

**No. 31161**

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**MEXICO  
and  
FRANCE**

**Basic Cooperation Agreement (with protocol of signature).  
Signed at Mexico City on 18 February 1992**

*Authentic texts: Spanish and French.*

*Registered by Mexico on 19 August 1994.*

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**MEXIQUE  
et  
FRANCE**

**Accord cadre de coopération (avec protocole de signature).  
Signé à Mexico le 18 février 1992**

*Textes authentiques : espagnol et français.*

*Enregistré par le Mexique le 19 août 1994.*

## [TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

BASIC COOPERATION AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC

The Government of the United Mexican States and the Government of the French Republic, hereinafter referred to as “the Parties”,

Wishing to strengthen and further develop the traditional ties of friendship and cooperation between their States,

Taking into account the common interests shared by the two countries and emphasizing their support for the principles and objectives set forth in the Charter of the United Nations,

Taking into account the level of economic development of each of the Parties,

Believing that economic growth and social progress are inextricably linked with the strengthening of political and social stability and the development of democratic institutions,

Believing that active participation by Mexico and France in international political, economic and cultural relations will foster the establishment of a more equitable world order,

Taking into account the Framework Agreement for co-operation signed on 26 April 1991 between the United Mexican States and the European Economic Community,<sup>2</sup>

Taking into consideration the spirit of the Rome Declaration of 20 December 1990 between the European Community and its member States and the States members of the Rio Group,

Acknowledging that in the framework of this Agreement it is essential to promote and coordinate cooperation between the Parties, both now and in the future,

Have agreed as follows:

## CHAPTER I. OBJECTIVES

*Article 1*

The Parties undertake to give renewed impetus to their bilateral relations. To that end, they are resolved to foster and strengthen the development of their cooperation in the areas covered in this Agreement in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth herein. Those terms and conditions shall be further specified, if necessary, through agreements between sectors or between individual institutions for each specific area. A list of agreements currently in force is appended hereto.

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 20 December 1993, the date of the last of the notifications (of 3 and 20 December 1993) by which the Parties informed each other of the completion of the required constitutional procedures, in accordance with article 28.

<sup>2</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1688, No. I-29115.

In pursuit of this objective, the Parties express their intention to give fresh impetus to their political relations at the highest possible level, foster bilateral economic cooperation and promote technological exchange and cultural dialogue.

## CHAPTER II. POLITICAL COOPERATION

### *Article 2*

The Parties undertake:

- To expand and intensify consultation between their Governments on political matters of common interest;
- To engage in high-level political consultations to exchange views concerning the positions of the two States on political matters of common interest, whether they arise in a bilateral or a multilateral context, through meetings between officials of their respective Ministries of Foreign Affairs; and
- To analyse the principal bilateral and international issues of common interest, especially the political dialogue between the geographic regions to which the Parties belong.

## CHAPTER III. ECONOMIC COOPERATION

### *Article 3*

The Parties undertake to reinforce and further develop their bilateral economic relations on the basis of existing agreements or other agreements to be concluded in the future, especially in relation to trade, investment, financial cooperation and industrial and technological cooperation in the areas of, *inter alia*, agriculture, agro-industry, forestry, energy, mining, communications, transport, services, tourism, intellectual property, standard-setting, health and the environment.

To that end, they shall endeavour to promote the development of their economies on sustainable bases. At the same time, they shall diversify their economic ties and shall encourage trade, investment and technology inputs through mechanisms including, as required, sectoral agreements that will help to invigorate and expand bilateral economic cooperation without prejudice to the international commitments of both States.

### *Article 4*

The Parties acknowledge that financial cooperation is one of the main factors in bilateral economic relations. Accordingly, they shall endeavour to amplify their bilateral financial instruments and promote cooperation between financial institutions and authorities by means of:

- Frequent consultations;
- Exchanges of information relating to financial statistics and methodologies and exchanges of experience in areas of common interest, primarily by organizing seminars, conferences and working groups; and
- Appropriate professional training.

### *Article 5*

With a view to furthering cooperation between private entities and institutions, the Parties undertake to foster joint projects by commercial firms, chambers of commerce or by professional associations and organizations.

### *Article 6*

With a view to establishing ties of cooperation between their various geographic regions, the Parties shall endeavour to determine how Mexican federated units and French decentralized regional territories can best be enabled to cooperate in areas of common interest, with special attention to the least developed among them.

## CHAPTER IV. COOPERATION IN THE AREAS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### *Article 7*

With a view to developing joint solutions to problems of common interest with the participation of institutions and public- and private-sector agencies and non-governmental organizations, the Parties shall promote bilateral cooperation in the areas of science and technology on the basis of existing agreements or other agreements to be concluded in the future.

To that end, the Parties undertake:

- To establish stronger sustained relations between the scientific communities of their respective States;
- To upgrade programmes of common interest;
- To foster exchanges of technology;
- To encourage association between their research centres;
- To provide effective reciprocal protection for intellectual property rights and the application of those rights, especially within the framework of specific agreements; and
- To promote cooperation and dialogue between bodies responsible for matters of intellectual property.

### *Article 8*

In order to foster the development of cooperation in the areas of science and technology, the Parties undertake jointly to identify sectors of common interest, with particular attention to the following areas: water, natural resources, the environment, transport, telecommunications, microelectronics, microcomputers, applied biotechnology in the fields of health and agriculture, new materials, and enhancement of the quality of life of their peoples.

### *Article 9*

The Parties shall select joint projects that will, on the broadest possible scale, foster and encourage the training of highly qualified human resources, scientific research, exchanges of scientific information through the organization of seminars, workshops, congresses and working meetings between their respective scientific communities, and exchanges of scientists.

*Article 10*

In the case of high-technology projects relating to current programmes and subprogrammes of the European Economic Community, technical cooperation between the Parties may take the form of sectoral agreements or agreements between individual institutions.

*Article 11*

The Parties shall examine ways of making scientific and technological programmes being implemented in European organizations more readily accessible to Mexican institutions and enterprises.

*Article 12*

The Parties undertake to facilitate and support programmes of cooperation between their respective research bodies and institutions, both at the bilateral level and in collaboration with international scientific institutions.

*Article 13*

The Parties shall strive to foster initiatives relating to the implementation of national programmes for the sustainable development of their respective natural resources with due regard for protection of the environment and preservation of the ecosystem, affording broad scope for the exchange of specific environmental protection technologies.

*Article 14*

Without prejudice to their domestic legislation and international commitments, the Parties undertake to reduce the differences between them in the spheres of metrology, standardization and certification by applying international standards and compatible certification systems and exchanging information on these matters.

## CHAPTER V. ADMINISTRATIVE COOPERATION

*Article 15*

In the administrative sphere, the Parties agree:

- To reaffirm their interest in developing cooperation in the sphere of public safety and civil defence, especially through training and technical assistance and, in general, the strengthening of relations between the competent services of both States;
- To cooperate, in the framework of existing international conventions, in efforts to eradicate the supply of, demand for and unlawful traffic in narcotic drugs, exercising particular vigilance to prevent the smuggling of narcotics, the diversion of their chemical precursors and the laundering of money obtained from trafficking in the drugs and the proceeds of criminal activities in general;
- To continue their cooperation in the area of human resources training and the training of civil service personnel.

*Article 16*

The Parties agree to continue their efforts to conclude a convention on social security for the benefit of their nationals.

## CHAPTER VI. CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL COOPERATION

*Article 17*

In the cultural and educational sphere, the Parties reaffirm their intention to strengthen cooperation on the basis of agreements currently in force or agreements that may be concluded in the future.

*Article 18*

The Parties express their desire to develop cooperation between the institutions of both States with competence in the spheres of culture, education, the audiovisual media and sports.

*Article 19*

In the field of education, the Parties express their desire to continue their cooperation through joint programmes undertaken by universities, other institutions of higher education and research and sports organizations, and to make scholarships available to each other's nationals.

*Article 20*

Each of the Parties shall continue to promote understanding of the other's language and culture by fostering the presentation of lectures, concerts, exhibitions, plays, radio and television broadcasts and films, and participation in festivals and other events, and shall facilitate to the greatest possible extent the teaching of the other Party's language, especially at the secondary and higher education levels.

## CHAPTER VII. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

*Article 21*

The Parties agree to establish a Franco-Mexican Mixed Commission as the focal point for bilateral action. The Commission shall determine both the main areas of bilateral cooperation between the Parties and specific action in the spheres referred to in the several articles of this Agreement.

The main functions of the Mixed Commission shall be as follows:

- To originate, launch and follow up the development of initiatives of interest to both Parties;
- To coordinate the actions of existing sectoral commissions, which shall continue to operate under this Agreement;
- To oversee and evaluate the implementation of this Agreement.

The Mixed Commission shall be coordinated by the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the two States. It shall meet every two years at locations and dates to be determined through diplomatic channels.

The Mixed Commission shall be co-chaired by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs, and its membership shall include representatives of Ministries and other competent bodies. In the intervals between meetings of the Mixed Commission, cooperation actions undertaken under this Agreement shall be followed up by a Technical Secretariat working in coordination with the technical secretariats of existing sectoral commissions.

*Article 22*

The existing economic, cultural, scientific and technical sectoral commissions shall continue to meet in accordance with their individual schedules and to be chaired by their several senior officials working in coordination with the Mixed Commission. These commissions may meet simultaneously with meetings of the Mixed Commission. Nothing in the above shall be construed to mean that the Parties may not engage in consultations on matters of common interest from time to time by mutual agreement.

*Article 23*

Subject to the terms of this Agreement, departments and agencies of the Parties' respective Governments may conclude such administrative arrangements as they may deem necessary to strengthen their bilateral relations, after coordination with their Ministries of Foreign Affairs.

*Article 24*

The Mixed Commission shall direct and coordinate activities resulting from existing joint projects and administrative arrangements between the various departments and agencies of the two Governments as well as those undertaken in the future and shall follow up the implementation of those activities.

## CHAPTER VIII. FINAL PROVISIONS

*Article 25*

The Parties undertake to re-examine this Agreement in the light of the results of their cooperation and how it develops over time. This Agreement may be amended or supplemented by exchanges of the appropriate instruments through diplomatic channels.

*Article 26*

Any disputes relating to the interpretation or application of this Agreement shall be resolved by diplomatic means.

*Article 27*

This Agreement may be terminated at any time by either of the Parties. Termination shall take effect six months after the other Party has been duly notified.

*Article 28*

Each Party shall notify the other of compliance with the procedures required under their respective domestic legislation for the entry into force of this Agreement. This Agreement shall enter into force at the date of the last such notification.

DONE at Mexico City on 18 February 1992 in two original versions, one in the Spanish language and one in the French language, both being equally authentic.

For the Government  
of the United Mexican States:

ANDRES ROZENTAL  
Deputy Secretary for Foreign Affairs

For the Government  
of the French Republic:

ALAIN VIVIEN  
Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs

## PROTOCOL OF SIGNATURE

At the time of signing the Basic Cooperation Agreement on this date, the undersigned make the following joint declaration, which shall be deemed to constitute an integral part of the Agreement:

- The above-mentioned annex containing a list of agreements in effect shall be prepared as soon as possible. The Parties shall exchange such information as may be necessary for that purpose.
- Any agreements that may be omitted from the list shall not automatically be deemed to have been abrogated unless the Parties so agree.

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For the Government  
of the United Mexican States:

ANDRES ROZENTAL  
Deputy Secretary for Foreign Affairs

For the Government  
of the French Republic:

ALAIN VIVIEN  
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