

TECHNICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE FEDERAL ELECTORAL INSTITUTE (IFE)
AND THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR
DEMOCRACY AND ELECTORAL ASSISTANCE (IDEA)

MAY 1998

PROTOCOL

Considering concepts such as democracy, plurality and fair and free elections to be universally accepted;

Conscious of the importance of democracy as an essential feature for the promotion and protection of human rights;

Acknowledging that strengthening of democratic institutions is a common goal for these two institutes, in order to improve the electoral service;

Agreeing to develop efficiency and effectiveness in organizing elections;

The Federal Electoral Institute and the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance hereby agree to sign this Agreement according to the following:

ARTICLE 1

The purpose of the present agreement is to identify and promote projects in the fields of exchange, consultation, cooperation and technical assistance at the bilateral and international levels, relating to the subject matter of elections.

ARTICLE 2

Exchanges and technical cooperation between the Parties may be conducted according to the following modalities:

- A. The promotion of meetings enabling the exchange of knowledge and experience relating to organizational and technical development.
- B. The instigation of joint participation in technical cooperation projects aimed at strengthening electoral systems.
- C. The promotion of international, regional or bilateral discussions which are convened for the purpose of sharing democratic know-how and values.
- D. The joint publication of texts dealing with electoral systems, instruments and processes which can contribute to the promotion of democratic political culture.
- E. The mutual secondment of specialists on topics of interest for both Parties; and
- F. The exchange of information and expertise for the improvement of electoral administration.

ARTICLE 3

For the purpose of establishing a follow-up on the activities planned in the present agreement, the Parties shall establish a Working Group by naming one representative each after signing this agreement.

The Working Group shall meet at intervals and locations that shall be deemed convenient, in order to define actions necessary to shape a program of activities.

ARTICLE 4

The programs, projects and activities pursuant to the present agreement shall in no way impinge upon the domestic political activities of either country or of any third party. Each Party shall abide by the requirements of its legislation and with strict regard for the rights of third parties.

ARTICLE 5

In respect of expenditures, the present agreement shall be subject to the availability of funds within each of the Parties. Expenditures deriving from any project shall be previously agreed upon by the Parties.

ARTICLE 6

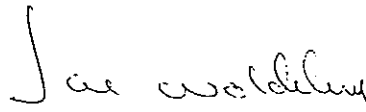
Any employee seconded by one Party to the other shall be subject to the legal regime of the host country. No secondment shall create an employment relationship.

ARTICLE 7

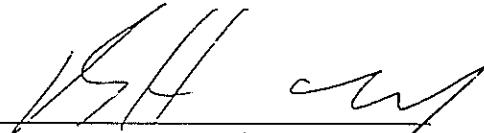
The present agreement shall come into force and effect on the date of its signature. It shall be in force for a period of two years therefrom and may be renewed for further similar periods.

Either party may, at any time, terminate the present agreement by giving sixty (60) days notice in writing thereof to the other.

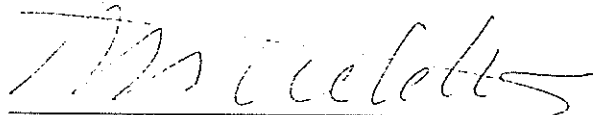
Signed, sealed and delivered in Mexico City, on the 27th day of May, nineteen ninety eight, in two originals, each of which comprise the English and Spanish language versions.



Jose Woldenberg Karakowsky
President Councilor
of the General Council
Federal Electoral Institute



Peter Harris
Programme Director Rules and Guidelines
International Institute
for Democracy and Electoral Assistance



Fernando Zertuche Muñoz
Executive Secretary
Federal Electoral Institute