

No. 21884

**SPAIN, NICARAGUA and
INTERGOVERNMENTAL BUREAU FOR INFORMATICS**

**Agreement for the development in Nicaragua of a joint action
programme in the field of informatics. Signed at Madrid
on 14 January 1983**

Authentic text: Spanish.

Registered by Spain on 26 April 1983.

**ESPAGNE, NICARAGUA
et BUREAU INTERGOUVERNEMENTAL
POUR L'INFORMATIQUE**

**Accord relatif au développement, au Nicaragua, d'un pro-
gramme d'action conjointe dans le domaine de l'infor-
matique. Signé à Madrid le 14 janvier 1983**

Texte authentique : espagnol.

Enregistré par l'Espagne le 26 avril 1983.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT¹ FOR THE DEVELOPMENT IN NICARAGUA OF A JOINT ACTION PROGRAMME IN THE FIELD OF INFORMATICS BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF SPAIN, THE GOVERNMENT OF NICARAGUA AND THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL BUREAU FOR INFORMATICS (IBI)

Considering the recommendations of the First Intergovernmental Conference on Strategies and Policies for Informatics (SPIN) held in Torremolinos (Spain) in 1978 concerning the development of informatics;

Considering the IBI Convention,² to which Spain and Nicaragua have acceded, the role of IBI in the field of informatics and the activities to promote informatics particularly in developing countries;

Considering the Mexico Declaration on Informatics, Development and Peace and, in particular, the essential role which is accorded to informatics in the development process;

Considering the intentions of the Government of Spain in the field of international co-operation, and, in particular, with regard to assistance to developing countries;

Considering the interest of the Government of Nicaragua in informatics, reflected in the establishment of the National Bureau of Informatics (DNI) and the role assigned to this agency;

Considering the interest of the Governments of Spain and Nicaragua in co-operation in the field of informatics through IBI;

Considering that in 1978 the IBI General Assembly explicitly provided for this type of programme and set aside the necessary resources in the budget;

The Government of Spain,

The Government of Nicaragua, and

The Intergovernmental Bureau for Informatics

Have agreed and resolved to carry out a Joint Action Programme (PAC) for the benefit of Nicaragua.

Article I. ORGANIZATION

A project of this type, which represents a mechanism for IBI co-operation, is designed to computerize the priority sectors of a country.

The Programme will last five years and will cover all the tasks necessary to carry out the computerization so that, on its completion, national users will be fully autonomous in the execution of projects. Thus, the Programme will include the following:

- Definition of the project and establishment of an administrative structure;
- The necessary administrative reorganization;
- Personnel training;
- Provision of the necessary computer equipment;
- Applications;
- Transfer of the necessary information.

¹ Came into force on 14 January 1983 by signature, in accordance with article XI.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 425, p. 61; vol. 1045, p. 367, and vol. 1217, p. 397.

The Programme will be financed by the three Parties on the basis of equal contributions.

Article II. AREA OF ACTION

The project is designed to set up, through the rational use of informatics, basic information structures in priority sectors. The National Informatics System (SNI) will be the starting point for the development of projects.

Article III. SECTORS

The Nicaraguan sectors included in the Programme and their administrative agencies are:

1. Productive sector: the Ministry of Industry (MIND) and the Ministry of Agricultural Development and Agrarian Reform (MIDINRA);
2. Public health sector: Ministry of Health (MINSa);
3. State administration and information sector: the Controller-General's Office and the Nicaraguan Institute of Statistics (INEC);
4. Banking sector: the National Financial Corporation.

The National Commission, which is made up of the representatives of the various Nicaraguan Ministries involved, and whose establishment is provided for under article VI of this Agreement, will determine the priorities for carrying out the projects and will decide on the possible expansion of the Programme to include other sectors.

The National Bureau of Informatics (DNI), in addition to its counterpart role in the Programme, will serve as a centre for advisory services on informatics policy.

Article IV. FIELDS OF ACTIVITY

The fields of activity are as follows:

- (a) The Nicaraguan Institute of Statistics (INEC):
- Processing the data from the Population and Housing Census,
 - Computerization of the Statistical Yearbook,
 - Standardization of terminology in nomenclatures and codes.

In order to carry out these projects, INEC has already prepared a survey and census programme. Its basic requirements are how to use computer resources and how to train skilled personnel.

- (b) Controller-General's Office:
- A Government Accounting system,
 - An accounting system for enterprises,
 - Elaboration and updating of the computerized organizational chart,
 - Use of the computerized organizational chart in payroll management and management of national resources.

The greatest difficulty is the lack of uniformity in the accounting systems used; accordingly, an effort must be made to overcome this difficulty and to advance by stages with experiments in a number of spheres of activity.

- (c) Ministry of Health (MINSa):
- Planning a storage system for statistics relating to individuals of greatest concern to the Ministry: pregnant women, new-born infants, schoolchildren, clinical case histories, etc.,

- Planning and establishment of the National System of Vital Statistics (SINEVI),
- Planning and establishment of the Health Services Storage System,
- Planning and establishment of a system for data storage, follow-up and control of epidemic diseases,
- Planning of a system for the comprehensive management of pharmaceutical products,
- Planning and implementation of a decentralized integral hospital-management system,
- Establishment of a statistical data base.

The general outline of the system has been laid down and, at the same time, existing applications or those which are being introduced will be reviewed.

- (d) Ministry of Agricultural and Livestock Development and Agrarian Reform (MIDINRA):
- Soil information: rural census, soil-resource inventory,
 - Establishment of a storage system for the economic units of agricultural enterprises,
 - Monitoring of the People's Property Zone (APP),
 - Sector terminology: Statistical Data Bases (BDE),
 - Internal administrative inspection: Uniform System of Administrative Management (SUGA).
- (e) Ministry of Industry (MIND):
- Directorate of Enterprises,
 - Directorate of Products,
 - Statistical data base of the Ministry,
 - Preparation of the Uniform Accounting Plan for All Enterprises.

Article V. PLAN OF ACTION

The plan of action comprises the following:

(a) Phases:

After the sectoral description of the various projects under consideration, the Programme will be carried out in three phases which will be subject to more detailed agreements:

1. Personnel training and preliminary studies (prior to planning);
2. Planning and execution of projects;
3. Implementation and completion.

(b) Priorities:

Since the various sectors have a common priority with regard to administrative and statistical tools, any effort to make use of packages for such applications is amply justified.

(c) Computation Centre:

The Programme provides for the establishment of a Computation Centre under the management of the National Office of Informatics (DNI) as the first phase of the project. There are to be two possibilities in the future: strengthening the user centres or setting up a teleprocessing network.

(d) Training:

A training programme, which includes a high-level familiarization seminar, a basic six-month course and training in the field of maintenance, will also be planned and implemented under the supervision of the Regional Centre for the Teaching of Informatics

(CREI) and with the participation of the Computation Training Centre (CAC). Other activities such as training in the use of teleprocessing techniques and data bases are planned.

(e) Co-ordination:

The National Bureau of Informatics (DNI) will serve as the agency for co-ordinating activities and, in particular, will be responsible for:

- Elaboration and use of norms with regard to codes, identifiers and nomenclatures,
- Execution of the necessary training programme,
- Installation and functioning of equipment,
- Provision of maintenance facilities.

Article VI. MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING

1. *At the national level (Nicaragua)*

First of all, it is very important to ensure that the users are involved in all phases of the project and, in particular, can participate in its execution. Accordingly, Nicaragua will establish a very high-level Commission empowered to take decisions within the Government. This Commission will be under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Planning and will be composed of high-ranking officials from the Ministries of Industry, Agricultural and Livestock Development and Agrarian Reform and Health, and representatives of the Controller-General's Office. The Director of the National Bureau of Informatics (DNI) will be the Secretary of the Commission.

At the level of project management, a Management Committee will be established by the directors involved in the Programme, including the Director-General of DNI, who will be the Chairman.

Nicaragua will appoint a Director of PAC, who will occupy his post full-time. He will report directly to the National management Committee and the International Management and Monitoring Committee.

2. *At the international level*

The various aspects of the Programme will be dealt with at the international level by a committee established for this purpose and composed of representatives of the State Electronics and Informatics Office (Spain), a representative of IBI and the management of DNI.

This Committee, in particular, will take decisions concerning hiring and purchasing throughout the phases of the project.

This Committee will be responsible for purchasing decisions, for the schedule of contributions, for the planning and implementation of the work programme and for making any changes which may be necessary.

All the decisions of this Committee will be taken with the unanimous agreement of its members.

3. *Project execution and the secretariat*

The Director of PAC, who will be appointed by Nicaragua, will be responsible for co-ordinating and executing the project and, for this purpose, will be assisted by the persons responsible for each application. For the technical management of the project, he will receive advice from the Spanish side.

IBI will centralize the work of the Project secretariat in order to ensure the start of the Joint Action Programme (PAC).

*Article VII. COMMITMENTS AND OBLIGATIONS**1. The Government of Nicaragua*

The Government of Nicaragua undertakes to make contributions amounting to a total of \$500,000 (five hundred thousand dollars) for a period of five years, which represents approximately one third of the value of the project, as broken down under the following headings:

(a) Personnel:

The Government of Nicaragua undertakes to provide the PAC Committee with the necessary personnel for the project and to meet staff costs during training and project execution.

Provision is made in particular for:

- A programme director,
- 25 analysts who will take the six-month training course,
- 4 maintenance specialists,
- Programmers, whose number will be determined at a later date,
- Maintenance personnel.

It is important to ensure that the analysts are employees of the Ministries in which the projects are carried out.

The personnel collaborating in the project on the Nicaraguan side will not involve any change to the PAC budget, except for personnel hired specifically for managing the project.

(b) Local expenses:

The necessary premises will be made available and equipped with the facilities required to carry out the work.

The computer rooms will be equipped according to the standards set by the manufacturers, including those concerning air-conditioning, electrical supply and security arrangements.

The living and local transport expenses of the experts (housing and food) will be covered by the Government of Nicaragua.

(c) Miscellaneous:

The Government undertakes to admit tax-free the goods and services specifically required for the project, particularly equipment and programme packages.

The Government is responsible for the administrative infrastructure for the project in Nicaragua.

2. Government of Spain

The Government of Spain, through the Ministry of Industry and Energy, undertakes to provide contributions amounting to a total of \$500,000 (five hundred thousand dollars) for a period of five years, which represents approximately one third of the value of the project.

This support will, as a matter of priority, be in the form of equipment or services to be provided with the prior agreement of the International Management and Monitoring Committee.

These contributions will be assessed at real cost or market cost in the case of contracts, and standard cost in the case of support provided by the Government. Furthermore, the Government undertakes to provide support for on-the-job training for project personnel and to obtain the assistance of specialists on short-term missions.

The Ministry of Industry and Energy will meet the expenses arising from the implementation of this Agreement through the use of credits set aside in a regular budget.

3. *Intergovernmental Bureau for Informatics*

IBI undertakes to provide contributions amounting to a total of \$500,000 (five hundred thousand dollars) for a period of five years, which represents approximately one third of the value of the project. IBI will take charge of the project secretariat and will manage all aspects of the implementation of this Agreement. In particular, it will ensure the functioning of the secretariat of the Tripartite Committee of the Programme (International Management and Monitoring Committee) and the IBI regional centres may participate in the execution of the project. The training component will have the support of the Regional Centre for the Teaching of Informatics (CREI) in Madrid.

Article VIII

Under this Programme, partial execution agreements will be signed by the Parties, including a detailed evaluation of activities, a budget and an execution schedule. In principle, three agreements are envisaged: one for one year—1982—another for the biennium 1983-1984 and a third for the biennium 1985-1986.

Article IX

Project equipment, programmes, personnel services and so forth for the biennium 1985-1986.

Article IX

Project equipment, programmes, personnel services and so forth which may have to be acquired outside of Nicaragua will be obtained as far as possible in Spain. Exceptions to this rule must be granted on the basis of unanimous agreement by the Tripartite Committee.

Article X

If one of the Parties obtains other funds or additional technical assistance in order to carry out projects under the Programme, DNI must inform the Tripartite Committee in order to ensure effective co-ordination of available resources.

Article XI

This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of its signature and shall remain in force for five years. Any of the Parties may denounce the Agreement with advance notice of one year.

DONE at Madrid, on 14 January 1983, in three equally authentic copies, in Spanish.

For the Government
of Spain:

[Signed]

FERNANDO MORÁN
Minister for Foreign Affairs

For the Government
of Nicaragua:

[Signed]

ORLANDO CASTILLO ESTRADA
Ambassador of Nicaragua

For the Intergovernmental Bureau for Informatics:

[Signed]

RUBÉN GALLEGO RODRÍGUEZ