AGREEMENT ON EDUCATIONAL, CULTURAL AND SPORTS COOPERATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

The Government of the United Mexican States and the Government of the Republic of Serbia, hereinafter referred to as "the Contracting Parties";

PROMPTED by their desire to establish and enhance cooperation in the fields of education, culture and sports between the two countries;

CONVINCED that such cooperation is a significant tool for increasing mutual understanding between the two countries;

COGNIZANT of the importance of establishing mechanisms aimed at strengthening cooperation in the areas of mutual interest and the need to implement specific cooperation and exchange programmes in the fields of education, culture and sports;

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1

The Contracting Parties shall support the intensification of cooperation between the relevant state authorities and nongovernmental organizations of the two countries in the fields of education, culture and sports, through activities aimed at getting to know each other better, while respecting the international conventions to which they are signatories and honouring the rights and duties defined in other international agreements and the national legislation of the two countries.

The Contracting Parties shall support cooperation among relevant institutions in the two countries in all levels of education through exchange of experts, publications and material with a view to establishing joint cooperation projects in the future.

The obligations arose from such projects shall be formalized through specific collaboration agreements to be concluded between the participating institutions in the two countries.

ARTICLE 3

The Contracting Parties shall support the promotion of cooperation in higher education, exchange of information regarding their educational systems in this field and shall encourage establishment and maintenance of direct contacts between universities and other higher education, cultural and research institutions for the purpose of ensuring the implementation of agreements and programmes of cooperation, as well as participation in joint projects and exchange of experts.

ARTICLE 4

The Contracting Parties shall encourage institutions of higher education established by State to set up, on the basis of reciprocity, within the limits of their possibilities, a programme of mutual exchange of scholarships for postgraduate studies, specialization or research. The conditions for granting the scholarships shall be defined in specific programmes between the relevant institutions.

The Contracting Parties shall encourage exchange of information on their education systems with a view to considering the possibility of acknowledging university diplomas and high school certificates, according to the national legislation in their respective countries.

ARTICLE 6

Each of the Contracting Parties shall promote the study of the language, literature and culture of the country of the other Contracting Party.

ARTICLE 7

The Contracting Parties agree to consider the possibilities for the establishment of cultural centres in each other's capitals. The legal status and the conditions for opening such centres shall be the subject of a separate agreement.

ARTICLE 8

Recognizing the importance of historical and cultural heritage, the Contracting Parties shall encourage the establishment of ties and cooperation between institutions concerned with heritage protection, conservation and restoration, as well as with the legislation in force in this field.

ARTICLE 9

The Contracting Parties shall collaborate on the impediment and prevention of illegal entry, exit and transfer of items of their respective cultural heritage and take the necessary measures towards that end, in line with their national legislation and the relevant international conventions which they are signatories. Likewise, they shall take the corresponding actions to return the goods that illegally enter, leave or are transferred.

The Contracting Parties shall support the strengthening of ties between their respective national archives, libraries and museums and shall promote the exchange of experiences related to the popularization and conservation of their cultural heritage, as well as to access documents and information in line with their respective national legislation.

ARTICLE 11

The Contracting Parties shall encourage activities aimed at promoting their literary production through the exchange of writers, participation at book fairs, literary meetings as well as translation and co-publishing projects. The Contracting Parties shall also encourage the establishment of links between publishing houses in order to enrich their respective literary production.

ARTICLE 12

The Contracting Parties shall exchange information on copyright and related rights to ensure compliance with their respective regulations protecting copyright and related rights.

In order to protect copyright and related rights, the Contracting Parties shall endeavour to make available all necessary means and measures in order to safeguard regulations protecting copyright and related rights in accordance with their respective national legislation and relevant international conventions to which they are signatories.

The Contracting Parties agree that the possible benefits that may derive from the cultural and educational activities carried out within the framework of the present Agreement regarding copyright and related rights shall be governed in accordance with the respective national legislation and international conventions to which they are signatories.

ARTICLE 14

The Contracting Parties shall encourage cinematographic cooperation in order to exchange films and organize meetings of film makers, experts and technicians involved in this field, as well as the reciprocal participation at each other's film festivals.

ARTICLE 15

The Contracting Parties shall encourage the exchange of information on cultural industries work and the implementation of joint projects in this area.

ARTICLE 16

The Contracting Parties shall promote the exchange of information between their respective institutions and organizations of cultural, educational and sports activities for the needlest segments of the population, focusing particularly on women, minors, persons with disabilities and elderly people.

ARTICLE 17

The Contracting Parties shall encourage the exchange of information and cooperation between institutions dealing with childcare and youth policy, as well as the exchange of specialists in this area.

The Contracting Parties shall support cooperation on physical education and sports.

ARTICLE 19

In order to implement the present Agreement, the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties may conclude periodic programmes of educational, cultural and sports cooperation to identify specific activities, as well as organizational and financial conditions for their implementation.

ARTICLE 20

Cooperation between the Contracting Parties in the fields of education and culture may be executed by organizing of joint activities in third countries in the aforementioned fields.

ARTICLE 21

A Joint Commission for Educational, Cultural and Sports Cooperation (hereinafter referred to as "Joint Commission") shall be created for the purpose of ensuring a follow-up to, and coordination of the activities, within the framework of cooperation envisaged under this Agreement. The Joint Commission shall be coordinated by the diplomatic missions of the two countries and shall consist of representatives of the two countries. The Joint Commission's meetings shall be alternately held in the United Mexican States and the Republic of Serbia as and when this has been agreed upon through diplomatic channels by the Contracting Parties.

Either Contracting Party may, at any time, submit to the other Contracting Party cooperation projects or programmes in the fields of education, culture and sports so that they may be previously studied and subsequently approved by the Joint Commission.

ARTICLE 22

For the purpose of cooperation projects or programmes implementation, the Contracting Parties may request, when deemed necessary, financial assistance from foreign sources, such as third countries and international organizations.

ARTICLE 23

Either Contracting Party shall provide everything needed to facilitate the entry, stay and departure of participants from the country of the other Contracting Party, formally included in a cooperation project or programme under the present Agreement. Those participants are subject to the laws of the receiving country regarding entry into the country, taxes, duties, as well as sanitary and national security, and are therefore not allowed to participate in any other activity except the one pertaining to their functions without prior approval of the competent authorities in this area. Furthermore, they shall leave the receiving country after the expiration of the period envisaged for the realization of the activity relating to the corresponding project or programme.

ARTICLE 24

In accordance with their respective national legislation, the Contracting Parties shall provide all the necessary administrative, tax and customs facilities for the temporary importation and exportation from their territories of the equipment and materials to be used in the execution of the cooperation projects and programmes.

All differences that may occur in the implementation and/or interpretation of the present Agreement shall be resolved by mutual agreement between the Contracting Parties through diplomatic channels.

ARTICLE 26

This Agreement shall enter into force thirty (30) days after the date of receipt of the last written notification through diplomatic channels by which the Contracting Parties inform each other that the conditions required by the relevant internal laws have been met.

This Agreement shall remain in force for a period of five (5) years and shall be automatically renewed for periods of same duration unless either Contracting Party notifies the other Contracting Party in writing, through diplomatic channels, of its intent to terminate the Agreement with six (6) months in advance.

The present Agreement may be modified on the basis of written mutual consent of the Contracting Parties. Such modifications shall enter into force according to the procedure established in paragraph 1 of this Article.

The projects and programmes which implementation commenced while the Agreement was in force, shall not be suspended with the termination of this Agreement, unless otherwise agreed upon by the Contracting Parties.

On the date of entry into force of the present Agreement, the Agreement on Cultural Exchange between the United Mexican States and the Federative People's Republic of Yugoslavia, signed on 26 March 1960, shall be repealed.

Signed in Belgrade, Republic of Serbia, on the nineteenth of June of two thousand and twenty, in two original copies in Spanish, Serbian and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence in the interpretation of the present Agreement, the English text shall prevail.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

Firs

First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs

Marco Antonio García Blanco Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary