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The history of the Inter-American Committee on Mathematics Education started some thirty-five years ago. The First Inter-American Conference on Mathematics Education (I IACME) was held at Bogota, Colombia, from December 4 to 9, 1961 and was attended by mathematicians and mathematics educators from twenty-three countries of the Western Hemisphere. The International Commission on Mathematical Instruction (ICMI) and the Organization of American States sponsored this conference. Prof. Marshall Stone chaired the Organizing Committee.

It was during the I IACME that the Inter-American Committee on Mathematics Education was created. Since 1961, thanks to the courage and dedication of many mathematics educators and mathematicians from North and South America, eight other Inter-American Conferences on Mathematics Education have been organized: Lima, Peru (1966), Bahía Blanca, Argentina (1972), Caracas, Venezuela (1975), Campinas, Brazil (1979), Guadalajara, Mexico (1985), Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic (1987), Miami, Florida, USA (1991), and Santiago, Chile (1995).

This publication was conceived not only as a tribute to the mathematics educators and mathematicians who have kept these conferences alive, but, also, as a reference for present and future plans, for as stated by the Spanish philosopher George Santayana: "Those who do not remember the past are condemned to repeat it".

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