

RESOLUTIONS OF PARBICA'S 12th GENERAL CONFERENCE

Nouméa, New Caledonia, 6th October 2007

On the occasion of PARBICA's 12th General Conference, from 1-6 October 2007, archivists and records managers from throughout the Pacific meeting in Nouméa, New Caledonia, resolve as follows:

1. PARBICA DECLARATION ON ARCHIVES WITHOUT BOUNDARIES: COOPERATION AND SHARED SOLUTIONS

- 1.1 Recalling that strong systems for the creation and management of records and the preservation of archives are key foundations of good business practice, as well as essential to support good governance and collective memory in all countries, states and territories in the Pacific region
- 1.2 Recognising that cultural, training, professional, technological and geopolitical boundaries impact on the ability of many countries, states and territories to achieve this mission
- 1.3 Recalling that, despite these boundaries, common interests and problems are shared by those responsible for archives and records across the Pacific, especially in the areas of training, access, preservation, oral traditions and digital archiving
- 1.4 Recognising that PARBICA members are key players in records management and keepers of memory, who can contribute to leading change in their respective countries, states and territories
- 1.5 Acknowledging the long-standing relationships that PARBICA has with many organisations rich in expertise and resources and the offers of others to join in partnership with us to support development of sound recordkeeping and archival systems throughout the Pacific region
- 1.6 Emphasising that archives institutions must cooperate with others to succeed in developing reliable systems that can sustain good governance and preserve the memory of the Pacific region in the digital age

BRIDGING CULTURAL BOUNDARIES

- 1.7 Urge archives institutions in the Pacific to expand their efforts in working with local communities to integrate local perspectives into archival programmes as a core part of the memory of their respective countries, states and territories
- 1.8 Ask archives institutions to cooperate with other cultural institutions in order to ensure that oral traditions and other forms of traditional memory are documented and protected for the future

BRIDGING TRAINING BOUNDARIES

- 1.9 Ask PARBICA member institutions to use the *PARBICA Recordkeeping for Good Governance Toolkit* to support training in recordkeeping for organisations in their countries, states and territories



- 1.10 Call on archives institutions to work with their respective institutes for public administration to develop short courses on recordkeeping
- 1.11 Call on PARBICA to facilitate information sharing on education and training courses, scholarships and resources available for people in the region

BRIDGING PROFESSIONAL BOUNDARIES

- 1.12 Invite professional bodies that share interests with PARBICA to continue to build stronger relationships with PARBICA and develop shared projects
- 1.13 Recognising the vital contribution to Pacific archiving made by Pacific research collections, call on the institutions that hold these collections to join with PARBICA in its mission to support archival development in the Pacific region

BRIDGING GEOPOLITICAL BOUNDARIES

- 1.14 Call on Pacific governments to encourage their delegations to the Pacific Islands Forum to ask that recordkeeping be recognised as a core component of good governance in the Pacific Plan
- 1.15 Recommend that the *PARBICA Recordkeeping for Good Governance Toolkit* be recognised as an action in support of the good governance priority in the Pacific Plan
- 1.16 Urge the public service commission delegates present at PARBICA 12 to spread the good recordkeeping message among senior managers in their countries and to encourage their public service commission colleagues in the Pacific to keep the issue of recordkeeping in the region on the agenda for their future meetings

2. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PARBICA

- 2.1 Call on the PARBICA Bureau to review the PARBICA Constitution for consistency with the wishes of the PARBICA membership.
- 2.2 Call on the PARBICA President, in his/her capacity as a member of the ICA Executive Board, to continue to strongly support applications by French Pacific territories to achieve Category A membership of the ICA.
- 2.3 Call on the PARBICA Bureau to develop a framework and background paper on recordkeeping for good governance that members can use when speaking with their delegations to the Pacific Islands Forum.
- 2.4 Ask PARBICA to identify professional resources on how to collect oral traditions and make them available to members
- 2.5 Ask the PARBICA Bureau to seek to formalise its relationship with the Pacific Manuscripts Bureau (PAMBU)
- 2.6 Ask the PARBICA Bureau to investigate means to provide support for preservation of archives in the Pacific region
- 2.7 Call on PARBICA to identify opportunities for training and capacity building on how archives institutions can protect the memory of traditional communities, following the example of countries with established programmes



- 2.8 Call on PARBICA to continue to work with the UNESCO Pacific office to support the Memory of the World programme in the Pacific region

3. MOTIONS OF THANKS

- 3.1 Convey their deep gratitude and appreciation to Ismet Kurtovitch and the staff from the Archives Service of New Caledonia, and Cameron Diver and Marie-Paule Caruso of the Office of Regional Cooperation and External Relations for their generous and well-organised hosting of this conference and for the splendid hospitality they arranged.
- 3.2 Express their satisfaction with the successful training workshops conducted within this meeting on recordkeeping for good governance, digital archiving and archival basics, as well as with the conference sessions on cooperation and shared solutions in the Pacific
- 3.3 Express their thanks to the AusAid Pacific Governance Support Program and the National Archives of Australia for the development of the excellent *PARBICA Recordkeeping for Good Governance Toolkit* and urge that this project be continued by developing further products in the Toolkit and by supporting its implementation through training and partnership projects in countries, states and territories in the Pacific
- 3.4 Thank the following for their generous support without which this important meeting could not have taken place:
- Government of New Caledonia : Department of Cultural and Customary Affairs and Office of Regional Cooperation and External Relations
 - AusAid Pacific Governance Support Program
 - ADCK, Tjibaou Cultural Centre
 - Secretariat of the Pacific Community
 - UNESCO
 - International Council on Archives
 - Association des archivistes français
 - Australian Society of Archivists
 - Datafilm (New Caledonia)
 - National Archives of Australia
 - Archives New Zealand
- 3.5 Thank the Pacific public service commission delegates present at PARBICA 12 for their contribution to discussions and enthusiastic support for the importance of improving recordkeeping in the Pacific and look forward a continuing strong relationship with this group
- 3.6 Give special thanks for the honour of their participation and their support to:
- Mr Harold Martin, President of the Government of New Caledonia
 - Dr Jimmie Rogers, Director General, Secretariat of the Pacific Community
 - Customary Senators of New Caledonia
 - Mr Edward Vrkic, Executive Officer, Pacific Islands Forum
 - Mr Régis Vendegou, Director, Department of Cultural and Customary Affairs
 - Mr Emmanuel Kasarherou, Director, Tjibaou Cultural Centre
 - Mr Abel Caine, UNESCO Pacific States Office
 - Ms Norehan Jaaffar, National Archives of Malaysia
 - Ms Christine Martinez and Ms Geneviève Etienne, Archives de France
- 3.7 Express their appreciation to the PARBICA Bureau for their excellent efforts in bringing together a stimulating programme on the theme of 'Archives without Boundaries:



Cooperation and Shared Solutions' and for enabling people from the region to participate.