

SAO PAULO DECLARATION

PREAMBLE: At this time, as mankind approaches the end of the 20th century, inspired by horizons of Freedom and Democracy for all the people, the INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BROADCASTING and the INTER-AMERICAN PRESS ASSOCIATION ratify their joint mission of defense of Freedom of Expression, fundamental for the advancement of society.

Meeting in Sao Paulo, Brazil, IAB and IAPA

DECLARE:

1. That they renew their adherence to the stipulations of the "Doctrine of Panama on Freedom of Expression" (1952) and the "Caracas Agreement" (1973), signed by the two organizations, that declare any attack on one news or opinion medium is an attack on all members of the IAPA and the IAB.
2. That they reiterate provisions of the Caracas Agreement, signed by IAAB and IAPA in August 1973, categorically repudiating all forms of authoritarianism and dictatorship, as they both constitute the negation of the fundamental rights of mankind and the community.
3. That they reaffirm their conviction that material progress and spiritual social well-being can be achieved only in an atmosphere of Freedom and respect for the individual.
4. That any new communication technology is progress for all mankind and as such should be utilized to strengthen Freedom of Expression, and plurality of opinion and of the media.
5. That, despite the general consolidation of government systems that respect human rights and dignity, there remain around the world threats to these values and to the continued existence and functioning of free and independent media. The IAB and IAPA will therefore continue their joint efforts to expand to all regions of the world the ideals of liberty which they have promoted for decades throughout the American continent.

Sao Paulo, October 24, 1991.

Julio C.F. de Mesquita
IAPA President

C.P. Andrés García Lavín
IAB President