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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON
ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

Fourth periodic reports submitted by States parties under
articles 16 and 17 of the Covenant

Addendum
Mexico * ** ***

* “The third periodic report (E/1991/104/Add.18) concerning rights covered by articles 1 to 15 of the Covenant, submitted by the Government of Mexico, was considered by the Committee at its twenty-first session in 1999 (see documents E/C.12/1999/SR.44-46; E/C.12.1/Add.41).

** The information submitted in accordance with the consolidated guidelines concerning the initial part of reports of States parties is contained in the core document (HRI/CORE/1/Add.12/Rev.1).

*** According to information transmitted to States parties concerning the processing of reports, the present document has not been formally edited before being sent to the United Nations translation services.

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Paragraph 67 (a)

830. The Science and Technology Act, published in the Official Journal of the Federation in June 2002, makes reference to the right of the Mexican population to share in the benefits that accrue from scientific and technological progress. In that connection, this right is expressed in the following terms in article 2, sections I and II:

831. The following are established as the bases of a State policy that sustains the integration of the national science and technology system:

- To increase scientific and technological capacity and researcher training so as to resolve basic national problems and contribute to the country’s development and enhance all aspects of the population’s well-being.

- To promote the development and linkage of basic scientific and technological innovation associated with updating and improving the quality of education and the expansion of the frontiers of knowledge, as well as making science and technology a fundamental element of society's general culture.

832. At the same time, the National Council of Science and Technology (CONACyT) coordinates a set of 27 research centres in the various areas of knowledge, seeking to respond to issues of a society as complex as Mexico's. Accordingly, it has a network of research centres scattered across the national territory, aiming to identify regional and local problems relating to science and technology and endeavours to find solutions to those problems. An attempt is made, through this network of centres, to interact with higher education institutions, local governments, private initiative and society as a whole.

Paragraph 67 (b)

833. Regarding the dissemination of information on scientific progress, CONACyT has devised the Social Communication Programme, whose guidelines are set out in the Special Science and Technology Programme (PECyT) 2001-2006. The purpose of this programme is to enhance Mexican society's scientific and technological culture through a variety of actions, it being vital for the society to be convinced of the strategic importance of science and technology, both of which directly affect their quality of life, as well as productivity and competitiveness.

834. In this way, various actions have been undertaken to sensitize the population, mainly young people, to the importance of science and technology in the world today. They include the following:

- National Science and Technology Week. The purpose of this event is to promote science and technology among young people and children at all educational levels, parents, teachers, researchers, academics and entrepreneurs and to project them as the basic pillar of our country's economic, cultural and social development. This aim is shared by educational institutions, scientific associations, enterprises, research centres, science museums and state governments. It is estimated that 11,000 people across the country have participated.
- Radio ConScience is a CONACyT radio programme of half-hour broadcasts that seeks to disseminate, simply and clearly, topics relating to science and technology, using the voices of renowned Mexican specialists.

835. Other organizations have also initiated the following activities:

- The "Science in your school" programme is an academic programme devised, coordinated and implemented in 2002 by a group of Mexican scientists, members of the Mexican Academy of Sciences. Its aim is to improve the attitude of basic – and secondary-education teachers to mathematics and science and to update knowledge of those subjects.
- This programme's aim is to present a project that brings scientists and teachers together and thus raise the level of science and mathematics teaching in primary

and secondary education, in an effort to give them not only a proper and clear understanding of the mathematical and scientific concepts to be imparted, but also to show them the type of teaching required by the pedagogical principles whereby pupils build up their own knowledge on the basis of their specific activity.

- The “Science Atlas” programme. In 2002, the Mexican Academy of Sciences initiated the development of a database, available on website of the Mexican Academy of Sciences (<http://www.amc.unam.mx>), which aims to record national scientific activity by the location of researchers, infrastructure, study areas, scientific careers and students, among other data. The site will be updated constantly and is expected to provide total national coverage in five years.

Paragraph 67 (c)

836. Measures taken to prevent scientific and technological progress from affecting individuals’ dignity or fundamental rights include the review and adoption by the Congress of the Union of several regulations relating to genome medicine, and its approval on 30 April 2004 of the creation of the National Institute of Genome Medicine, which will enable our country to conduct therapeutic stem-cell and embryo research, abiding strictly by ethical principles.

837. Also being discussed by that same legislative body are provisions that should regulate matters relating to cloning and genetically modified organisms; however, given the complex views on this issue and the possible scientific and ethical complications, it is hoped that the coming months will see new agreements that would make for modern, inclusive laws that also protect the rights of individuals and of society as a whole.

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848. Regarding the measures taken to ensure the preservation, development and dissemination of science, the laws have been updated and various papers have been prepared in order to promote scientific and technological activities in our country.

849. In 2002, the Science and Technology Act (LCyT), currently in force, was unanimously approved. It defined new mechanisms for supporting the development of the country’s scientific and technological activities.

850. That Act regulates the grants that the Government must award in order to stimulate, strengthen and develop scientific and technological research as a whole in the country. The aims of LCyT are to:

- Regulate the grants the Federal Government must award in order to stimulate, strengthen and develop scientific and technological research as a whole in the country.
- Identify the instruments the Government will use to fulfil its obligation to support scientific and technological research.
- Establish the mechanisms for coordinating activities with the departments and units of the Federal Public Administration and other institutions that help devise

policies and programmes for scientific and technological development or which themselves conduct such activities.

- Create the bodies and mechanisms for coordination with the governments of the federated states and for linkage and participation of the scientific and academic community of higher education institutions, the public and the social and private sectors for generating and framing policies for the promotion, development and application of science and technology, as well as for the training of science and technology professionals.
- Link scientific and technological research to education.
- Support the capacity and strengthening of teams engaged in scientific and technological research in public higher education establishments, the outcome of which conforms to the principles, plans, programmes and internal rules contained in their specific regulations.
- Determine the bases for the recognition of parastatal bodies' scientific and technological research as public research centres, and
- Regulate the use made of those centres' self-generated resources and those supplied by third parties for the funding of technological research and development.

851. On 27 April 2004, article 9 *bis* was added to the LCyT and states the Federal Government's intention to attain one per cent of GDP as total investment (public and private) in research and development in Mexico, a target long recommended by UNESCO for an economy such as ours.

852. In addition, that same year witnessed the approval of the Organic Act on CONACyT, which makes various adjustments to the functioning of CONACyT, enabling it efficiently to attain the LCyT's proposed goals. To that end, the Organic Act proposes the following:

- That CONACyT should become a non-sectoral entity reporting directly to the President of the Republic, placing it outside its previous context, when it was responsible to the Ministry of Public Education.
- Establishment of a General Council for Scientific Research and Technological Development, a policy and coordination body chaired by the President of the Republic and composed of several ministers, CONACyT representatives and prominent individuals from our country's science and technology civil society.
- Establishment and operation of the Interministerial Committee for the Integration of the Federal Science and Technology Budget.
- Creation of budget branch 38 for CONACyT and its 28 public research centres.
- Establishment of the Science and Technology Advisory Committee as an independent and standing body to be consulted by the Executive, the General Council and the CONACyT governing board.
- Establishment of the National Science and Technology Conference with the participation of the 32 federated entities that make up our country.
- Creation of sectoral funds, with the participation of the ministers and the Federal Government bodies and the Joint Funds, with funds provided jointly by the state and municipal governments.
- Promotion of private investment in research and technological development (IDE) through tax incentives to businesses that accept the challenge of

participating in those activities (30 per cent tax credit on their annual expenditure on IDE).

853. The Special Science and Technology Programme 2001-2006 (PECyT) is the document that contains the basic elements defining the broad lines for the development of science, technology and innovation in Mexico. It establishes the three guiding strategic objectives described below:

1. To have a State science and technology policy.
2. To increase the country's science and technology capacity.
3. To increase businesses' competitiveness and innovation.

854. Moreover, CONACyT's various substantive programmes seek to improve the performance of Mexico's science and technology system through the training of high-level qualified human resources (Postgraduate Fellowship Programme), the development of scientific research (Research Funding Programme) and support for industrial competitiveness (Programme of Tax Incentives for IDE).

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857. Noteworthy measures have been taken to ensure the conservation, development and dissemination of science: updating of the legislation, and various activities for promoting our country's scientific and technological activities.

858. In 2002, the Science and Technology Act (LCyT), currently in force, was unanimously approved and defines new mechanisms for supporting the development of the country's scientific and technological activities.

859. That Act regulates the grants that the Government is obliged to make in order to stimulate, strengthen and develop scientific and technological research as a whole in the country. The aims of the LCyT are to:

- Regulate the grants the Federal Government is obliged to make in order to stimulate, strengthen and develop scientific and technological as a whole in the country.
- Identify the instruments the Government will use to fulfil its obligation to support scientific and technological research.
- Establish the mechanisms for coordinating activities with the departments and units of the Federal Public Administration and other institutions that contribute to devising policies and programmes for scientific and technological development or which directly themselves conduct such activities.
- Create the bodies and mechanisms for coordination with the governments of the federative states and for linkage and participation of the scientific and academic community of higher education institutions, the public, social and private sectors, for generating and framing policies for the promotion, development and application of science and technology, as well as for the training of science and technology professionals.
- Link scientific and technological research to education.

- Support the capacity and strengthening of the teams engaged in scientific and technological research in public higher education establishments, the outcome of which conforms to the principles, plans, programmes and internal rules contained in their specific regulations.
- Determine the bases for the recognition of the parastatal bodies' scientific and technological research as public research centres, and
- Regulate the use made of those centres' self-generated resources and those supplied by third parties for the funding of technological research and development.

860. On 27 April 2004, article 9 *bis* was added to the LCyT and states the Federal Government's intention to attain one per cent of GDP as total investment (public and private) in research and development in Mexico, a target long recommended by UNESCO for an economy such as ours.

861. In addition, that same year saw the approval of the Organic Act on CONACyT, which makes various adjustments to the functioning of CONACyT, enabling it efficiently the LCyT's proposed goals. To that end, the Organic Law established that CONACyT should become a nonsectoral entity reporting directly to the President of the Republic, which places it outside its previous context when it was responsible to the Ministry of Public Education and endows it with the following powers:

- Establishment of a General Council for Scientific Research and Technological Development, a policy and coordination body chaired by the President of the Republic and composed of several ministers, CONACyT representatives and prominent individuals from our country's scientific and technological civil society.
- Establishment and operation of the Interministerial Committee for the Integration of the Federal Science and Technology Budget.
- Creation of budget branch 38 for CONACyT and its 28 public research centres.
- Establishment of the Science and Technology Advisory Committee as an independent and standing body to be consulted by the Executive, the General Council and the CONACyT governing board.
- Establishment of the National Science and Technology Conference with the participation of the 32 federative entities that make up our country.
- Creation of sectoral funds, with the participation of the ministers and the Federal Government bodies, and the Joint Funds, with funds provided jointly by the state and municipal governments.
- Promotion of private investment in research and technological development (IDE) through tax incentives to businesses that accept the challenge of participating in those activities (30 per cent tax credit on their annual expenditure on IDE).

862. The Special Science and Technology Programme (PECyT) 2001-2006 is the document that contains the basic elements defining the broad lines for the development of science, technology and innovation in Mexico.

863. Moreover, CONACyT's various substantive programmes seek to improve the performance of Mexico's science and technology system through the training of high-level qualified human resources (Postgraduate Fellowship Programme), the development of scientific research (Research Funding Programme) and support for industrial competitiveness (Programme of Tax Incentives for IDE).

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868. Regarding scientific research, the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States establishes, in Article 3, section V, that the State shall support scientific and technological research.

869. Various criteria and approaches have been used for the functioning of the Mexican science and technology system, since the 1970 creation of the National Council of Science and Technology (CONACyT). However, three decades had to elapse before the formal establishment of a legal framework that laid the bases for a main line of action by the Federal Government for the promotion, strengthening and development of scientific and technological research. The Act on Promotion of Scientific and Technological Research (LFICYT), promulgated in May 1999, as part of the framework of the Agreement between the Advisory Science Council (CCC), the Mexican Academy of Sciences (AMC) and CONACyT, combines the viewpoints of the various actors in the system and establishes mechanisms for maintaining a permanent flow of opinion that underpins the formulation of activities for promoting scientific and technological development. The Act's six most important features are as follows:

- (i) The Special Science and Technology Programme.
- (ii) The Permanent Science and Technology Forum.
- (iii) The CONACyT Funds and the Funds for Scientific Research and Technological Development.
- (iv) The integrated system of information for scientific and technological research.
- (v) The National Registry of Scientific and Technological Institutions and Businesses.
- (vi) The public research centres.

870. The science and technology programme was formulated during the period 1995-2000. It addressed, inter alia, the decentralization of the country's scientific and technological research.

871. This programme was implemented with limited success; however, during that period the Specialized Science and Technology Cabinet was formed, as a result of the Act on Promotion of Scientific and Technological Research. **The Science and Technology Act** is intended to:

- I. Regulate the grants the Federal Government must award in order to stimulate, strengthen and develop scientific and technological as a whole in the country.
- II. Identify the instruments the Government will use to fulfil its obligation to support scientific and technological research.
- III. Establish the mechanisms for coordinating activities with the Federal Public Administration's departments and units and other institutions that help devise policies and programmes for scientific and technological development or themselves conduct such activities.

- IV. Create the bodies and mechanisms for coordination with the governments of the federated states and for linkage and participation of the academic scientific community of higher education institutions and the public, social and private sectors for generating and framing policies for the promotion, dissemination, development and application of science and technology and for the training of science and technology professionals.
- V. Link scientific and technological research to education.
- VI. Support the capacity and strengthening of the teams engaged in scientific and technological research in public higher education establishments, the outcome of which must conform to the principles, plans, programmes and internal norms contained in their specific regulations.
- VII. Determine the bases for the recognition of the parastatal bodies' scientific and technological research as public research centres, and
- VIII. Regulate the use made of the public scientific research centres' self-generated resources and those supplied by third parties for funding technological research and development.

872. The Act establishes the following as the bases underlying State policy for the integration of the national science and technology system:

- I. Increasing scientific and technological capacity and training of researchers in order to solve basic national problems and enable them to contribute to the country's development and the enhancement of all aspects of the population's well-being.
- II. Promoting the development and linkage of basic scientific and technological innovation associated with the updating and enhancement of the quality of education and the expansion of the frontiers of knowledge, and transforming science and technology into a fundamental feature of the general culture of society.
- III. Incorporating technological development and innovation into productive processes in order to increase the productivity and competitiveness required by the national productive apparatus.
- IV. Integrating efforts by the various sectors, both generators and consumers of scientific and technological knowledge, in order to stimulate strategic areas of knowledge for the country's development.
- V. Strengthening regional development through integral policies for the decentralization of scientific and technological activities.
- VI. Promoting the processes that afford the Federal Government's participatory definition of priorities, allocation and optimization of resources for science and technology.

Organic Act creating the National Council of Science and Technology

873. The National Council of Science and Technology (CONACyT) was created in December 1970 by Act of the Congress of the Union, published in the *Official Journal of the Federation* on 29 December of that year and amended by Decree issued on 27 December 1974. The amendment essentially altered 10 articles concerning the integration and functioning of the institution's governing board.

874. CONACyT's mission is to promote and reinforce scientific development and technological modernization in Mexico through the training of high-level human resources, the promotion and maintenance of specific research projects and the dissemination of scientific and technological information.

875. The policies, actions and criteria whereby CONACyT promotes scientific research and technological development are contained in the National Programme of Science and Technology 2000-2006.

876. The goal is to consolidate a National Science and Technology System that meets the country's priority requirements, find solutions to specific problems and needs and help raise the population's standard of living and well-being involves:

- Determining State policy on the subject.
- Increasing the country's scientific and technological capacity.
- Raising the quality, competitiveness and innovation of businesses.

877. VISION 2025

2002

- Creation of the Special Science and Technology Programme, the outcome of an intensive process of national consultation in which scientists, technology experts, entrepreneurs, academics and governors helped prepare this vital instrument for Mexico's scientific and technological development.

2006

- Mexico will participate actively in the generation, acquisition and dissemination of knowledge at the international level, attempting to spend as much as one per cent of gross domestic product on science and technology.
- Mexicans' scientific and technological culture will have increased considerably and technological research and development will be more successful.
- The use of science and technology in production processes will gradually contribute to the country's economic growth.

2025

- Mexico will invest over two per cent of GDP in research and development activities.
- Thanks to the efforts of everyone, the Mexican economy will be one of the ten most important in the world.
- Mexico will become one of the 20 countries most developed in science and technology.

881. CONACULTA, through INAH, supported the creation of the Mexican Academy of Anthropological Sciences, which was formally established on 22 January 2003. It is the first of its kind in Latin America and is chaired by Dr. Beatriz Barba Ahuatzin, a researcher at the Institute. The Academy is composed of 42 persons eminent in the field of national and international anthropology and is supported by INAH, UNAM and the Mexican Academy of Sciences, the Hispano-American Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters and the Mexican Academy of History. One of its functions is to promote and disseminate anthropological sciences in Mexico and publicize the progress made by Mexican researchers abroad.

882. DGCPI has set up a number of funds for helping creators, including the Programme of Support to Municipal and Community Cultures (PACMyC) and the National Programme of Popular Art. It has also provided legal guidance and general advice on the formation of cultural associations in several fields: literature, arts and crafts, theatre, music, etc.

883. For its part, the National Copyright Institute authorizes the formation and operation of collectively managed societies formed to protect national and foreign authors and holders of related rights, ensuring that they operate in conformity with the stipulations of the Federal Copyright Act and its Regulations. There are currently 12 collectively managed societies on copyright and related rights.

884. The Special Science and Technology Programme 2001-2006 has managed to establish and expand the capacity of scientific and technological research through specialized teacher- and researcher-training for men and women. An institutional system was simultaneously established and links the various research centres operating in the departments and entities of the Federal Public Administration, the State universities and higher education institutions, and in the research centres of various private firms and universities.

885. Despite the development of these institutions, the pace of scientific and technological progress worldwide is creating the need to establish in our country more defined and modern bases for promoting the development of scientific and technological research and to allocating more resources to those activities. Not only are the frontiers of scientific knowledge and technological development dynamic, they are also increasingly specialized and diverse.

886. The Special Science and Technology Programme (PECyT) is the Federal Government's basic planning tool in this area. Its objective is to integrate and coordinate national efforts to promote the country's scientific and technological activities. It was created with the goal of ensuring that national investment in experimental research and development (IDE) attains one per cent of gross domestic product (GDP) by 2006, on the understanding that the Federal Government would invest 60 per cent of that amount and the private sector 40 per cent. Assuming an annual average rate of five per cent growth in GDP, this goal represents a 22 per cent annual growth rate for IDE investment.

887. The programme also proposes strategies, lines of action and sectoral programmes for science and technology that makes for the efficient achievement of each expenditure target and for high-quality training of science and technology postgraduate researchers. There are also indicators for checking the progress and implementation of the programme during the period 2001-2006.

888. Although emphasis is placed on the goal of increasing investment in scientific and technological activities, the programme establishes a definite structural change in the efficient and effective use of resources.

889. This task can be achieved only through joint efforts on the part of society, the academic sector, the productive sector, state governments and the Federal Government. These key actors must be convinced of the high social and private returns on investment in science and technology. By 2006 Mexico must substantially increase its staff devoted to research and technological development, as well as its investment in infrastructure and laboratories. Only by so doing can it expect to be successful in the so-called “new economy” which calls for both competitiveness and openness and determined scientific and technological endeavour.

890. PECyT helps the departments and entities of the Federal Public Administration invest more efficiently and effectively in science and technology, avoid duplication and take advantage of synergies. PECyT also represents the efforts of the productive and public sectors to incorporate technological development into the productive processes of national firms and in training the human resources increasingly needed by the productive and educational apparatus. Collaboration between the Federal Government and the state governments is reflected in joint actions designed to address and meet needs.

Difficulties

891. The attainment of these goals calls on:

1. The Government to provide the resources for the sectoral, joint and institutional funds for boosting federal investment in experimental research and development (IDE).
2. The private productive sector to increase its investment in experimental research and development to an annual rate of 33 per cent, which means that the major firms must invest at least one per cent of their turnover in those activities.

892. More resources are needed if the support requirements of the organizations and institutions engaged in research are to be duly addressed.

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899. It is currently possible to distinguish among the various fields in which international cooperation for development occurs: they include science, techniques, technology, education, culture, transport, energy, finance and trade. Of special interest here is technical and scientific cooperation, which contributes to the country's incorporation into the dynamic of the international process characterized by the dizzy advance of scientific knowledge and technological change and the consequent transformation of production technologies.

900. Technical and scientific cooperation involves the flow of resources, knowledge, expertise, technologies and experience that make it possible to link national capabilities to international capabilities in the most diverse of areas; it brings together mechanisms for developing and extending the frontier of scientific knowledge and facilitates joint development of technological products.

901. For Mexico, international cooperation is a fundamental tool of its foreign policy and a mechanism for action through which the country's exchanges with the rest of the world destined to foster social development are promoted, increased, strengthened and boosted. The truth of this assertion is evident in the fact that international cooperation is enshrined as one of the standardsetting principles that, according to Article 89, section X, of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States, by which the Executive branch must abide in the conduct of its foreign policy.

902. The aim of Mexico's international technical cooperation and scientific policy is to contribute to the consolidation of national capacities by implementing projects that favour comprehensive and sustainable social development and by promoting balanced development of foreign relations.

903. The Department of Technical and Scientific Cooperation (DGCTyC), which comes under the Economic Relations and International Cooperation Unit, coordinates Mexico's participation in the various branches of technical, scientific and technological cooperation with the industrialized countries, semi-developed countries and developing countries, as well as with multilateral organizations and international forums.

904. Mexico's international cooperation strategy is based on the fact that, through the exchange of experiences, capacities and human resources, countries benefit mutually and improve their links, reducing the costs of implementing comprehensive human development projects.

905. DGCTyC has four areas devoted to bilateral, regional and multilateral technical, scientific and technological cooperation. Technical, scientific and technological cooperation is carried out as follows:

- A. The cooperation that Mexico receives from industrialized countries takes the forms of joint participation, co-financing and self-sustainability. The cooperation projects are implemented mainly in the priority sectors identified in the National Development Plan. Cooperation activities seek to promote social participation, incorporate techniques, assimilate cutting-edge technology and contribute to the social development of the most vulnerable regions and groups.
- B. It also attempts to promote joint participation of various federal, state and academic institutions and authorities, technological development and private-sector centres for promotion of greater participation of women in civil society.
- C. Many Mexican institutions are conducting technical cooperation, scientific and technological activities and projects with semi-developed and developing countries. The criteria for that type of project are complementarity of structural capacities, suitability, relevance and viability, and mutually beneficial co-financing.
- D. Mexico is promoting and implementing cooperation programmes with relatively less developed countries, especially those in Central America and the Caribbean, to enable them to benefit from national experiences and capacities and find solutions to development problems.
- E. In the area of multilateral cooperation, a boost is also given to cooperation with organizations of the United Nations system and other regional organizations and international forums in terms of joint participation, co-financing and self-sustainability. The activities carried out under this heading have a dual

purpose: benefit of national public - and private-sector units and bodies, and shared multilateral benefits.

906. It is currently possible to distinguish among the various fields in which international cooperation for development is produced: they include science, techniques, technology, education, culture, transport, energy, finance and trade. Of special interest here is technical and scientific cooperation, which contributes to the country's incorporation into the dynamic of the international process characterized by the dizzy advance of scientific knowledge and technological change and the consequent transformation of production technologies.

907. Technical and scientific cooperation involves the flow of resources, knowledge, expertise, technologies and experience that makes it possible to link national capabilities to international capabilities in the most diverse of areas; it brings together mechanisms for developing and extending the frontier of scientific knowledge.

908. The Government Agreement on Scientific and Technological Cooperation is the fundamental legal instrument for the negotiation and implementation of cooperation programmes. Mexico has 83 cooperation agreements in force.

909. Our country adopts the following approaches in its cooperation activities in order to make more efficient use of resources for international cooperation:

- **Complementarity:** cooperation is a complementary support to the national effort and creation of dependencies must be avoided.
- **Self-sustainability:** cooperation is justified when an initiated development process can later be maintained with its own resources.
- **Joint financing:** the parties must jointly contribute the financial resources required for project development. These are not assistance schemes.

Approaches to cooperation

910. On the **reception** side, Mexico receives technical cooperation from industrialized countries and international organizations for execution of national projects to strengthen domestic capacities, incorporate leading-edge technology and boost the social development of the most vulnerable regions and groups.

911. On the **supply** side, the Mexican Government carries out numerous bilateral and regional programmes in favour of less-developed nations, particularly in Central America and the Caribbean, with which they have shared interests.

- **Horizontal cooperation.** In this case, cooperation projects are carried out with counterparts in developing countries with which we share problems and interests, especially in South America and South-East Asia. Project execution is encouraged in priority sectors, offering technological collaboration and promoting human-resource training initiatives.
- **Triangular or trilateral cooperation.** This type of cooperation functions with the participation of three parties: the first is the requesting country; another which provides the bulk of the financial resources; and Mexico, which preferably provides

knowledge and experience through Mexican specialists or training schemes. Programmes of this type are currently under way, mostly with the Government of Japan.

912. International cooperation is normally provided through the following modalities:

- Exchanges of experts;
- Short stays and technical courses;
- Exchange of information, documentation and materials;
- Pre-feasibility and feasibility studies;
- Prospecting and diagnosis missions;
- Meetings and seminar -workshops;
- Human-resource training;
- Equipment and material for project implementation (small quantities), and
- Scientific research.

913. In connection with those approaches and through the modalities listed in the preceding paragraph, the Government of Mexico has signed 83 technical and scientific cooperation projects, enabling it to harmonize its relations with countries and international organizations.

914. These 83 agreements cover a total of 2,294 individual activities or projects, the former accounting for 635 and the latter for 1,659. Of that total 732 are under way and 259 were completed in 2004.

1. Cooperation agreements by region
(at October 2004)

Africa and the Middle East	6
Asia-Pacific	8
Central America and Caribbean	31
Eastern and Central Europe	10
Industrialized countries	14
International organizations	4
South America	10
Total	83

2. Cooperation projects by situation and context
(at October 2004)

Projects	
Preliminary project	377
Approved	169
Execution	621
Completed	259
Cancelled	233
Total	1,659
Individual activities	
Preliminary projects	137
Approved	92
Execution	111

Completed	166
Cancelled	129
Total	635
Projects or individual activities	
Preliminary reports	514
Approved	261
Execution	732
Completed	425
Cancelled	262
Total	2,294
Projects or individual activities by context	
Bilateral	508
Multilateral	133
Regional	84
Trilateral	7
Total	732

3. Cooperation projects implemented by country/organization/forum
(at October 2004)

Europe	
European Union	23
Finland	1
France	16
Germany	41
Great Britain	1
Italy	24
Portugal	2
Spain	15
Sweden	0
Subtotal	123
Central and Eastern Europe	
Czech Republic	3
Hungary	7
Poland	3
Russian Federation	3
Subtotal	16
Asia-Pacific	
Australia	1
China	1
India	5
Japan	44
Koera	3
New Zealand	1
Subtotal	55
North America	
Canada	10
Mexico	1
United States of America	28
Subtotal	39
Africa and Middle East	
Iran	1
Israel	1
Subtotal	2
International organizations and forums	
ALCUE	15
CRECTEALC	3
FAO	14

G-3	6
GEF	8
IAEA	26
Ibero-American Summit	20
IFAD	2
ILCE	2
IMO	1
OAS	8
UNDP	43
UNFPA	6
UNICEF	14
UNIDO	4
WHO/PAHO	11
WMO	1
WTO	1
Subtotal	185

144. Cooperation projects implemented by country/organization/forum
(at October 2004)

Central America	
RCA	7
Belize	9
Costa Rica	35
CA3	0
CA8	1
CA7	19
El Salvador	17
Guatemala	25
Honduras	22
Nicaragua	39
Panama	17
Subtotal	191
Caribbean	
Bahamas	2
Caribbean Regional	0
CARICOM	4
Cuba	66
Dominican Republic	5
Haiti	0
Jamaica	16
Trinidad and Tobago	0
Subtotal	93
South America	
Argentina	2
Bolivia	0
Brazil	3
Chile	2
Colombia	2
Paraguay	4
Peru	12
Uruguay	2
Venezuela	1
Undefined	0
Subtotal	28
Total	732

15. Cooperation projects implemented by sector
(at October 2004)

Sectors	
Administrative development	13
Agriculture	52
Communications	4
Culture and arts	50
Disaster prevention and relief	12
Domestic policy	14
Education	146
Energy	35
Environment	73
Finance and treasury	1
Fisheries	19
Foreign policy	8
Health	65
Industry	20
Labour	4
Livestock breeding	10
Mining	1
Natural resources	21
Sciences	75
Social development	53
Social welfare	2
Statistics, geography and IT	9
Technology	32
Tourism	1
Trade	4
Transports	7
Undefined	1
Total	732

Paragraph 71 (b)

915. CONACyT has signed bilateral cooperation agreements with governmental agencies and research and development centres in many countries and maintains a permanent negotiation strategy for expanding and diversifying existing agreements, the areas they cover and the institutions.

916. In the area of integral development, OAS is promoting and contributing to scientific and technological development by financing research and technological innovation projects, favouring human-resource training, reinforcement of institutions' physical infrastructure and boosting linkage and exchange of specialized human resources.

- The Ibero-American Programme of Science and Technology for Development (CYTED) is an Ibero-American multilateral programme, established in 1984 through an inter-agency framework agreement among the 21 Ibero-American countries. It also benefits from the participation of observer international organizations such as IDB, ECLAC, OAS and UNESCO. Its aims are to promote scientific and technological cooperation among research teams at universities, research and development centres and innovative businesses in the quest for results that can be transferred to the production systems and social policies of the Ibero-American countries.

- The Latin-American Physics Centre (CLAF). CLAF is a regional international organization to which 22 Latin American, Central American and Caribbean countries belong. The sub-headquarters (CLAFM) was set up in Mexico in 1993. Its goal is to promote the development of physics in Latin America.
- The International Development Research Centre (IDRC) is an autonomous public corporation created by the Canadian Parliament to motivate and support research for the benefit of the developing countries. Its objective is to support cooperation among different research teams in all sectors: academic, governmental and private.
- The Latin American Network of Biological Sciences (RELAB) is a Latin American regional organization devoted to promoting the biological sciences. Its aims are as follows:
 - To speed up the scientific and technological development of the participating countries in the field of basic biological sciences.
 - To promote scientific research into biological problems relating to the development and well-being of the peoples of the region.
 - To stimulate scientific and technological cooperation among participating countries through the biologists' collaboration in their research and training activities.
- The International Science Foundation (ISF) is a non-governmental organization headquartered in Sweden and offers financial support to young scientists from developing countries for research projects. It offers grants of up to US \$12,000 per year, which can be renewed twice.
- The International Centre of Genetic and Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB) is an independent multilateral organization established in 1982 and joined by 24 developing countries. It has its headquarters in Italy. Its purpose is to promote its member countries' development through cooperation relating to genetic engineering and biotechnology on the basis of the Centre's modalities.
- The Third World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) and the Third World Network of Scientific Organizations (TWNSO) are financed by the Italian Government and by member countries. Their headquarters are located in Italy. Their purpose is to promote scientific cooperation among developing countries using various modalities and in different areas of scientific knowledge.