

No. 24624

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**FRANCE  
and  
COLOMBIA**

**Basic Agreement on cultural co-operation (with annexed agreement). Signed at Paris on 13 June 1979**

*Authentic texts: French and Spanish.*

*Registered by France on 20 February 1987.*

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**FRANCE  
et  
COLOMBIE**

**Accord cadre de coopération culturelle (avec accord annexé).  
Signé à Paris le 13 juin 1979**

*Textes authentiques : français et espagnol.*

*Enregistré par la France le 20 février 1987.*

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

## BASIC AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> ON CULTURAL CO-OPERATION BETWEEN FRANCE AND COLOMBIA

The Government of the French Republic and the Government of the Republic of Colombia, desiring to consolidate and strengthen the bonds of friendship existing between the two countries, resolve to encourage by mutual agreement, a wider dissemination of their languages and cultures, to strengthen relations between them in the fields of education, science and the arts, and to expand their co-operation in cultural matters, have agreed as follows:

*Article I.* Each Contracting Party shall as far as possible promote and foster the teaching of the language, literature, culture and civilization of the other country, particularly at the secondary and university levels and through radio, television and the cinema.

*Article II.* The Contracting Parties, recognizing the importance of training teachers to teach the respective languages, shall assist one another in encouraging the teaching of the language and culture of the other country, primarily by organizing advanced training courses and by sending teachers, research workers, assistant teachers and students to the other country.

*Article III.* Each Contracting Party undertakes to encourage the establishment, and to facilitate the operation in its territory within the limits of the national regulations of each Party, of any cultural and educational institutions of the other Party.

*Article IV.* The facilities that may be granted to cultural and educational institutions and to teaching personnel participating in the development of this Agreement shall be determined in each case by means of specific agreements.

*Article V.* The Contracting Parties undertake to foster cultural, artistic and sports exchanges. To this end, they shall encourage the organization of exhibitions, concerts, theatrical and choreographic performances and, in general, any other artistic or sports event designed to improve knowledge of their respective cultures and strengthen the bonds of friendship between them.

*Article VI.* The Contracting Parties shall encourage reciprocal visits by cultural personalities, research workers, teachers, authors, composers, film directors, artists and artistic groups, and sportsmen, in accordance with programmes officially arranged between the Parties.

*Article VII.* Within the limits of the national legislation of each country, the Contracting Parties shall facilitate the entry into their respective territories and the distribution therein of books, newspapers, magazines, catalogues and other cultural or scientific publications, photographic, cinematographic and musical works and radio and television programmes, and works of art and reproductions of such works originating in the other country.

*Article VIII.* The Contracting Parties undertake jointly to facilitate, within the limits of their national legislation, co-productions and exchanges of cultural, artistic, sports and educational programmes by their respective radio and television networks, and to encourage exchanges of information by these same communication media.

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 22 February 1980, the date of receipt of the last of the notifications by which the Contracting Parties informed each other of the completion of the required constitutional procedures, in accordance with article XIV.

*Article IX.* The Parties shall encourage the translation into their respective languages of literary, historical and scientific works of the other Party.

*Article X.* As far as possible, each Party shall make scholarships available to the other Party for study and training or advanced training.

*Article XI.* The Contracting Parties shall appoint a Special Committee to draw up a joint scholarship programme, which shall be arranged in accordance with the regulations of each country.

*Article XII.* The two Governments shall recognize, on a reciprocal basis, the equivalence of their certificates of secondary education that give access to their respective universities and undertake to examine a system of equivalence for the academic degrees and diplomas conferred in higher education.

*Article XIII.* The mixed French-Colombian Cultural Commission shall be entrusted with developing the provisions of this Agreement. It shall meet alternately in Paris and in Bogotá every two years.

*Article XIV.* Each Contracting Party shall notify the other of the completion of the constitutional procedures required in its case for the entry into force of this Agreement, which shall take effect on the date of the receipt of the last such notification.

*Article XV.* This Agreement shall supersede the Agreement on Cultural Exchanges between France and Colombia, adopted at Bogotá on 31 July 1952,<sup>1</sup> in so far as its provisions are contrary to that Agreement.

DONE at Paris, on 13 June 1979, in two original copies, in the French and Spanish languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government  
of the French Republic:

[Signed]

JEAN FRANÇOIS-PONCET  
Minister for Foreign Affairs

For the Government  
of the Republic of Colombia:

[Signed]

DIEGO URIBE VARGAS  
Minister for Foreign Affairs

AGREEMENT CONCLUDED IN IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE IV OF THE BASIC AGREEMENT ON CULTURAL CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE FRENCH REPUBLIC AND THE REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA, CONCERNING THE FACILITIES TO BE ENJOYED BY FRENCH CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND THE TEACHING STAFF OF THOSE INSTITUTIONS IN COLOMBIA

The Government of the French Republic and the Government of the Republic of Colombia, desiring to implement the provisions of Article IV of the Basic Agreement on Cultural Co-operation between their two countries, signed at Paris on 13 June 1979, have resolved to sign this Agreement.

*Article 1.* The cultural and educational institutions referred to in the Basic Agreement on Cultural Co-operation concluded between the French Republic and the Republic of Colombia, covered by the régime established under this Agreement, are the following: the Lycée Français Louis Pasteur in Bogotá, the Lycée Français Paul Valéry in Cali, and the Franco-Colombian Associations in Bogotá, Barranquilla, Bucaramanga, Cali, Cartagena, Cúcuta, Manizales, Medellín, Pereira and Popayán.

<sup>1</sup> Registered with the Secretariat of the United Nations on 18 April 1989 under No. I-26503.

*Article 2.* The Government of the French Republic shall inform the Government of the Republic of Colombia of the establishment of any new cultural or educational institution so that it may benefit in timely fashion from the facilities established under this Agreement.

*Article 3.* The Government of the French Republic undertakes to ensure that the education provided at the Lycée Français Louis Pasteur in Bogotá and at the Lycée Français Paul Valéry in Cali is in conformity with the Colombian educational curriculum.

The Government of Colombia, for its part, shall take the measures necessary to permit adequate teaching of the French language in these schools and shall allow their educational curriculum to be also in conformity with the French curriculum.

The High Contracting Parties shall facilitate the creation of any sections whose academic curriculum might be in strict conformity with the French curriculum.

*Article 4.* The cultural and educational institutions specified in Article 1 of this Agreement may import through the Embassy of France in Colombia free of customs duties, teaching materials, audio-visual materials, laboratory equipment, books and periodicals for their exclusive use in accordance with the needs of each institution.

*Article 5.* French citizens who hold service passports and are either regular teachers employed under the French National Education system and seconded to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or contract teachers recruited by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs to perform educational functions within the cultural and educational institutions shall enjoy the following facilities, which shall be obtained through the Embassy of France in Colombia:

(a) Importation of a single vehicle during their mission in Colombia, on the following conditions:

During the first two years, the vehicle shall, if re-sold, remain liable for payment of all the taxes applicable in accordance with the customs legislation in force;

Starting from the third year, the taxes applicable to this importation shall be progressively reduced, in accordance with Decree No. 232 of 1967, until the vehicle becomes totally exempt from taxes six years after its importation into the country.

The limitation on the f.o.b. price of vehicles imported by administrative officials of the Colombian Foreign Service shall be applicable to vehicles imported under the terms of this Agreement.

(b) Importation free of customs duties of their household goods, furniture and personal effects, on condition that they file the appropriate application within one hundred and eighty (180) days of their arrival in Colombia.

(c) Exemption from the payment of taxes on the income, salaries and emoluments that they receive from the Government of the French Republic.

(d) Issue of an identity card by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Colombia to the persons concerned, their spouses and children under 18 years of age, stating that the bearer is entering the country in accordance with the terms of the Basic Agreement on Cultural Co-operation concluded between the two countries.

(e) Issue of a driver's licence by the competent authorities to the persons concerned and their spouses on presentation of the corresponding French driver's licence.

(f) Issue of an official visa to teaching staff of the cultural and educational institutions specified in Article 1 of this Agreement, and to their spouses and minor children who are resident in Colombia, provided that they are not gainfully employed in that country other than in the aforementioned institutions.

(g) Neither the staff of the aforementioned cultural and educational institutions, nor the members of their families specified above, shall enjoy any sort of diplomatic immunity either in their private lives or in the exercise of their functions. In no circumstances shall they enjoy immunity from civil, penal or labour jurisdiction in the territory of the Republic of Colombia.

*Article 6.* Those members of the staff of the cultural and educational institutions who meet the conditions specified in the preceding article and who are exercising their functions in Colombia when this Agreement enters into force may, if they have not already imported a vehicle on a temporary basis, import one on the conditions specified above. Alternatively, they may submit a request to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Colombia to allow the vehicle that they have imported temporarily to be sold in accordance with the provisions of the new regulations for the importation of vehicles established by this Agreement.

*Article 7.* No Colombian may enjoy the facilities accorded by this Agreement.

*Article 8.* This Agreement is an annex to the Basic Agreement on Cultural Cooperation between the French Republic and the Republic of Colombia, signed at Paris on 13 June 1979 and shall enter into force simultaneously with that Agreement.

DONE at Paris, on 13 June 1979, in two original copies, in the French and Spanish languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government  
of the French Republic:

[Signed]

JEAN FRANÇOIS-PONCET  
Minister for Foreign Affairs

For the Government  
of the Republic of Colombia:

[Signed]

DIEGO URIBE VARGAS  
Minister for Foreign Affairs