



GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE: HIGH PERFORMANCE LANDSCAPES



RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF CAU – BRAZILIAN COUNCIL OF ARCHITECTURE AND URBAN DESIGN AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE EDUCATION IN BRAZIL.

IFLA - International Federation of Landscape Architects held in Rio de Janeiro, between 19 and 23 October in his 46th International Congress and prior meetings to their delegates and international main board recognizes the importance of creating an own Council of Architecture and Urbanism in Brazil CAU - Council of Architecture and Urban Design, and recommends a favorable vote of the Draft Law 4413/2008 which is now in voting process by the Brazilian Deputies Federal Chamber. The Landscape Architecture in Brazil, native country of our master Roberto Burle Marx is today the attribution of Architects and Planners and deserves recognition and encouragement to the multiplication of our professionals.

Landscape Architecture is the profession responsible for open spaces planning and design in several scales. It offers alternatives which advantage the interests of communities, businesses and governments. In the context of present crises – climatic changes, disappearing forests and loss of biodiversity - like the Amazon bioma -, scarcity of water and energy, lack of food, constraints on mobility, and uncertain security – environmental and landscape assets, and their management, should be perceived as strategic assets for development. Emerging countries like Brazil, Russia, India and China, with their large landmasses and populations, are

stewards of some of the greatest environmental and landscape assets on Earth. These assets are privileged places in which landscape architects can experiment with solutions to the conflicts between growth and conservation, between socioeconomic development and environmental preservation.

As a profession still not officially recognised in Brazil, it is necessary to create opportunities to strengthen the proactive presence of the profession among public administration, the business sector and in public opinion. What must be conveyed is all the potential that landscape architecture holds for a development integrated with environmental conservation and sociocultural matters.

Brazil to be one of the leading countries of this century, will greatly benefit on landscape architects effective capacity to publicly disseminate works concerned the realms of our professional practices or of academic reflection and research. This will be a task which will demand great work if we consider the difficulties due to the vast array of local projects that should be set; of the ever growing fragmentation, specialisation and overlapping of professional attributions and of the increasing economic pressures on professional practice. However, these are the stimuli to the Country to be in a world of such intense diversity, soaring challenges but growing knowledge and expertise to respond to them in new forms that Landscape Architecture could deliver.

Most of this work should begin preparing the next generations for this challenges. In this sense, IFLA strongly recommends a joint political and academic effort in the creation and implementation of Graduate Programmes with

a focus on Landscape Architecture, aiming at a specialized professional capacitation.

Resolved and approved by the world council of the IFLA – International Federation of Landscape Architects.

Dr. Diane Menzies

President,

IFLA – International Federation of Landscape Architects

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