

## **THE STORY OF THE METAMORPHIC FACIES MAP OF SOUTH AMERICA 1:5.000.000.**

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A letter dated 24 November 1976 by Dr. Fernando de Almeida, then Vice-President of the CGMW for South America to Mr. O. Gonzalez, Director of Instituto de Investigaciones Geológicas (IIG) triggered the preparation of the map. The letter stated that agreements during the 2nd Latin American Geological Congress in Caracas (1973) and the XXV IGC in Sydney (1976) decided that Chile should coordinate the elaboration of this map. The author was designated by Mr. L. Kaiser, Director of IIG as General Coordinator May 31, 1977. With the scientific and practical advice of Dr. H. Zwart and Miss Frances Delaney, a network of collaborating scientists in all the Southamerican countries was established, not an easy task in pre e-mail times. A common legend was agreed in Santiago, January 1979 by the Regional Coordinators Drs. E. Wernick (Brazil), J.M. Jaramillo (Colombia) and the late R. Caminos (Argentina). Work sessions held, among others, in Arica (1979), Port of Spain (1979), Rio de Janeiro (1987), Belem (1988) allowed the information to be compiled. With the support of Mrs. O. Dottin and J.R. de Andrade Ramos (CGMW), the final draft of the map, excepting Brazil, was finished in 1989. Its publication at the 31st IGC in Rio de Janeiro is a tribute to the effort of the Southamerican geological community with representative of every country in the continent included in the map coauthorship. Though somewhat out of date, it will be a useful synthetic document which shows in a continental scale the metamorphic features of Archean to late Cenozoic orogenic belts.