

No. 51116

**United States of America
and
El Salvador**

Agreement of cooperation between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of El Salvador concerning United States access to and use of facilities at the international airport of El Salvador for aerial counter-narcotics activities. San Salvador, 31 March 2000

Entry into force: *23 August 2000 by notification, in accordance with article XXIII*

Authentic texts: *English and Spanish*

Registration with the Secretariat of the United Nations: *United States of America, 15 July 2013*

**États-Unis d'Amérique
et
El Salvador**

Accord de coopération entre le Gouvernement des États-Unis d'Amérique et le Gouvernement de la République d'El Salvador concernant l'accès et l'utilisation par les États-Unis des installations de l'aéroport international d'El Salvador pour les activités aériennes de lutte contre les stupéfiants. San Salvador, 31 mars 2000

Entrée en vigueur : *23 août 2000 par notification, conformément à l'article XXIII*

Textes authentiques : *anglais et espagnol*

Enregistrement auprès du Secrétariat de l'Organisation des Nations Unies : *États-Unis d'Amérique, 15 juillet 2013*

[ENGLISH TEXT – TEXTE ANGLAIS]

**AGREEMENT OF COOPERATION BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF EL SALVADOR
CONCERNING
UNITED STATES ACCESS TO AND USE OF FACILITIES
AT THE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT OF EL SALVADOR FOR
AERIAL COUNTER-NARCOTICS ACTIVITIES**

For the purpose of intensifying international cooperation for aerial detection, monitoring, tracking and control of illegal narcotics activity, as called for in international legal and political instruments, such as the United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, the Action Plan of the Summit of the Americas of 1998; the Hemispheric Anti-Drug Strategy and applicable bilateral counter-narcotics agreements in force;

Conscious of the need to advance in the fight against the illicit traffic of narcotics and sharing responsibility for ensuring that all aspects of the phenomenon are approached in a unified and balanced manner, taking into account their respective available strengths and national resources;

Concerned by the noxious effects that illicit drugs have on their economies, ethical values, public health, as well as on their political and social structure and the stability of their democratic institutions;

Recognizing that, in support of this joint strategic effort to advance international cooperation in the suppression of illegal narcotics activity, the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of El Salvador continue to commit significant national resources to this endeavor;

Desiring to establish the terms and conditions for greater long-term collaboration between the United States and El Salvador to strengthen their common purposes in this matter; the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of El Salvador (hereinafter "the Parties") hereby agree as follows:

Article I (Definitions)

For purposes of this Agreement:

- (a) "United States personnel" shall refer to the military personnel (members of the United States Armed Forces) and civilian employees of the United States Government who are present in El Salvador in connection with this agreement.
- (b) "Contractors" shall refer to business entities and individuals that have entered into contracts with the United States Government in connection with this agreement.
- (c) "Contractor employees" shall refer to individuals who are employed by any contractor, as defined in this agreement, who are present in El Salvador in connection with this agreement, and who are not nationals of, or normally resident in, El Salvador.
- (d) "Dependents" shall refer to members of the families of United States personnel forming part of their respective households and who are not nationals of El Salvador.
- (e) "Aircraft riders" shall refer to representatives of cooperating host or third states who are invited to participate in aerial sorties to facilitate the performance of aerial counter-narcotics detection, monitoring, and tracking missions in connection with this agreement.
- (f) "Facilities" shall refer to those sites, installations, structures, and areas to which the United States is authorized access and use, pursuant to the terms of this agreement, and any amendments thereto.

Article II (Purposes of Agreement; Authorization)

The Government of the Republic of El Salvador agrees to allow United States personnel, United States contractors, and contractor employees access to and use of the International Airport of El Salvador as well as to ports and other governmental facilities in connection with aerial detection, monitoring, tracking, and control of illegal narcotics trafficking operations. Accordingly, aircraft, vessels, and vehicles operated by or for the United States in connection with this agreement are authorized to use such airport facilities as well as ports and other governmental facilities.

Article III (Aircraft and Aircraft Over-flight Clearance Procedures)

Aircraft operated by or for the United States in connection with this agreement are authorized to over-fly Salvadoran territory, and to land at and depart from the International Airport of El Salvador, without diplomatic clearance. Such activities shall be in accordance with procedures as agreed by both Parties.

Article IV (Command and Control Arrangements)

Operations by United States personnel shall be conducted pursuant to command and control arrangements as agreed by both Parties.

Article V (Respecting Local Laws)

United States personnel shall respect the laws of El Salvador and shall abstain from any activity inconsistent with this agreement. Authorities of the United States shall take the necessary measures to that end.

Article VI (Status of United States Personnel and Their Dependents)

1. The Government of the Republic of El Salvador shall accord to United States personnel and their dependents who are in El Salvador status equivalent to that provided to administrative and technical staff of the United States Embassy under the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations of April 18, 1961.
2. If, notwithstanding paragraph 1 of this article, Salvadoran authorities temporarily detain any United States personnel or their dependents, the Salvadoran authorities shall immediately notify the authorities in charge of United States operations under this agreement in El Salvador, and coordinate their prompt return to United States control.

Article VII (Entry, Exit and Travel Documentation)

1. The authorities of the Republic of El Salvador agree to allow United States personnel and their dependents entry into and exit out of the Republic of El Salvador with appropriate United States Government identification (military, civilian, or dependent identification cards) and with collective movement or individual travel orders. Passports and visas shall not be required. United States authorities shall notify the appropriate authorities of the Government of El Salvador of the names of United States personnel and their dependents present in El Salvador in connection with this agreement. Such notification shall be made within a reasonable period of time after their arrival.
2. The authorities of the Republic of El Salvador agree to allow United States contractors and contractor employees entry into and exit out of the Republic of El Salvador with passports while exempting them from visa requirements.
3. The authorities of the Republic of El Salvador shall apply appropriate immigration procedures to facilitate the prompt entry, freedom of movement, and exit of United States personnel and their dependents, contractors, contractor employees, and aircraft riders arriving in and departing from El Salvador in connection with this agreement. Such personnel and their dependents and aircraft riders shall be exempt from entry and exit fees or other departure taxes.

Article VIII (Importation and Exportation)

1. As part of the contribution to the partnership of combating the scourge of illicit narcotics trafficking, the authorities of the Republic of El Salvador waive all inspections, import and export fees, duties, direct or indirect taxes, and other charges leviable in the Republic of El Salvador on products, equipment, materials, supplies, and other property imported into, acquired or used in the Republic of El Salvador by or on behalf of the United States Government in connection with this agreement. Title to such property shall remain with the United States Government or its contractors, as appropriate, and such property may be transported out of the Republic of El Salvador, or disposed of therein, at any time, exempt from inspections, export fees, duties, taxes, and other charges; provided, however, that disposition of such property in El Salvador to persons or entities who are not entitled to such exemptions shall be subject to payment of such fees, duties, taxes, and other such charges by the non-entitled persons or entities.
2. The authorities of the Republic of El Salvador agree that baggage, personal effects, products and other property for the personal use of United States personnel, their dependents, contractors, or contractor employees imported into, acquired or used