

31 May 2005
English
Original: Spanish

**Eighth United Nations Regional Cartographic
Conference for the Americas**

New York, 27 June-1 July 2005

Item 8 (b) of the provisional agenda*

**Reports on achievements in geographic information
in addressing national, regional and global issues,
including spatial data infrastructures**

**SIRGAS international project: current status and
future aims****

* E/CONF.96/1.

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Summary

The SIRGAS (Sistema de Referencia Geocéntrico para las Américas — Geocentric Reference System for the Americas) international project emerged in 1993 as a product of the joint initiative of the countries of South America to provide the region with a homogenous geocentric framework. Since then, thanks to the active participation of the representatives and institutions of each of the member States, it has made significant strides towards achieving its aims. Following two successful geodesic campaigns, SIRGAS 95 and SIRGAS 2000, it has managed to define a framework for the American continent which satisfies the latest requirements of modern geodesy and is one of the most far-reaching global undertakings in this area of science. Currently its aims are to achieve complete regional integration, maintenance and processing of the network of permanent stations set up in the continent, adoption of a single vertical datum and the definitive inclusion of the countries of Central America and the Caribbean in the project. During the course of the latest technical meeting, held in Aguascalientes, Mexico, in December 2004, agreement was reached on the broad outlines of future tasks which are briefly explained in this report.