POSSIBILITIES FOR ASSISTANCE TO ACTUARIAL ASSOCIATIONS (EXISTING AND FUTURE) IN LATIN AMERICA

The notes that follow suggest some possibilities for assistance to the profession in Latin America. Many country representatives mentioned specific ideas, and we have noted the countries in those cases.

Those participating in the Buenos Aires seminar should “spread the word and any follow-up information” among others in the profession in their home countries.

Get electronic versions of presentations and other relevant material from Buenos Aires meeting to Nicole Seguin and establish section of the website under “Meetings” for these. [Several country representatives mentioned this item.]

Sound out view on whether to organise a full IPEF sponsored International Meeting for Leaders of the Profession and Actuarial Educators in Latin America. This could be a two to three day meeting, perhaps some time in 2003, dealing with issues such as professionalism, actuarial education, the relationship of the profession with regulators, developments in insurance and pensions regulation and financial reporting, marketing the profession, expanding the role of actuaries, or whatever topics are of particular interest. No particular location is likely to be very convenient for all, but Mexico might be a possibility, since it is relatively easily accessible for the various Central American countries and for Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia. Brazil might also be interested in hosting such a meeting. We need to keep in mind that the needs of Argentina and Brazil are somewhat different from the rest of the region, since the profession is already much more developed. [Brazil, Mexico]

ASTIN seminars. These could be organised in several countries in the region, either as single country or multi-country events. ASTIN would find a lecturer and pay his or her travel expenses and honorarium. The local organisers would arrange the meeting and pay for the lecturers accommodation. [Mexico]

Role of the Actuary Seminars. These could be held in countries where there was felt to be a need to market the profession and the IAA to get it better known among politicians, regulators, university administrators or faculty, and potential users of actuaries, as a prelude to setting up an actuarial society, or soon after an association was formed. IPEF could provide sponsorship for an IAA speaker at such an event and we might be able to get one or more other speakers paid for by the SoA or the IoA or other association. [Bolivia, Ecuador, El Salvador]

Video-conferencing. The suggestion was made that some of the high costs of travel could be avoided, and several countries, targeted at once, by some form of video conference. We would need to investigate the logistics and costs of such an exercise.

Circulate information about detailed learning objectives, Groupe Consultatif core syllabus, new textbooks, professionalism courses, code of conduct, etc. or give indications of where to find these on actuarial websites. [Brazil, Columbia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Panama]
Explore with Society of Actuaries and Faculty and Institute of Actuaries the possibility of developing Spanish language versions of their professional examinations.

Offer bursaries for attendance at ASTIN, AFIR, IAA/Groupe Consultatif Education Conference, etc. Circulate list of dates and locations of these events.

Sound out interest in participating in possible seminar in London on the establishment of mortality and morbidity experience studies, the construction of standard tables based on industry experience and methods of projecting mortality for annuities and pensioners. [El Salvador]

Assist with establishing appropriate constitutions for new associations and codes of conduct. Some examples are already available in the IAA Advice & Assistance Information Pack. Try to collect some examples in Spanish. Are there any templates available for establishing a disciplinary scheme?

Distribute address list of participants. Invite names and contact details of additional key individuals in the countries concerned and other countries in the region not yet covered. Expand list to create database of individual actuaries and other interested persons within the region, including expatriate actuaries from US, Spain, etc who are keen to be of assistance in building up the profession in the region. Also include contacts in universities within region and in countries outside the region which might be prepared to lend support, especially Mexico, Spain and Portugal. Identify actuaries or appropriate contacts in countries we are not yet in touch with.

Review proposals for establishing actuarial programmes (e.g. in Panamá).

Research the future demand for actuaries to help convince students to pursue actuarial careers [Ecuador, Panama]

Provide links to European and North American universities, including Mexico, which might be interested in cooperation [Brazil, Columbia]

Identify professors willing to travel to lecture in university programs in Latin America [Brazil – would need to be in Portuguese, Columbia, Ecuador]

Ask Instituto de Actuarios Españoles (IAE) to provide a Spanish version of the Code of Conduct of the Groupe Consultatif and of the IAA education syllabus and guidelines.

Ask IAE and Mexican associations and universities if they have educational materials in Spanish which they could donate to countries in the region wishing to set up libraries and establish actuarial education programmes.

Book donations. If associations establish a proper library, or local universities offering actuarial science, then we would be able to request book donations from the SoA, CAS, F&IoA, IAE, etc

Put Instituto Brasilierna de Atuária in contact with appropriate individuals in Portugal.
Develop IAA website in Spanish. Develop Spanish language e-mail communications within IAA.


Work towards possible future International Congress of Actuaries in South America (IBA interested in pursuing this).

Consider the possible formation of a Central American Actuaries Association in lieu of attempting to establish individual associations in these small countries. [El Salvador]