

XVI INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF
ADMINISTRATIVE SCIENCES

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PRESENTATION

Mexico is a democratic, representative and federal republic consisting of 29 states that are sovereign in their internal affairs and are united in a pact which is governed by the Constitution of 1917. The public sector has been a decisive factor in the country's economic evolution and for this reason the government has evolved through a constant and continuous adaptation of its structures which has permitted the political stability it enjoys and helped it to be a determining factor in its progress.

This concern of the Mexican government is evident in the words of President Luis Echeverría when he said, "to realize our hopes we must unceasingly perfect the mechanisms of our public administration". Mexico considers that each country must find its own road to follow in public administration and has always respected the way of life of all other countries, with which it lives in peace and friendship, while demanding respect and understanding for itself.

In recognition of the fact that it is a country with fifty years of peace and constitutional rule Mexico has now the honor of being host to the XVI International Congress of Administrative Sciences. The National Institute of Public Administration has been charged with organizing the Congress under the auspices of the federal government and with the aid of a consultative council presided over by Lic. Hugo Cervantes del Río, Secretary of the Presidency. This event will bring together more than 2,000 professional administrators and scientists and students of public administration representing all the member countries of the United Nations.

Three subjects will be discussed at this important event:

- I. Administrative Aspects of Regionalization within a country.
- II. Aspects of the Evolution of Public Administration in Developing Countries During the Past Twenty Years: Experiences and Lessons.

III. Administrative Methods and Institutions Used to Forecast the Effects of Social and Economic Changes.

In the first paper to be read Lic. Ignacio Pichardo Pagaza, a member of the Board of Directors of the National Institute of Public Administration and General Secretary of Government of the State of Mexico will coordinate the contributions of state institutes which are members of the National Institute of Public Administration. In his paper he fundamentally analyzes the administrative aspects of present regionalization which are suitable for Mexico and, in the conclusions of his exhaustive study, those which should be adopted in the immediate future.

In the second paper presented by the Mexican government on the subject of the evolution of public administration in developing countries, Dr. José Chanes Nieto, General Director of Administrative Studies of the Secretariat of the Presidency analyzes Mexico's experiences in public administration over the past twenty years, starting from with a statement of its political, economic, social, and cultural realities, as well as the legal standards that govern its organization and fields of activity.

The third paper, presented by Mexican centers of higher education under the coordination of Lic. Víctor Flores Olea, Director of the School of Political and Social Sciences of the National Autonomous University of Mexico, expounds, among other matters, the need for a system of public administration which is not neutral but committed to economic and social change, as well as the institucionalization in Mexico of forecasts that serve this end, due to their integral and continuous nature.

The Mexican Institute of Public Administration has published this book in order to demonstrate its interest and manifest Mexico's participation in and its contributions to the XVI International Congress of Administrative Sciences.

The INAP wishes for all the countries participating in this important event to achieve their goals and so perfect an improved and more modern system of public administration for the benefit of mankind.

Andrés Caso
Chairman of the Organizing Committee