AGREEMENT OF THE LATIN AMERICAN FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES (FLACSO)

FLACSO

FACULTAD LATINOAMERICANA DE CIENCIAS SOCIALES
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PREAMBLE

The High Contracting Parties,

1. Recalling the creation in 1957 of the Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences in Santiago, Chile; applying the recommendations of the First Regional Conference on the university teaching of the social sciences in South America, which was held in March of 1956 in Rio de Janeiro and the resolution 3.42 (d) approved by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization UNESCO, at its ninth session held in New Delhi in November of 1956;

2. Stressing the importance of the contribution of this organism through its Academic Centres, Programmes and Projects to the development in all Latin America of teaching and research in the social sciences since its creation until to date;

3. Considering the fact that the development and integration of Latin America demand an increase in the collaboration of the countries of the region in the field of the social sciences through high level regional institutions which cooperate with governments, universities and national institutions in the training of technical personnel and providing technical assistance and counsel when necessary; and

4. Resolved to give this organization their complete moral, intellectual and financial support, according to the modalities defined hereafter, have agreed to strengthen the institutionalization of the Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences by the approval of the following Agreement:

ARTICLE I

NATURE AND PURPOSES

1. The Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences, herein after referred to as FLACSO, is an international organization of autonomous and regional nature, established by the countries of Latin American and the Caribbean, in order to promote teaching and research in the field of the social sciences.

2. Whenever the words “Latin America” and “Latin American” are used in this Agreement, it is understood that they comprise the countries of the region and the Caribbean.

3. The regional and autonomous effective nature of FLACSO is ensured by the recruitment of an international body of teachers and administrative officials made up of Latin American specialists, as far as possible based on an appropriate geographical representation of the region; by its teaching and research programme, which will take into account the scientific and social needs of the zone; by the selection of its regular students among Latin American graduates of universities belonging to these countries; by the scholarships granted, as far as possible, according to an adequate cultural and geographical representation of the whole region; and by the support, participation and financing granted to it by the Latin American governments.

4. Latin American States, members of UNESCO, may become members of FLACSO. Latin American States that have adhered to this Agreement according to the provisions of Article XV, will be members of FLACSO.

5. In order to ensure its regional functions, FLACSO will carry out its activities in any of the Latin American countries and thus, it is authorized to establish Academic Centres, Programs and Projects.
ARTICLE II

FUNCTIONS

1. The main functions of FLACSO are:
   a) to ensure the training of specialists in the social sciences in Latin America, by way of post graduate
      and specialization courses;
   b) to carry out research activities in the social science area in relation to Latin American problematic
      matters;
   c) to spread by all adequate means and with the support of governments and/or institutions, knowledge
      of the social sciences; above all, the results of their own investigations.
   d) to promote the exchange of materials for the teaching of social sciences in Latin America.
   e) to cooperate with national university institutions of the region and similar teaching and research
      organizations in Latin America, in order to promote the cooperation required in this particular field.
      To this effect, FLACSO will procure the cooperation of international, regional and national
      organizations, both governmental and non-governmental; and,
   f) in general, FLACSO undertakes all academic activities related to social sciences and conducive to the
      development and integration of the countries in the Latin American region.

ARTICLE III

GOVERNING BODIES OF FLACSO

The main governing bodies of FLACSO are:
   a) The General Assembly;
   b) The Higher Council;
   c) The Directive Committee and
   d) The Academic Councils.

ARTICLE IV

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. The General Assembly is the highest governing body of FLACSO. It is made up of one representative
   from each Member State designated by the government it represents, with the right of voice and vote.
   Latin American States non adherent to the present Agreement, can participate as observers. The States,
   institutions, organisms and centres that cooperate with FLACSO, may be invited to participate as
   observers as well as the social scientists who have served as President, Secretary-General, Director of a
   school, institute or as Director of Programme of FLACSO.

2. The General Assembly must hold a regular session every two years and the Higher Council of FLACSO
   shall notify, four months in advance, the Member States of the place, date and provisional agenda for
   the meeting. Likewise, the rest of the Latin American Governments will be notified.

3. The General Assembly may meet in a special session at the request of a majority of the full Member
   States, or when so determined by the Higher Council of FLACSO, by a majority of votes or the
   unanimous vote of the Member States represented thereon.

4. The General Assembly has the following duties:
   a) to define the general policy of the institution and the relationship of FLACSO, as an international
      legal entity, with the Member States;
b) to examine and henceforth approve the periodical reports presented by the Higher Council on the activities and financial reports of FLACSO, as well as the activity programme and its global budget;
c) to determine the amount of the financial contributions to be paid by each Member State;
d) to determine the number of members of and to elect the members of the Higher Council for a period of four years;
e) to authorize the Higher Council and the Secretary-General of FLACSO to take decisions on all specific matters that the General Assembly may deem appropriate.
f) to elect the Directors of Centres among the candidates presented by the Higher Council who shall hold office for a period of four years, and be eligible for an additional term;
g) to elect the Secretary-General of FLACSO among the candidates presented by the Higher Council who shall hold office for a period of four years and if such is the case, to remove him. The Secretary-General is eligible for an additional term and the designation should fall on a Latinamerican social scientist;
h) to approve the establishment of Academic Centres in Member States upon the proposal of the Higher Council;
i) to determine the headquarters of the General Secretariat in a Member State based on the subscribed agreement between FLACSO and the corresponding host government; and
j) to fix its by-laws.

ARTICLE V

THE HIGHER COUNCIL

1. The Higher Council is an auxiliary, governing body of the General Assembly and will act as a liaison instrument between FLACSO and the Member States. It is composed of the following persons.
a) the Representatives designated by their Governments, of the Member States elected by the General Assembly, among which will be included those where FLACSO has Academic Centers. The number of States represented is determined by the General Assembly; it will be no less than four and always more than the number of social scientists elected on a personal basis;
b) Latinamerican social scientists, of different nationalities and high academic standing, appointed in a personal capacity by the General Assembly. Their number will be determined by the General Assembly. Their number will be determined by the General Assembly and will be no less than three;
c) the acting President of the Higher Council who will have the right of voice.

2. The Higher Council will meet in regular sessions once a year, on the date and at the place determined by its President. It may also hold extraordinary sessions with the approval of a majority of its members at the Council.

3. The Higher Council has the following specific duties:
a) to elect the President of the Higher Council among its members, for a period of two years. The designation should fall in a Latin American social scientist of well known academic prestige;
b) to determine the academic policy of FLACSO in accordance with the general guidelines established by the General Assembly;
c) to examine and henceforth, approve an annual report on academic and other activities of FLACSO and its yearly effective budget according to programs presented by the Directive Committee;
d) to review the relations of FLACSO with the Member States, the agreements and programmes that the institution maintains with national and international governmental agencies, and with social science institutions and centres of the region;
e) to settle conflicts that may arise concerning responsibilities in accordance with the corresponding regulations;
f) to propose to the General Assembly the creation of Academic Centres;
g) to propose to the General Assembly the names of candidates for the post of Director of a Centre,
previous consultation with the respective Academic Council and whose designation should fall on a social scientist of recognized prestige;
h) to submit to the General Assembly the names of candidates for the post of Secretary-General. The candidate appointed shall be a social scientist of recognized prestige;
i) to authorize the Directive Committee to negotiate, by direct or mandate action, with other governments of the region, likewise with national and international institutions in order to obtain institutional and financial support for the activities of FLACSO;
j) to name, in the interim, until the next General Assembly meeting, Directors of Centres, the Secretary General and social scientists members of the same Council in the event of absences or impediment of the incumbents;
k) to establish Programs in any country of the region and designate its Directors among the candidates proposed by the Directive Committee. The designation should fall on a Latin American social scientist. The Director shall hold office for four years and is eligible for an additional period;
l) to establish, upon the proposal of the Directive Committee, the titles, degrees, diplomas and certificates to be awarded by FLACSO;
m) to submit every two years to the General Assembly a progress report on the activities of the Faculty.
n) to approve the internal regulations of the Directive Committee, Academic Councils, and other by-laws of the Faculty;
o) to accomplish all tasks assigned by the General Assembly; and
p) to fix its by-laws.

4. The President of the Higher Council has the following duties:
a) to preside over the Higher Council of FLACSO, and organize its work;
b) to summon the ordinary and extraordinary sessions of the General Assembly of FLACSO; and
c) to perform the duties entrusted by the General Assembly or the Higher Council.

ARTICLE VI

THE DIRECTIVE COMMITTEE

1. The Directive Committee is responsible for the coordination of the teaching and research activities as well as the technical cooperation of FLACSO and it is composed of the following persons:
a) the Directors of the Academic Centres of the Faculty, who will preside it, by rotation for a year;
b) a FLACSO senior professor who will be elected by rotation by the different Centres and who shall hold office for one year;
c) a representative of the Programs designated by the Higher Council by rotation for a year;
d) the Secretary-General.

2. The Directive Committee will meet at least four times in the year, summoned by who presides it.

3. The Directive Committee has the following specific duties:
a) to elaborate plans and academic programmes according to the academic policy established by the Higher Council;
b) to submit to the Higher Council the financial reports and annual budgets for each program as referred to in Article V, section 3, incidental clause "c";
c) to authorize the designation of the international academic and administrative staff of Centres and Programmes proposed by its Directors, and maintaining as far as possible a criteria of geographical regional distribution;
d) to propose the creation of Programmes and the designation of its Directors;
e) to submit different by-laws of the Faculty not foreseen in other sections of this Agreement for the approval of the Higher Council;
f) to authorize minor modifications to the annual effective budget, according to the corresponding by-
laws;
g) to propose and review the relations, agreements and resolutions of the Secretary General and Directors
of Academic Centres with Government and different national and international institutions according
to guidelines established by the General Assembly and the Higher Council, and
h) to propose to the Higher Council the titles, degrees, diplomas and certificates awarded by the Faculty.

ARTICLE VII

THE SECRETARY GENERAL

1. The Secretary General is responsible for the execution of the resolutions entrusted by the General

2. The Secretary General has the following specific duties, of essential regional nature:
   a) to exercise the general legal representation of FLACSO;
   b) to act as Secretary of the General Assembly, the Higher Council and the Directive Committee;
   c) to prepare the reports, budgets and annual statements of accounts of the Faculty for the approval of
   the Directive Committee;
   d) to conduct negotiations with universities and other cultural institutions for the purpose of arranging
   academic exchange agreements for approval by the Directive Committee;
   e) to maintain in coordination with the Directive Committee contacts with the governments of Member
   States and also with the Latin American countries so as to ensure their effective participation in the
   life of the Faculty and to obtain from them all institutional and financial support for the work of
   FLACSO;
   f) to carry out the measures referred to in Article VI, section 3, incidental clause “g” and the proposal
   for the project on the respective agreements.
   g) to carry out upon previous approval of the Higher Council and in consultation with the Directive
   Committee, the measures leading to the creation of Centres and Programmes, and
   h) to coordinate academic activities and those pertaining to scientific cooperation at regional level.

3. In order to accomplish these functions, the Directive Committee will authorize the appointment of the
necessary technical and administrative staff.

ARTICLE VII

ACADEMIC CENTRES, PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS

1. The term Centre comprehends the institutional enclosure in a Member State, by means of a signed
agreement between FLACSO and the corresponding government, in which the following functions are
 carried out:
   a) Teaching activities of high academic level and permanent nature, which will lead to the granting of a
   higher degree;
   b) research activities and others according to Article II, paragraph I.

Programmes are a group of high level academic activities executed by FLACSO in any country of the
region and its characteristics are determined in each case by the corresponding directive body.
Projects are academic activities of determined time limits and can be carried out in any Latinamerican
country. Its characteristics will be determined in each case by the corresponding directive body.

2. The teaching and research activities of FLACSO are carried out at the Academic Centres and in
Programmes. These will be established upon the estimation of the General Assembly and/or the Higher
Council for its realization.
3. Each Academic Centre will have a Director elected by the General Assembly and each Programme will have a Director assigned by the Higher Council; they will be responsible for the academic and administrative management of its Centre or Programme.

4. The Directors of the Academic Centres and the Programmes will submit to the consideration of the Directive Committee the names of the candidates who will occupy the posts of the academic and administrative personnel, and will designate the rest of the personnel according to the corresponding by-law.

5. The Directors of the Academic Centres will resolve with the Higher Council and the Directive Committee on an appropriate liaison instrument with the government of the respective country.

6. The Directors of Academic Centres and the Directors of Programmes will draw up and apply the annual budgets of the Centres and Programmes, with the authorization of the Higher Council and the Directive Committee.

ARTICLE IX

THE ACADEMIC COUNCILS OF CENTRES

1. In each Centre an Academic Council will function composed of:
   a) the Director of the Centre, who presides it;
   b) the coordinators of areas;
   c) a professor elected by the academic personnel, who will be the representative as referred to in Article VI, paragraph 1, incidental clause “b”; and
   d) a student representative.

2. The duties of the Academic Council are the following:
   a) to propose and evaluate the academic activities pertaining to the respective Centres;
   b) to advise the Director of the Centre in matters in which he has requested an opinion of the Academic Council.

ARTICLE X

OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES AND STUDENTS

1. FLACSO organizes its personnel in accordance with the categories and standards established by the corresponding by-law approved by the Higher Council.

2. The Directive Committee shall establish a suitable system in order to ensure the regional representation of the personnel at both teaching and academic administrative levels.

3. The students of FLACSO constitute an integrant part thereof. Their representation is governed by special regulations established by the Directive Committee.

4. All the members of FLACSO are responsible under the provisions of this Agreement and the terms of their respective work contract. Such responsibilities shall be exacted as follows:
   a) the Directors of the Academic Centres, the Secretary General and the Directors of Programmes are answerable for the same requests they were elected;
   b) professors, investigators and students are answerable to the Director of the Academic Centre; and, the Programme staff to their respective Director;
   c) the administrative personnel is answerable to the Director of the Academic Centre or Director of Programme to which they have been assigned;
d) the supporting personnel of the Secretary General is answerable to him.

ARTICLE XI

FINANCE

1. The financial resources of FLACSO are made up principally as follows:
   a) by the annual contributions of the Member States, which will be proportional to their respective contributions to the budget of UNESCO. The amount of the quotas shall be determined by the General Assembly in accordance with the provisions of Article IV, paragraph 4, letter “c”;
   b) by the supplementary annual contributions of the countries hosting FLACSO Centres and Programmes, according to the provisions of their respective agreements;
   c) by subsidies, final or temporary contributions, donations and legacies granted by governments, institutions or private individuals.

2. In order to ensure the smooth operation of FLACSO, a Fund for Operations shall be established; the nature, amount and purpose of this Fund shall be determined by the General Assembly.

3. At the beginning of each financial year the Secretary General of FLACSO shall notify the Governments regarding the statement of their contributions.

4. Any modification in the amount of the quotas of the Member States must be approved by a majority of two-thirds of the General Assembly.

ARTICLE XII

LEGAL STATUS AND IMMUNITIES

1. FLACSO is a legal entity enjoying full legal status, privileges and immunities in the territory of each of its Member States, in accordance with the legislation in force therein and the international procedures on the matter.

ARTICLE XIII

RELATIONS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS AND CENTRES

1. FLACSO, in accordance with its nature and purposes, shall concert its action with that of governmental and non-governmental organizations engaged in related activities as well as with government agencies, universities and national social science centres of the region. For this purpose, FLACSO shall seek to establish agreements with such organizations and centres in order to determine manners of efficient cooperation which may even include association agreements.

2. In particular, FLACSO shall consider itself specifically bound in connection with national social science centres, whether for the task of establishing its general policy as well as for decisions concerning its Centres and Programmes. In order to meet this requirement, FLACSO shall sponsor periodic consultations with such centres, in addition to the exchange programmes it may undertake with any of them.

3. Likewise, the Member States are recommended to endeavour the desirability that their Representative on the various governing bodies of FLACSO be persons connected with social science activities, in their respective countries.
ARTICLE XIV

REFORMS

1. This Agreement may be modified by the General Assembly by a decision adopted by a majority of two-thirds of the votes of the Member States.

ARTICLE XV

DURATION, ADHERENCE AND DENUNCIATION

1. This Agreement shall continue in force as long as three Member States, at least, maintain their adherence.

2. Adherence and denunciation shall be governed by the following rules:
   a) the Agreement cannot be signed with reservations and shall remain open for acceptance by the Latin American States, Members of UNESCO:
   b) the acceptance of this Agreement by the States who at this date are not full members, shall be effected by means of the deposit of the respective formal instrument with the Director General of UNESCO and the corresponding notification to the President of FLACSO.
   c) the Director General of UNESCO shall inform all the States Parties to this Agreement, as well as the United Nations, of the new acceptances received. The Secretary General of FLACSO shall likewise inform the organizations which cooperate with the Institution.
   d) pursuant to the provisions of Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations, this Agreement shall be registered with the United Nations Secretariat; and
   e) the Member States may denounce this Agreement in accordance with their sovereign decision. This denunciation shall be presented to the President of FLACSO and to the Director General of UNESCO and it shall become effective one year from the date on which the latter receives notice thereof, in order to guarantee the development of the activities planned in accordance with the existing agreements.

SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA
June 5th-8th, 1979
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