

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

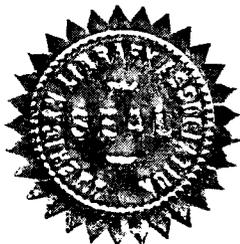
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RESOLUTION ON USICA LIBRARIES

- WHEREAS, The American Library Association is committed to an effective unrestricted flow of books and information internationally; and
- WHEREAS, The American Library Association was instrumental in the establishment of the first U.S. government-financed libraries outside the United States and it perceives the library and information network of the U.S. International Communication Agency (USICA) and the Agency's various book programs as essential to the successful worldwide flow of books and information; and
- WHEREAS, The Association, through its independent contacts overseas, has gained the impression that the USICA libraries contribute one of the most popular and useful services provided by the U.S. government for the nationals of the host countries; and
- WHEREAS, The Association is deeply concerned about the decline over the years in the number and size of USICA libraries and their circulation, membership, usage, and attractiveness to natural audiences; and
- WHEREAS, The Association is further concerned over the decline in distribution overseas through USICA programs of American books in English and translations; and
- WHEREAS, The Association firmly believes renewed emphasis should be given to the USICA library and information services network and its book programs, and in support of these, its worldwide English teaching program;
THEREFORE, BE IT
- RESOLVED, That the American Library Association recommends that the Director of USICA issue a policy statement committing the Agency to a strong and effective library and information services program around the world with corresponding support for improved book and English teaching programs; and FURTHER
- RESOLVED, That the American Library Association offers to advise and assist in a review of USICA library and information services activities and work with USICA to improve these activities within available resources and to support requests for additional resources if determined necessary; and FURTHER

RESOLVED, That the Executive Director submit this resolution to the President of the United States, the Director of USICA, the Secretary of State, the Assistant Secretary of State for Cultural Affairs, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations of the U.S. Senate, Chairman of the Committee on International Relations of the U.S. House of Representatives.



ADOPTED BY THE
ALA COUNCIL
June 30, 1981

Transmitted by Robert Wedgeworth
Secretary of Council