and recommendation to COPANT vote.

Due to difficulties in standards adoption because of unwarranted restrictions concerning voting, a U.S. proposed resolution based on the consensus of those voting affirmatively or negatively released many held-up proposals and established future policy (revised by-laws, regulations, etc.)

Many other proposals, not so complicated, were approved.

In recognition of the forthcoming meeting under OAS, in Caracas, Venezuela -- to implement the Punta del Este decisions, a message was approved for despatch to the Secretary General of OAS; this delineating the financial needs of COPANT to meet the necessities of this program.

The proposal included (a) Permanent Headquarters, Secretary-General, and staff, (b) a Standards Training Program, and (c) continuation of the "seminar" (standards-writing) programs at a proper level of operation.

2. Foreword

The following report must be considered in the light of many preceding events; specifically, that this is the third occasion in which the writer was a member of the U.S. Delegation to such meetings (See NBS 7793 and October 22, 1966 reports) to which may be added seven other reports by the writer -- all of which were directly or indirectly concerned with the operations of COPANT (Comision Pan Americana de Normas Tecnicas) (See NBS Reports, 8072, 8182, 8564, 8572, 8938, 9046, and 9564).

At the Guatemala, 1966 meetings of these bodies, several important committees were appointed:

1. Revision of Constitution, By-Laws, etc.
2. Establishment of financial policy, dues allotment, etc., and
3. Establishment of format for COPANT standards (Recommendations)

the U.S. being a member of each of these committees.

Following that meeting, the writer devoted many weeks of his own personal time in an intensive effort to revise all of the COPANT statutes, and to add many others deemed necessary, to arrive at a proposed draft revision of the old statutes which:

1. Established COPANT organization in full accord with the generally accepted "three-body" concept of operating such organization.
2. Clearly divided the basic "Constitution" (long-range) document from the subsidiary (and shorter-range) by-laws. Additionally, it provided 4 documents for the detailed operation of all of the committees of COPANT.
3. New additions were made to specifically rectify many difficulties which had hampered COPANT operations in the past.

During the evenings and weekends in Bogota, Colombia last April, (See NBS 9564) the writer and Dr. Henao prepared a "second draft" in the light of comments-to-date. This draft was submitted to all members of COPANT for comments.

In August, 1967, the "Finance Committee" held a meeting in Lima, and came up with certain recommendations for (a) allotment of dues, and (b) increases in dues to permit a reserve fund to be used for

establishment of the permanent organization. Dr. Peyton (USA Standards Institute) and Dr. LaQue (V. P. COPANT) represented the U.S. on this mission.

Due to the assignments of the U.S. on these several important committees, it had been agreed that our delegation would be in Lima on Saturday, January 27, for "pre-convention" discussions with other delegates concerned.

In preparation for this, Dr. Peyton called a meeting of the U.S. Delegation at USASI Headquarters on January 22, at which time all major factors were reviewed and the U.S. position decided upon. Importantly here is the matter of finances wherein the U.S. -- that is, USASI from its private funds -- has been paying dues amounting to 45% of the COPANT budget!

With the recommendations for an approximate doubling of dues, wherein the dollar increase in income would be placed in reserve to initiate permanent headquarters, staff, etc.; this material increase is of quite serious consequence to USASI finances. Thus it is no matter of surprise that the U.S. consensus was to the effect that, to warrant such "investment", it becomes imperative that COPANT immediately 'put its house in order' in every respect if such U.S. support was to continue.

As an aid to understanding some of these financial matters -- as well as "attitudes" in other affairs, it might be well to point out that of the 11 COPANT member-country standards organizations 5 are "Private", 2 are government agencies, 2 are quasi-governmental, and 2 others receive major or entire support from sources of a governmental nature.

Three factors which this USASI meeting considered of sufficient importance to be added to the agenda for the COPANT Council meeting were:

1. Arrangements whereby COPANT would furnish all documents in English translations.
2. Consideration of COPANT activities in area of food standards -- in light of WHO/FAO work in this field.
3. "Representations" to forthcoming OAS-Caracas meeting concerning COPANT activities; and needed financial support to accomplish tasks expected of it.

It was agreed that these items would be proposed for agenda additions at the opening of the Council meeting.

3. Attendees

President	Ing. Mario Samamé Boggio (Peru)
Vice-President	Dr. Francis L. LaQue (USA)
Past-President	Dr. Alberto Sinay Neves (Brazil)
Secretary-General	Ing. Beatriz Ghirelli deCiaburri (Arg.)
Treasurer-	Ing. Paulo M. Pereira (Brazil)

Delegations

Argentina +	Dr. Carlos A. Abeledo *
	Ing. Enrique C. Lutteral
	Ing. Carlos Suarez
Brazil +	Ing. Félix von Ranke *
	Ing. Paulo M. Pereira
Chilie	Ing. José de Mayo *
	Ing. Hugo Brangier M.
Colombia +	Dr. Ignacio Chiappe *
	Dr. Javier Henao L.
ICAITI +	Dr. Joaquir Bayer *
Central America	
Mexico +	Ing. José Renteria Gómez *
	Ing. Guillermo Laveaga
	Ing. Guillermo Calderon
	Consultants: Ing. Jesus Alejandro G.,
	Ing. Ricardo Delgado C., Sr. Horace
	Dominguez, Chem. Enrique Garcia, C.,
	Ing. Rafael Monroy C., Lic. Roberto
	Perez R., Ing. Willy J. Steiner
Paraguay	Dr. Iver Igelsrud *
	Dr. José de Martino
Peru	Ing. Juan V. Cabrerizo *
	Ing. Miguel Ortiz V.
	Ing. Lois A. Macchiarello
	Ing. E. Monge
	Ing. Daniel Noriega
	Ing. Alfonso Quiros

U.S. +

Ing. F. Crampton Frost *
 Dr. Francis L. LaQue
 Ing. Jerry W. Caum
 Ing. LeRoy L. Wyman (Alt.)
 Dr. Harold S. Levenson

Uruguay

Venezuela

Ing. Rafael Salas J. *
 Ing. Julio R. Lairer M.

Guest (OAS)

Ing. Maximo Halty Carrere

Guest (ALALC)(LAFTA)

Ing. César Venegas C.

+

Country members of COPANT Council
 At this meeting: Mexico re-elected to Council
 ICAIT replaced by Peru

*

Chief of Delegation

4. Pre-meeting Discussion

The weekend discussions were most beneficial in that many points of contention in the operational COPANT were brought to light, thus contributing greatly to the formulation of a consensus -- to be utilized in both the forthcoming meeting as well as in the revision of COPANT statutes. For example, the right of non-Council COPANT members, in an "observers" capacity at Council meetings, to have a "voice" (but no vote) by courtesy of the chair was resolved favorably at the Guatemala meeting by a U.S. - sponsored resolution - and was also re-instituted at this meeting. Again, an entire group of steel pipe and tube proposed standards were being held up because of voting regulations which did not permit a factual consensus evaluation of those sufficiently interested to cast their votes. Here again a U.S. proposal -- which the U.S. had already incorporated in the revised statutes -- successfully resolved this problem.

5. Meetings of the COPANT Council

The opening session of the Council soon brought to light another defect in the statutes; i.e., that while the President and Past-President are "no-country" -- ~~that~~ is, are not members of their country's delegation -- the Vice-President and Treasurer are "country" members.

In resolution of this difficulty as it applied to the U.S. Delegation, Dr. LaQue chose to relinquish his head-table seat as V.P. in favor of that as a member of the U.S. Delegation, thus establishing Frost, LaQue, and Caum as the official delegates.

Concerning this office of Vice-President, it has for some time been the "unwritten policy" that the U.S., by its own decision, should not hold the Presidency -- but was consistently honored by being elected to the Vice-Presidency.

Now, according to the old statutes, when the officers were elected the president became "no-country", the past-president and treasurer remained "country". Thus, in this context, the electing body is effectively dictating 1/3 of the delegation of the countries from which these officers come.

This latter concept proved to be un-acceptable and was "resolved" (and to be included in the revised statutes) in a manner quite significant in the light of the "unwritten policy"; namely, that the retiring president should be the vice-president!

Monday noon, at the Municipal Palace, an impressive official opening ceremony was held to welcome and inspire the COPANT activities. Peru's President was unable to attend, but was well represented, for the opening; this also including speeches by the Mayor and several other dignitaries.

Following the certification of the delegations, attention was turned to the agenda; whereupon the U.S. introduced and had accepted the three points previously enumerated.

The balance of the first day was devoted to the approval of past minutes, the annual report of the Secretary, and a polemic discussion of the scopes of the technical committees.

To date, these scope statements have been prepared by the General Secretariat -- and have been objected to by some of the technical committees of this, the proposed revision of the statutes clearly

assign the definition of scopes to the technical committees
-- subject to approval by the Council in the light of completeness, prevention of overlaps, etc.

In view of these developments, the lengthy list of scopes was referred to the technical committees concerned -- for comment, revision, etc. -- and then back to the Council for approval.

5.1 Statutes Revision Committee

With the Monday sessions of the Council having surmounted all of the opening day ceremonies and procedures; hence ready to settle down to consideration of the business items on the agenda, the Revisions Committee decided to meet separately in order to prepare a draft which resulted from all considerations received to date.

As of this meeting, Mexico had contributed but little to this effort because of extensive administrative personnel changes occurring since the Guatemala meeting; hence the COPANT assignments and problems were quite strange to the new personnel. However, Mexico had prepared extensive comments, compiled by this Directorate of the Government -- and had discussed these during a stop-over in Colombia while en-route to Lima.

Chile and Peru had much previously presented extensive comments, and Argentina had also presented quite a few observations. All of these had been studied by Colombia (Dr. Henao) and U.S. (Wyman); and Henao had prepared an item-by-item summary of these.

At these meetings, Mexico was represented by Ing. Laveaga, and Lic (Attorney) Calderon, with Ings. Alejandro and Garcia as advisors. Dr. Henao represented Colombia, and Wyman represented the U.S.

Mexico (originally appointed Chairman) wanted to use their comments as the basics of discussion -- to which Wyman objected inasmuch as U.S. had yet to see the Mexican comments; they being at that moment first available to U.S. -- and in Spanish.

U.S. insisted that, a "second draft" having been circulated to all COPANT members, and comments obtained on same, this second draft would be the basis for consideration and that the Mexican comments would be considered along with the other written comments. Colombia completely agreed; so this was the procedure.

It took this group two full days of intensive effort to cover the Constitution and By-Laws; during which many of the proffered comments and suggestions were accepted in lieu of those in the draft. Thus there resulted an "amended draft" which could be used as the basis of discussion by the Council.

5.2 Financial Considerations

5.2.1 Budget and Dues

The Treasurers report was given and accepted, as was the proposed '68 budget-based on past considerations. This amount to \$15,235, the dues allotment being as follows;

Argentina	\$1,650	Mexico	\$1,650
Brazil	1,650	Paraguay	275
Colombia	660	Peru	550
Chile	550	Uruguay	275
ICAITI (CENT AM)	440	Venezuela	660
U.S.	6,875		

5.2.2 Finance Meeting

Looking forward to the establishment of the permanent headquarters, permanent Secretary-General, staff, etc., the Finance Committee meeting in Lima in August '67 had agreed on an escalation of dues: - In essence, to double during the ensuing year to some \$31,000 of which the increase would be held in reserve for permanent headquarters, etc. This proposed would, of course, need further increases -- these depending on 1) members ability to assume the increases, and 2) the success in obtaining "outside" financial assistance.

5.2.3 COPANT Support

Concerning "outside" financial assistance, there was appointed at the Guatemala meeting a special committee under the chairmanship of Dr. F. L. LaQue; to explore such such possibilities - and all such efforts where specifically ruled to be through this group in order to eliminate duplicating (and possible conflicting) efforts.

Dr. LaQue reported on these efforts: they being:

1. Conferences with representatives of U.S. governmental agencies concerned
2. Conferences with Ford Foundation
3. Discussion of standards and assistance proposal sent to Presidential Conference at Punta del Este
4. Current activities for a discussion and proposal for the conference by the Regional Program for Science and Technological Development which met February 15 in Caracas; and wherein that was understood that the OAS Inter American Cultural Council had included Technical Standardization in the program.*

* Note: As of the printing of this report, advices resulting from this meeting show that this proposal was 'accepted in principle'.

Concerning 3. on the preceeding page, the writer collaborated with Dr. LaQue in the preparation of this document, and the assistance covered 1) permanent COPANT headquarters and staff, 2) the "seminar" program, and 3) assistance to "needy" national standards institutes.

During the year, the Secretary-General had independently proposed a \$100g standards training program to OAS -- with apparent initial approval.

Thus, with all of this in mind, Dr. LaQue proposed that all these efforts be combined into a full package to be presented to the Caracas conference; he having previously discussed this proposition with U.S. representatives to this meeting.

This committee (LaQue, Abeledo, and von Ranke, with Halty and Igelsrud as advisors) used the 3. on preceeding page* document as a base, added the training program, and drafted a document and cover letter** to be immediately sent to Dr. Jose Mora, Secretary-General of OAS.

This action was unanimously approved.

* See appendix I

** See appendix II

5.2.4 Dues Considerations

The preceeding financial factors were further complicated by 1) the U.S. request for translations of all documents into English, and 2) the increased costs involved in operating at a very much accelerated rate of standards promulgation.

Re. 1), it was estimated that this would cost about \$6,000 at present levels of operation -- and would the U.S. pay all of this -- or even half?

In this connection, attention was called to several factors:

1. USASI pays COPANT commitments from its own private funds and is thus of limited capability -- and does not have the benefit of government dollar-support.
2. Other English-speaking countries are about to be concerned in COPANT, thus English translations are of concern to more than just the U.S.

Re. 2). Estimates of the desired and needed rate of standards production ranged up to a phenomenal 600 per year -- which would require not only an immense headquarters load, but would place a terrific burden on the member institutes.

To this discussion, the U.S. pointed out that, rather than just talking about increase in members, more attention should be paid to the quality of the standards.

And to this may be added the need for and potential use in preferred disciplines (Commercial areas).

It was finally agreed that a several-fold increase in standards was needed, and that future planning must include this factor.

During all of these financial discussions the special "dues committee" had been holding a series of meetings in an effort to arrive at an equitable dues schedule -- or percentage of total budget which each country would pay as dues. Many "formulae" -- varying from comparative Gross National Product to relative contributions to OAS were discussed -- all without agreement as of the end of the meetings. As the consequence thereof, the group was instructed to continue this effort; hopefully to arrive at an agreement which could be submitted to the membership for approval.

5.3 Statutes Revision

The initiation of this subject resulted in quite several hours of discussion wherein it became most evident that there was a preponderating and determined effort to somehow review and have adopted the proposed documents -- and in the shortest time possible. Thus it was finally agreed to 1) go through most of these proposals by studying those paragraphs the members selected as being most pertinent, 2) to record the decisions thereon and turn over to the committee for inclusion and/or revision, 3) that the committee would complete said work within but a week or two, 4) that the final document would be circulated for approval and 5) be submitted for approval in accordance with the present statutes -- which requires approval by the General Assembly.

This latter problem was proposed to be solved by a "Special Assembly" of but a minimum of attendees -- but each carrying proxies for absentees.

By strict adherence to this schedule, it was estimated that the new statutes could be effective in 280 days.

The Revision Committee was re-affirmed: Mexico, Chairman, plus Colombia and U.S.; then instructed to proceed according to plan.

At this point, the U.S. (Wyman) stated that the committee's efforts had resulted in several documents:

1. Constitution, a basic, long-range document hopefully needing no change in foreseeable future - but requiring a 3/4 vote to do so.
2. By-Laws, a shorter-range document which was subsidiary to and explanatory to the Constitution. It might need changes from time-to-time, and required a 60% vote to do so.

These were COPANT documents, and must be adopted by the General Assembly.

Additionally, there was:

3. A set of four documents consisting of "Regulations" to be adopted by the Council as instructions for the operation of a) Technical and b) Testing Committees, and concerning c) patents, nomenclature and definitions. These are short-range statutes in that they may need to be changed or enlarged upon from time-to-time by the Council in order to insure the most effective operation of COPANT.

These documents are inter-related and form a complete system -- therefore, is it the decision that the Revision Committee act on this entire Package?

It was so decided.

After well more than a half-day discussion the selected revision items and deciding on each, the "constitution" document was completed, and it was proposed to go on to the "by-laws" section. However, one delegation talked at this on the contention that only the constitution was to be revised. However, quite some 'polemicking-hours' later the objections were over-ridden, even to the extent that a direct question (for clarification) by the U.S. (Wyman) re-affirmed the full-package objective.

The entire list of preferences of items of the constitution and by-laws paragraphs for discussion finally having been concluded after 1½ days, the job was turned over to the committee for completion.

This committee, to which Brazil (von Ranke) had been added, was to meet in Mexico the following week. So, with the plan firmly established to U.S. satisfaction, and no way clear for U.S. partition in the Mexico meeting, the U.S. withdrew from the committee.

Pertinent to this, the U.S. withdrawal and Brazil addition escaped approval by the General Assembly in the rush to do its work in much less than one day.

5.4 Approval of Standards (Recommendations)

As the result of letter ballots, 18 proposals had received the required number of votes, and were consequently approved.

Eleven proposals were not accepted because of "rejections".

Some 28 proposals were in the position of having no "negatives", but had not received the number of affirmative votes required by the present statutes. These were steel pipe and tube specifications, and there was ample voicing of objections to any idea that the member countries would even consider holding an additional seminar meeting to re-affirm the proposals.

In fact, this is not an unusual situation in voluntary standardization -- and one which can be readily "resolved" when it is considered that there has been unanimous - (or nearly so) approval by those sufficiently interested to cast a vote. This is, then a true concensus, and the proposals should be adopted.

Such was the U.S. proposal to resolve this situation -- and one which the U.S. had already incorporated in the statutes revision.

5.5 Working Plans

To the previous plans were added, by Brazil, the necessity for standards activity in 1) Rubber and 2) Road and Railroad Materials.

Ing. von Ranke reported that support for (2) both technically and substantially was available at high-level.

The U.S. (Levenson) carefully explained the international UN sponsored CODEX ALIMENTARIUS of WHO/FAO wherein the world governments were collaborating to establish food standards for covering specifications, tests, flavoring, sanitation, etc.

In closing, Dr. Levenson, suggested that COPANT might well review its working plans in the food area in the light of this official world-wide activity of CODEX.

The Agriculture, Steel pipe and tube, Iron ore, Agricultural Machinery, etc. "seminars" were noted as was the the copper seminars which were supported by the Copper Research organization.

The "seminar" program had (from OAS Project 207) \$57,000 for this year -- ending 6/30/68.

Recognizing the dire need for a much greater understanding of standards and their relation to science, technology, and commerce on the part of high-level officials at the policy level in L.A. affairs, it was agreed that a well-programmed meeting to accomplish this educational "missionary work" was most desirable.

It would appear that such a meeting, at 'ministerial level' could be arranged via OAS; thus Ing. Halty C. was requested to pursue this matter.

6. General Assembly Meeting

6.1 General Comments

Although the Council had been scheduled for Monday through Wednesday and the General Assembly for Thursday and Friday, it was decided that the statutes revision was of such major importance that it should carry over into Thursday -- which it did. As the result, these last two days became a complex of Council and Assembly actions aimed at clearing up both programs by the Friday evening closing. In general, the objective was attained, though some items were somehow forgotten.

Pending the adoption of the new statutes and the ability to establish a permanent headquarters and full-time Secretary-General, Argentina again offered its services -- which were most gratefully accepted.

6.2 Elections

In the elections, Ing. Fernando Aquirre Tupper, President of Companie de Acero del Pacifico, Chile, and formerly Managing Director of the Latin American Steel Institute (ILAFA) was unopposed and therefore unanimously elected as President of COPANT.

By this action, Dr. Samame the Past-President, and Dr. Neves retires from that post. Both gave retirement speeches of sincere interest.

Dr. LaQue holds over as Vice-President; and Ing. Ciaburri and Ing. Pereira as Secretary-General and Treasurer hold over by re-affirmation.

On the Council, Mexico was re-elected to membership, and ICAITI was replaced by Peru.

6.3 New Institutes

It was reported that the Institute Boliviano de Normas Tecnicas was being formed in La Poz, and in Ecuador their Standards Institute was in the formative stages.

This is welcome news to the writer after his intensive efforts in these countries to get such efforts established.

6.4 Next Meeting

In recognition of the invitation by Colombia at the Guatemala meeting to host meetings of the Council and General Assembly, and on repetition of this invitation, it was decided to hold the next meetings in Bogota, Colombia during the early part of December, 1968.

6.5 Arrangements

Dr. Juan Cabrerizo, Director of INANTIC (Peruvian Standards Institute) and also Field Director of the COPANT (OAS) "seminars" for standards writing was the host for these meetings of the Council and General Assembly.

As host, he established the Hotel Riviera as the "Headquarters" and meeting center.

For the latter, he provided the best of facilities, including a complete simul-translation system with head-phones for each participant; secretarial and also duplicating service -- bul-
warked by full-time soft drink and coffee service in the ante-room.

With the many hours of polemic discussion of financial matters and of revisions of the COPANT statutes -- had this simul-translation not been available -- the programmed agendas of these meetings could not have been accomplished within a two-week period.

Ing. Cabrerizo had also arranged luncheon, plant visitation, and cocktail parties that encompassed nearly every noon and evening.

Probably the highlight of this was the evening part at Ing. Cabrerizo's house whereby he "managed" to present to the delegates -- on a temporary stage in his impressive garden -- the entire repertoire of the famous professional Peru Folklorica with their renowned dances and costumes from pre-Inca to modern.

To culminate the meetings, all delegates and consultants were the guests of the President, Dr. Mario Samamé Boggio at the world-renown and exclusive Club Nacional for the "going-away" dinner on Friday evening. In effect, a most auspicious occasion.

For entertainment, sight-seeing, and plant visitation, it cannot be argued but that Dr. Cabrerizo has established a "hospitality" that will remain unmatched for many years to come. This, to which one adds the most gracious and impressive "going-away" banquet hosted by President Samamé, establishes an entirely new high-level in the accessory activities to these meetings of the COPANT Council and General Assembly.

7. Summary

The difficulties which beset COPANT can be briefed to:

1. Lack of understanding of significance of standards at policy-making levels.
2. Constitutional (operational)
3. Financial
4. National Support

It is hoped that 1) can be helped by the proposed ministerial seminars -- but this is a program which is never-ending, thus involves a continuing effort in standards education - and hence both participation and support.

The complete revision of the COPANT statutes will make the operations really effective and eliminate many difficulties. This, of course, also implemented by the establishment of the permanent organization.

In order to make COPANT most highly effective in the face of the vastly increased demands which will be placed upon it by the aftermaths of the Punta del Este decisions on economic integration and regional development, it is most obvious that it receive outside assistance in order to set it up as a fully effective organization.

Fundamentally, as the international organization, it should be fully supported by its constituent members; BUT, one must face the fact that most of these members - the national Standards Institutes of the member countries - do not themselves receive enough support within their countries to accomplish effective standardization within and for their individual nations - to say nothing of participating in and supporting the whole Latin American effort of COPANT.

After more than a few years of intensive standards activities in Latin America, it is my considered judgement that:

1. COPANT must be subsidized immediately to meet the already-proscribed needs.
2. The national standards institutes that are "needy" should be assisted (see NBS 8938, 9046, & 9564) by locally operating agencies to where they can a) meet their national needs and b) participate in and support the Latin American effort; i.e., COPANT.

APPENDIX I

Standards and Trade

Trade, within a nation or in the world by nations, is dependent on the three basic factors of (1) the quality, (2) the quantity, and (3) the price of a particular product; thus the economy of a country or of a regional area is equally subject to these product factors.

U.S. products have long been recognized as the "standard" of quality in the market places of the world; thus one can justly ask "why"?

The answer lies in the very simple fact that U.S. products are the result of intensive standardization efforts and accompanying quality control in the areas of raw materials, manufacturing processes, product requirements and product simplification - all attained through a consensus of both producers and consumers through voluntary collaboration free from coercion. Thus, therein is demonstrated the direct relationship between "standards" and "trade", hence the fact that the economy of country (or region) is directly dependent on the extent to which standardization is employed to establish and define the quality of the country's product in the market place.

In the past, Standards of Practice, - that is, of materials, products, and test methods therefor, - have been primarily of engineering concern. Presently, however, these documents serve to define the market quality of products and also as an ideal means of communication between buyer and seller to the extent that - even as complete strangers speaking different languages - they can conduct business in complete confidence.

Once having recognized this complete dependence of product market ability on standards, as so well proven by the economically well-developed countries of the world, it now becomes most pertinent to apply these principles to the emerging nations and to the means by which we can most beneficially employ standards in order to foster their economic development.

In applying these principles to Latin America, one is faced with the fact that the majority of these countries in this region are attempting to break away from the limitations of their traditional one-product economies and customary importation of consumer products through an industrial development which is directed toward in-country production of these items and consequent decrease of their economy-rending imports. Thus, as this productivity expands to meet the national needs, it is then in a position to further expand into the regional market - thereby benefiting its balance of payments. All this, of course, being predicated on the assumption that the products concerned meet the standards which determine "quality."

It should be evident that not all of the Latin American countries can attain this status with respect to a wide variety of marketable products - else there would result a situation of "all producers and no customers." This, then, dictates that there must be an economic integration of productivity in the Latin American region - and this can be attained only through uniform definitions of every product under consideration - the established standards for these items of commerce.

All of the nations of the world which may be liberally characterized as "well-developed" have learned during their development that standardization is an integral part of both manufacture and marketing - be they buyers or sellers on the market. Having learned this lesson the "hard way," it now becomes abundantly clear that, in giving assistance to the emerging countries, standardization should be given its rightful place at the earliest possible stage in order to reap the benefits thereof. Of a certainty, neither economic integration nor national-or-regional development be attained without the employment of standards. Thus, to prevent costly mistakes and to enhance industrial development, standardization must be established and employed at the earliest stages of economic integration and regional development.

To this end, it is proposed that a) as a regional policy, the ill-supported Pan American Standards Commission (COPANT) be given immediate guidance and financial assistance so that it can establish a permanent headquarters with permanent Secretary-General and staff, sponsored for a period of years until it becomes self-supporting through its membership - the standards institutes of the individual nations; that the standards writing-training programs be enlarged to meet the requirements of the Latin American region; b) that where needed, the standards institutes of the individual Latin American nations, be given assistance in such manner and for such time as may be necessary for these institutes to 1) perform the desired standardization activities for the country, and 2) render adequate participation in and support to the international efforts of COPANT.

Note: A companion document sets forth a program for the COPANT effort, together with an estimated budget.

PROGRAM FOR LATIN AMERICAN STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT1. Objectives

To establish a standardization program for Latin America in collaboration with and in support of industrial and economic development, economic integration, and regional development in an among the Latin American nations.

1.1 The assistance to standardization shall be planned as one of decreasing support over a 5 year period, at the termination of which the standardization efforts should be arranged to be effectively self-supporting through:

- a. Membership Dues of the member country standards institutes
- b. Contribution from the Common Market Organization or possibly
- c. Through contributions by the member countries commensurate with their exports to other members of the regional common market.

2. Organization

The policies and administration of the program shall be the responsibility of a new standardization committee within the Inter-American Committee for the Alliance of Progress (CIAP)

2.1 The Standardization Committee shall consist of:

- a. Representatives of U.S. standards organizations such as USASI, ASTM, SAE, API, etc., together with
- b. U.S. Government representatives from D/S (AID), D/C, and D/Labor;
- c. The representatives of the standards institutes of five Latin American countries;
- d. A representative of COPANT; and
- e. Representation of the Common Market Organization.

3. Duties of the Standardization Committee

The Committee shall establish the standardization policies and administer the funding for the following regional assistance:

- 3.1 The establishment of a permanent Headquarters, permanent Secretary-General, and adequate staff for COPANT;
- 3.2 The continuation and enlargement of the standards writing and training program to meet the necessities for international standardization in Latin America (enlarged "207" project);
- 3.3 The establishment of adequate liaison and collaboration with the Common Market Organization to attain proper economic integration of activities of both organizations;
- 3.4 Individually, or in collaboration with the in-country U.S. AID missions in the member countries (as may be decided by the general regional-assistance program) render such technical and financial assistance as may be necessary to insure that the national standards institutes are operating with full effectiveness to:
 - 3.4.1 Adequately serve the needs of the national standardization program of the particular country and
 - 3.4.2 Participate in and support the activities of COPANT

4. Budget Considerations

Predicated on previous experience and estimated immediately necessary requirements for effective operation, the financial allotments should be:

4.1 COPANT	<u>1967-8</u>	<u>1968-9</u>
Secretary-General	\$12,000	12.0
Technical Secretary	9,000	9.0
4 Secretarial & Steno	10,000	10.0
Office Furn. & Eq.	10,500	
Duplicating Eq.	31,000	
Operational Exp.	25,000	25.0
Rent, Heat, Light	5,000	5.0
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$102,500	61,000

4.2 Standards Writing-Training Program

Administration & Meeting Costs
Delegates Travel & Per Diem

	<u>270,000</u>	<u>270,000</u>
	\$ 372,500	\$ 331,000
	1967-8	1968-9

4.3 As an educated estimate of the current status of the national standards institutes, and as may be further amplified under 3.4 above;

4.3.1 For new standards, each, Ecuador, Bolivia institutes

	<u>1st year</u>	<u>2nd year</u>
Director	12,000	12.0
1/2 Tech. Secy	5,000	5.0
Oper. Mgr.	7,000	7.0
Secy & Steno	7,500	7.5
Stds Library & Eq.	25,000	1.0
Travel, Ofc Expenses	15,000	15.0
	<u>\$ 71,500</u>	<u>\$47,500</u>

4.3.2 For present institutes

	<u>1967-8</u>	<u>1968-9</u>
Uruguay-	35.0	25.0
Chile-	45.0	35.0
Peru-	40.0	30.0
	<u>\$120,000</u>	<u>\$90,000</u>

Total Estimate, including 4.3.1

1967-8	\$634,500
1968-9	\$515,500

Appendix II

January 31st, 1968

Mr.,
José Antonio Mora
O.E.A.

Dear Sir:

The opportunity provided by the meeting of the Interamerica Cultural Council on the 15th of February in Maracay, Venezuela, for an exposition of the needs for an enlarged national and multi-national program in standardization in Latin America, was recognized at the meeting of the Pan American Standards Commission (COPANT) in Lima, Peru, during the week of January 29th, 1968.

A resolution adopted at this meeting authorized the presentation of the attached document through the Secretariat of the Regional Program of Science and Technology for consideration by those who will be concerned with the organization and financing of such a program.

Your co-operation in placing this document in the proper channels for appropriate attention will be appreciated by the members of COPANT.

Cordially yours,

Note: These documents to be re-edited to most appropriate format for presentation.

STANDARDIZATION AS AN ESSENTIAL COMPONENT OF PROGRESS
IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND TRADE IN LATIN AMERICA

The development and success of a Latin American common market, as is the case in all other common markets, requires at its base a system of standards that is sound and is kept in pace with progress in science and technology, upon which any such system depends.

To assure this, it is essential that each country must have a sound program, an efficient national organization and a properly trained staff for the development and promulgation of standards appropriate to the needs and interest of the country.

It is especially essential that an agency be provided to insure maximum computability of standards developed by different countries by a multi-national effort. This computability will insure that incompatible standards will not inadvertently become non-tariff barriers to the promotion of trade among the countries which is the prime objective of the organization of a common market.

There are collateral benefits from standardization activities. These flow to industry and agriculture through the advances in science and technology required for the development of standards. Furthermore, those affected by the standards are stimulated to greater co-operation in their common interests.

Standards will lower costs of production and make goods more readily acceptable in other countries. Thereby, they will improve the competitive position of Latin American countries in export markets and thus lead to substantial increases in the purchasing power and general welfare of the people.

Standards serve to translate into a form for immediate practical use the latest advances in the science and technology on which they are based. In this way they are a most effective means for transferring technology from the most advanced nations to nations which have not yet achieved an equal level of technological development.

COPANT, made up of the standards making bodies of countries entering the common market is the only available channel recognized by OEA for co-ordinating the standards activities of the several countries. It is, in fact, what, in other fields, would be recognized as the "centre of excellence." It is the logical vehicle for the development of competence in standards activities in Latin America.

By means of a training program, COPANT will enable these countries to combine their technical efforts and improve their competence for the benefit of all who participate in multi-national programs. Such activities will represent an important component of the desired advances in science and technology in Latin America.

Considerable progress has been made in multi-national programs related to standardization. However, the extent of this progress has been limited by inadequate staffs and facilities in some countries. A principal reason for this has been lack of sufficient financial resources for one or all of the essential components of an overall program.

These essential components are:

1. Permanent and properly staffed national organizations for defining and administering the technical efforts required for the development of standards to be combined in multi-national programs. The co-ordination of these national efforts requires an equally competent and permanently established multi-national organization provided by COPANT.

2. A considerable acceleration and enlargement of the program of development of national and multi-national standards. These are urgently needed for technological development and as a contribution to expansion of trade both within Latin America and with other countries. Additional benefits will appear in a higher level of many other components of general standards of living.

3. A continuing program of training of engineers capable of participating in the future development of national standards. There is a parallel need for training of personnel to fit them for participation in multi-national standardization efforts.

A program of training should extend beyond the training of engineers to develop standards. It should extend into the Universities and Technical Institutes to insure that students of engineering, sociology, economics and political science are made aware of the importance of national and international standards and be prepared to participate in, and support, such programs after graduation.

Such a program should enlist support by industry and agriculture in the educational processes.

4. In some relatively less technically developed countries there is a need for assistance in setting up national standards institutions to enable these countries to participate effectively in multi-national programs.

As at least an approximation of the amounts of money that would be required to enable the national standards bodies co-ordinated by COPANT to accomplish what is needed and desirable to keep pace with future needs, the following estimates are offered.

1. By COPANT as initial capital to establish and staff a permanent headquarters as successor to present temporary arrangements and general secretariat -- US\$100,000.

These Headquarters would in the future, be maintained and staffed by income from annual dues of member bodies, sales of publications, etc.

2. For an enlarged and accelerated program of standards development through seminars and technical committees --US\$125,000 per year.

3. For training of standards engineers, technologists and scientists --US\$100,000 per year.

4. For assistance to individual countries in organizing and strengthening their standards making bodies -- a total of US\$200,000 distributed as justified.

This proposal for increased support of standardization programs in Latin America is submitted as being a proper component of the overall program for progress in science and technology recognized as being required by the organizers of the Latin American Common Market.

COPANT hopes that the needs and opportunities described in this document will be recognized and responded to in the allocation of funds in the budget that will be adopted to support the overall program in science and technology.

COPANT is prepared to administer any funds that may be provided for the purposes described, in collaboration with, and under the direction of, any agency assigned this responsibility.

COPANT will be pleased to discuss any details of the categories mentioned in a general way here with anyone requiring further elaboration in implementing these proposals.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of COPANT,

President

