

THE POPAYAN GASTRONOMIC DECLARATION
“TOWARD A WORLD UNION OF GASTRONOMIC CITIES”

PREAMBLE

The representatives from the gastronomic cities of Chengdu (People’s Republic of China) and Popayán (Colombia, South America) were brought together in order to attend the VIII National Gastronomic Congress in Popayán, held from the 2nd to the 5th September 2010.

-Considering that both cities, Popayán, in 2005, and Chengdu, in 2010, were declared “Cities of Gastronomy” by UNESCO by allowing them to join The Creative Cities Network within the Global Alliance for Cultural Diversity.

-Considering that gastronomy along with its embedded diversity, is a cultural expression common to all mankind. And that the knowledge and skill on gastronomy’s disciplines, contribute to the improvement of health conditions and quality of life in human beings.

-Aware that Gastronomy is a development tool for a wide economic sector that includes several industries such as agro, tourism, transportation, food conservation and handling, lodging, dining. And that Gastronomy is also material for other related areas like architecture and social research, in every country in the world.

-Taking into consideration that gastronomy is a main attraction in tourism offers of all kinds. And that gastronomy contributes to exporting a fine image of societies that nourish it with craft and authenticity.

DECLARE

Express sincere gratitude to UNESCO for the universal acknowledgement of the gastronomic qualities of the cities of Popayán and Chengdu in promoting their local cultural heritage as a tool for cope with the influx of globalization.

And decide:

-Article 1.- To work for the creation of the World Union of Gastronomic Cities (WUGC) within the objectives of gastronomic culture and cultural diversity of UNESCO.

-Article 2.- To implement an exchange of gastronomic information among the member cities of the WUGC, with special emphasis on indigenous cuisines of the gastronomic heritage of each one.

-Article 3.- To exchange and share training opportunities in all activities of gastronomy through means of formal education. In the same fashion, to socialize gastronomic knowledge within all communities of member cities.

-Article 4.- To advise the cities' authorities with regards to the formulation and implementation of policies aimed to the quantitative and qualitative improvement of the gastronomic industry itself and in relation with the global offer of tourism, in the frame of the cultural and economic development plans of each city.

-Article 5.- Support, as strong as possible, all gastronomic activities and events held by the sister cities of the Union.

-Article 6.- To share these goals and programs with all other cities that UNESCO will select in the future as members of the Gastronomic Creative Cities Network.

Approved and signed at Popayán the 3th September 2010.

Representing Popayán:

Guillermo Alberto González
Honorary President of Popayan's Gastronomic Corporation.

Representing Chengdu:

Zhang Guanjun
Secretary General of Chengdu Restaurant's Union