



Bulletin N° 1

48th Meeting of the Directing Council of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH) and related meetings from October 21-26, 2018, Santa Cruz, Bolivia

1. General Information

The 48th Meeting of the Directing Council of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH), and related meetings will be held in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, October 21-26, 2018.

The sessions will be held at the Los Tajibos Hotel and Convention Center, site of the meeting.

- **October 21, 2018:** 90th Meeting of the Authorities of PAIGH (by invitation only)
- **October 22- 24, 2018:** 48th Meeting of the Directing Council of PAIGH
- **October 25, 2018** (Morning schedule): 11th GEOSUR Meeting
Afternoon Schedule: Lessons learned from the MIAS Workshops (Integrated Map of South America)



2. Local coordination

Brig. Gen. Juan Manuel Pierola Sandoval

Commander of the Military Geographic Institute

Mr. Edwin Pardo Uriarte – Technical Secretary Bolivia National Section
PAIGH

Col. Luis Javier Aguirre Romay

Second –In Command Military Geographic Institute

Mr. Edwin Pardo Uriarte - Technical Secretary Bolivia National Section
PAIGH

3. Accommodation

Los Tajibos Hotel and Convention Center will be the venue of the 48th Meeting of the Directing Council.

4. Dress Code

For men, short-sleeved shirts and dark trousers are suggested. (Long sleeves can also be worn.

For women, light clothing is suggested. Depending on the weather, a light shawl could be needed

5. Visa Requirements

Delegations should check with the nearest Embassy or Consulate of Bolivia for the specific visa requirements of each country.

<http://www.cancilleria.gob.bo/webmre/node/484> y

<https://www.boliviaturismo.com.bo/documentos-visas-para-ingresar.php>

6. Arrivals

The National Section of PAIGH in Bolivia will have officials on hand to receive the official delegations at the Viru-Viru International airport..



7. Transportation

The National Section of PAIGH in Bolivia will provide transportation for the Heads of Delegation and official delegations, from the airport to the hotel(s) and viceversa.

In this regard it is very important to provide all pertinent details when completing the online registration form on the PAIGH webpage.

8. Accreditation

The accreditation letters of official delegations of the Member States, Permanent Observers and special guests should be submitted electronically in PDF format to the Office of the PAIGH General Secretariat.: secretariageneral@ipgh.org

The accreditation letters of the delegates of the Member States should be submitted in advance to the respective Foreign Office or authorized entity, in order for them to be submitted to the General Secretariat of PAIGH, by September 30th at the latest.

Once delegations have submitted their accreditations letters, they should register online at: <http://www.ipgh.org/>

9. Languages and Work documents

The work sessions of the Directing Council will be conducted in Spanish and English; simultaneous interpretation will be provided. In order to be ecologically efficient, printing of documents will be limited. Participants can obtain copies of the documents of the Directing Council Meeting online at: www.ipgh.org (Documents will be published in advance)

10. Medical Service

Kindly contact the hotel if you have a medical emergency. Please note that **any and all medical expenses will be the responsibility of each participant.**



11. General information on Bolivia

Official name: **Plurnational State of Bolivia.**

Capital City: Sucre.

Administrative Capital: La Paz

Nationality: Bolivian

Total Density: 1.098.581 km².

Official Language: Spanish

Literacy Rate: 96%

Political Division: 9 departments, 112 provinces and 339 municipalities.

Government: Bolivia is constituted as a Unitary Social State of Plurinational Common Law. decentralized and with autonomy.

Legal System: Based on a system of civil law, reviews legislative acts in the Supreme Court, and accepts the jurisdiction of international tribunals with certain caveats.

History The Andean region of Bolivia was part of the Inca empire, while the northern and eastern lowlands were inhabited by independent tribes. Spanish conquerors from Cuzco and Asuncion took control of the region in the 16th century. During the Spanish colonial period Bolivia was administered by the Royal Audiencia of Charcas. Spain built its empire in great part upon the silver that was extracted from Bolivia's mines. After the first call for Independence in 1809, 16 years of war followed before the establishment of the Republic, named for Simon Bolivar. Bolivia became independent in 1825.

The constitutional capital of Bolivia is Sucre, La Paz is the seat of government (executive, legislative and electoral) and the political, cultural and financial epicenter of the country. Santa Cruz de la Sierra (Santa Cruz) is the largest and most populated city and is considered the principal economic center of the country.

The country's population estimated at 10.1 million, based on the last census of 2012, is multiethnic, including *Amerindians, Mestizos, Europeans, Asians, Africans*. Spanish is the official and predominant language and although 36 indigenous languages also have official status, the most commonly spoken are Guaraní, Aymara and Quechua languages.

Geography

Bolivia is a sovereign nation, situated in west-central South America, bordered by Peru, Brazil, Paraguay, Argentina and Chile. The country extends from the Central Andes to the Amazon. The central geographical point of the country is Puerto Estrella on the river, in the Nuflo de Chaves province, located in the department of Santa Cruz.



Given the geographical location of Bolivia, there is a large variety of landforms and climates. There is also broad biodiversity (considered among the largest in the world), as well as distinct eco-regions. Its geography varies from the peaks of the Andes in the west, to the Eastern Lowlands, situated within the Amazon Basin. In spite of the geographical contrasts, Bolivia is a land-locked country (a result of the Pacific War). One third of the country is within the Andean mountain range. Bolivia is the fifth largest country in South America.

Bolivia is a developing country, and for more than a decade has led the economic growth in the region. It is a Charter member of the United Nations Organization, IMF, OAS, ALBA (Bolivarian Alliance for the Peoples of Our America) and UNASUR (Union of South American Nations). It is in the process of joining MERCOSUR (Southern Common Market). Bolivia is currently one of the three safest countries in Latin America.

Climate: the climate of Bolivia varies among eco-regions, based on the weather conditions, from tropical-type climate in the east to polar climates in the western Andes. The climate in **Santa Cruz** is hot the summer, and cool in winter or sometimes quite cold. The average weather in October is around 86 °F, rarely falling below 76 °F.`

Religion: There is absolute freedom of worship in Bolivia. There are numerous churches, temples and synagogues.

Time Zone: the time in Bolivia is the same all year – it follows the time zone of the Eastern United States (GMT-4).

Currency: Boliviano.(Rate of Exchange US\$1=6.90).

Assistance will be provided to facilitate money exchange. However, if you prefer to do this on your own, please refer to the following link:
https://www.bcb.gob.bo/?q=cotizaciones_tc

Commerce: Stores are generally open from 9:00a.m.- 6:00p.m. from Monday-Saturday. Some also open on Sundays.

Tips: Recommended 10% -15% of the check

Drivers License: Visitors may drive for up to 30 days with a foreign license.



Electricity: 220 volts. The electrical outlets in Bolivia are as follows:



¿How to get there ?: The best way to get to Bolivia is by American Airlines, Iberia, Avianca, Varig, Boa, Aerolíneas Argentinas, Lan Chile, etc.

Additional information

If you have any questions or require additional information, kindly send an email to the following:

PAIGH General Secretariat: secretariageneral@ipgh.org

National Section of PAIGH in Bolivia: pardo7962@gmail.com

The National Sections will be informed periodically as new information becomes available.