

AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHILE
ON
THE EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Chile (hereinafter referred to as "the Parties");

Desiring to continue to promote mutual understanding between the peoples of the United States of America (hereinafter the "United States") and the Republic of Chile (hereinafter "Chile") by a wider exchange of knowledge and professional talents through educational activities;

Have reached the following agreement:

ARTICLE I

- A. The Parties hereby agree, in response to the Government of Chile's desire to increase access and equal opportunity for a diverse group of Chileans to advanced degree study in the United States, to establish an exchange program for Chilean graduate students – for four (4) years of doctoral studies or two (2) years of post-doctoral studies.
- B. Emphasis would be on disciplines that respond to Chile's needs to build capacity to improve the scope and quality of research, innovation and teaching, thus improving its global competitiveness.
- C. The program shall be known as the "Equal Opportunities Scholarship Program, Chile-United States of America" (hereinafter the "Program").

ARTICLE II

- A. The Program shall place Chilean participants in excellent graduate and post graduate programs in a broad range of appropriate and excellent universities and institutions in the United States. For each year that this Agreement is in force, up to 100 new participants per year shall be placed in such programs.
- B. The Government of Chile shall support the participants placed by the Program through grants covering up to four (4) years of study. Each year, the Government of Chile shall determine after the selection process the number of grants to be awarded during the following academic year.
- C. The Government of Chile's financial support of each participant in the Program shall include:
 - 1. Round trip airfare to the United States.
 - 2. Monthly maintenance allowance.
 - 3. Settling-in allowance at the beginning of each grant for the participant and, when needed, for dependents.
 - 4. The balance of tuition and fees not awarded by the receiving universities.
 - 5. English Language Training in Chile for participants who may need training to improve their proficiency in the English language prior to beginning their academic programs.
 - 6. The costs of any pre-departure orientation organized for the participants by the Commission for Educational Exchange between the United States of America and Chile (hereinafter the "Fulbright Commission").

7. The portion of the administrative costs incurred in Chile by the Fulbright Commission and Chile's *Comisión Nacional de Investigación Científica y Tecnológica* (hereinafter "CONICYT") to manage the Program.
8. Health insurance coverage for dependents, to the extent required by United States law or regulation.

ARTICLE III

A. The Government of the United States shall:

1. Facilitate the issuance of J-1 visas to participants and J-2 visas for dependents for entry into the United States, subject to United States law and regulation, including the Fulbright-Hays Act. Under the terms of the J-1 visa, recipients would be required to return to Chile for a minimum of two (2) years following the completion of their programs in the United States before becoming eligible to apply for resident visas. This policy respects both Parties' belief in the benefits of a circulation of talent.
2. Cover administrative costs incurred by U.S. cooperating agencies designated for supervision and monitoring of participants at U.S. universities and institutions, including academic progress, medical care, J-visa compliance and emergencies.
3. Provide health insurance for participants during their stay in the United States.

B. In addition, the Government of the United States, through U.S. cooperating agencies, shall:

1. Endeavor to place participants in quality U.S. universities and institutions appropriate to each participant's needs.
2. Endeavor to secure tuition awards for participants.
3. Provide monitoring services and enhancement programs, including orientation and professional workshops, available to Fulbright grantees.
4. Provide English Language Training in the United States for participants who may need training to improve their proficiency in the English language prior to beginning their academic programs.

ARTICLE IV

The Program shall operate in conformity with the Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Chile for Educational Cooperation, signed at Washington on February 26, 1997. Recognizing the Chilean Foreign Ministry's special relations with CONICYT, CONICYT's responsibility for scholarship administration in Chile and the long-standing cooperative relationship between the U.S.-Chile Fulbright program and CONICYT, the Parties shall use the existing Fulbright structure including existing arrangements with CONICYT to provide services necessary for participant recruitment, screening and selection. The Fulbright Commission Board, in concert with CONICYT, will establish procedures for creating a staff to exclusively serve this initiative. This staff will report quarterly to the Fulbright Commission Board and to the Consulting Committee established in Article V about progress in meeting program objectives. Grant competition and selection shall be open and merit-based. The Fulbright Commission Board, in consultation with CONICYT, will nominate candidates for final selection by the J. William Fulbright Scholarship Board.

ARTICLE V

The Parties hereby create a Consulting Committee that will convene periodically in order to evaluate and serve as an advisory body with regards to the implementation of this Agreement. The Consulting Committee will be composed of the following persons, or their designees: the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Chile, who will serve as the Chairperson; the Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs of the United States Department of State; the President of the Board of the Fulbright Binational Commission; the Director for North America, Central America and the Caribbean of the Chilean Ministry of Foreign Affairs; the President of CONICYT; and the Counselor for Public Affairs of the United States Embassy in Santiago.

ARTICLE VI

- A. This Agreement shall enter into force upon signature by both Parties, and shall remain in force for a term of seven (7) years, after which time it shall be renewed automatically for successive seven (7) year periods. Either Party may terminate this Agreement by providing written notice to the other Party of its intention to terminate it. In that case, this Agreement shall terminate upon the last day of the first full academic year in the United States following the date of such notice. Participants already in the program shall be permitted to complete their programs following the termination of this Agreement, and all commitments made to them shall be fully honored.
- B. This Agreement may be amended by an exchange of diplomatic notes between the Parties.
- C. Each Party's obligations under this Agreement shall be subject to the availability of appropriated funds, resources and personnel and to the applicable laws and regulations of each Party.

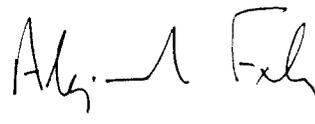
DONE at Washington, this eighth day of August 2007, in duplicate, in the English and Spanish languages, both being equally authentic.

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:**

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE REPUBLIC OF CHILE:**



**CONDOLEEZZA RICE
SECRETARY OF STATE**



**ALEJANDRO FOXLEY
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**