

**WORLD CONGRESS ON SPECIALIZED TRANSLATION  
Languages and Intercultural Dialogue in a Globalizing World**

**La Habana, Cuba: December 8-13, 2008**

**Organized by Unión Latina and Maaya, the World Network for Linguistic Diversity with the support of the [Center for Translation and Interpretation](#) (ESTI), the Cuban Association of Translators and Interpreters and the [Canadian Translators, Terminologists and Interpreters Council](#) (CTTIC), within the framework of the Year of Languages proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly .**

**The 6-day congress included 50 presentations, 15 special conferences, 5 poster sessions, 5 workshops and two round tables.**

**General Objectives:**

- **Discuss the best practices for improving the working conditions of specialized translators and promoting multilingualism in the international community.**
- **Generate original and viable ideas to upgrade translation training and raise public awareness of the practical and economic advantages of using specialized translation services.**
- **Present to influential international entities solutions and suggestions regarding the promotion of specialized translation as a key element in achieving respect for linguistic diversity.**

**Topics:**

- **Translation in International organizations, patents and norms**
- **Automated Translation**
- **Linguistic corpora and study cases**
- **The profession of a translator; specialization, training and synergies**
- **“Translation is too expensive and too slow” or the lies behind monolingualism.**

**Leading representatives of local and international organizations spoke at the opening panel, including Ms. Silvana Marchetti, FIT representative, who read the welcome words on behalf of FIT President, Ms. Marion Boers, Isabel Viera (UNESCO Cuba), Rubén Zardoya (Chancellor of the University of La Habana); Adama Samassékou (President of Maaya), Ana María Luettgen (Director of Unión Latina, Cuba) and Gisela Odio, President of the Cuban Association of Translators and Interpreters, among others.**

**Ms. Marchetti also presented the session: The translator’s profession, specialization, training and synergies, where she outlined the importance of the professional translator training and specialization, in a globalized world and the need of interaction among translators associations and educational & training centers.**

**As President of the FIT Regional Center for Latin America (CRAL) she spoke about the main objectives of this Center. She presented the organizations that are currently CRAL members, and invited the Latin American associations present at**

**the event, which still are not members, to join and work towards the growth of the profession in Latin America, through the Regional Center and the International Federation of Translators (FIT).**

**Finally, the participants in the World Congress on Specialized Translation, have prepared the Recommendation of La Habana. To see this recommendation in French, Spanish, English and Russian, please visit:**

<http://dtil.unilat.org/cmte2008/en/recomendacion.htm>

<http://dtil.unilat.org/cmte2008/fr/recomendacion.htm>

<http://dtil.unilat.org/cmte2008/es/recomendacion.htm>

<http://dtil.unilat.org/cmte2008/ru/recomendacion.htm>