

AGREEMENT BETWEEN  
THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
AND  
THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE OF THE REPUBLIC OF ECUADOR  
CONCERNING  
HEALTH CARE FOR MILITARY MEMBERS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

The Department of Defense of the United States of America and the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Ecuador, hereinafter referred to as "the Parties," desire effective cooperation in an exchange of health care;

**Whereas**, the laws and regulations of the United States provide that inpatient medical care in Department of Defense military medical treatment facilities in the United States may be furnished on a space-available basis without cost to foreign force members and their accompanying dependents in the United States, if comparable care is made available to a comparable number of United States force members and their dependents in the country of the foreign force member;

**Whereas** the Parties have determined that appropriate conditions exist to assure that comparable care for comparable numbers of persons may be made available by each Party; and

**Considering** the importance of establishing cooperative actions for the availability of medical care under the principle of reciprocity;

The Parties agree as follows:

**ARTICLE I**  
**Objective**

This Agreement establishes an understanding between the Parties that reciprocal inpatient medical treatment and other medical treatment may be made available at military treatment facilities for the military members and their dependents of the Armed Forces of the United States of America and the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Ecuador on a space-available basis. Medical care that may be provided at the military medical facilities in the respective territory of each Party shall be without charge.

## **ARTICLE II**

### **Definitions**

1. Dependents: The term "dependents" is defined as follows:

a. Spouse: A person who, based on the laws and military regulations of the military member's country, is considered to be the lawful wife or husband of the military member.

b. Dependent child: A military member's child who depends on the military member for support, and who has not attained the age of 21, or if enrolled in a full-time course of study at an institution of higher learning, the age of 23.

2. Subsistence surcharge: A charge for meals consumed in the military treatment facilities of the Parties.

## **ARTICLE III**

### **Scope**

This Agreement applies to military members, and their dependents, of the United States of America and Ecuadorian military members, and their dependents, who are in each other's country at the official invitation of the receiving Government, or who are in each other's country as crew of a visiting military aircraft or military vessel that lands at each other's airfields or visits each other's ports on official military business.

In addition to the dependents of the Ecuadorian military members covered in the preceding paragraph, the accompanying dependents of a military student in the International Military Education & Training (IMET) Program shall be covered (understanding that the IMET Program covers the IMET students).

No more than six Ecuadorian officers and their dependents assigned to the Inter-American Defense Board and the Inter-American Defense College are covered by this Agreement. The senior defense military attaché of Ecuador will select those eligible for care.

Requirements for identification and proof of eligibility by persons requesting health care under this Agreement shall be as prescribed by the Party furnishing the care.

**ARTICLE IV**  
**Representatives**

In the implementation and administration of this Agreement, the Representative of the Department of Defense of the United States shall be the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs, and the Representative of the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Ecuador shall be the Minister of Defense.

**ARTICLE V**  
**Medical Attention Available**

1. The Department of Defense of the United States may make available in its military treatment facilities in the United States of America:
  - a. for Ecuadorian military members covered by this agreement, outpatient and inpatient care in Department of Defense medical and dental treatment facilities, without charge (except for a subsistence surcharge, if applicable). Medications available at the military treatment facilities are available without charge.
  - b. for dependents accompanying those military members:
    - i. outpatient and inpatient medical care in Department of Defense medical treatment facilities, without charge (except for a subsistence surcharge, if applicable); and
    - ii. dental care in Department of Defense medical and dental facilities, without charge, to the same extent that such care may be made available in military medical treatment facilities within the United States to dependents of United States military members.
2. If care is provided pursuant to paragraph 1 of this Article, Ecuadorian military members and their dependents receiving care in a Department of Defense military medical treatment facility shall receive a copy of the medical records regarding the care provided and any follow-on treatment plan for their personal medical records.
3. The Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Ecuador may make available in their military medical treatment facilities in Ecuador:
  - a. for United States military members covered by this Agreement, outpatient and inpatient care in Ministry of Defense medical and dental treatment facilities, without charge (except for a subsistence surcharge, if applicable). Medications available at the military treatment facilities are available without charge.

- b. for dependents accompanying those military members:
    - i. outpatient and inpatient medical care in Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Ecuador medical treatment facilities, without charge (except for a subsistence surcharge, if applicable); and
    - ii. dental care in Ministry of Defense medical and dental treatment facilities, without charge, to the same extent that such care is made available in military medical treatment facilities within the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Ecuador to dependents of Ecuadorian military members.
4. If care is provided pursuant to paragraph 3 of this Article, United States military members and their dependents receiving care in a Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Ecuador military medical treatment facility shall receive a copy of the medical records regarding the care provided and any follow-on treatment plan for their personal medical records.

#### **ARTICLE VI Expenses**

Each party shall pay the expenses resulting from treatment it provides pursuant to this Agreement, in accordance with its applicable laws and regulations, and subject to the availability of funds appropriated for these purposes.

#### **ARTICLE VII Dispute Resolution**

Questions relating to interpretation of the provisions of this Agreement, or implementation of this Agreement, shall be resolved through consultations between the Representatives of the Parties.

Certified True Copy

Col Edwin A. Hurston

**ARTICLE VIII**  
**Final Dispositions**

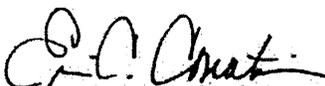
This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of the final signature and shall remain in force for three years, unless terminated by either Party by giving at least ninety days written notice to the other Party. It may be extended by mutual written agreement of the Parties.

This Agreement may be amended by mutual written agreement of the Parties.

This Agreement is in two originals in the English and Spanish languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Department of Defense  
of the United States of America

For the Ministry of Defense of the  
Republic of Ecuador



ERIN C. CONATON  
Under Secretary of Defense  
(Personnel and Readiness)

Date: 14 September 2012



MIGUEL CARVAJAL  
Minister of Defense

Date: 5 October 2012

