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AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION BETWEEN THE INTER-AMERICAN
COMMISSION OF WOMEN AND THE INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE
OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES

(Signed in La Paz, Bolivia, on May 16, 1979)

AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION BETWEEN THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION
OF WOMEN (CIM) AND THE INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURAL
SCIENCES (IICA)

WHEREAS:

The Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) is the inter-American specialized organization responsible for promotion and recognition of the rights of women so that they may participate fully in the process of development, at the same level as men;

The Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences (IICA) is the inter-American specialized organization responsible for technical cooperation in the field of agriculture and rural development;

The General Assembly of the Organization of American States, in its resolution AG/RES.220 (VI-0/76), adopted and proclaimed the Decade of Women 1976-1985: Equality, Development, and Peace, and reiterated "to the organs of the inter-American system that, within their programming procedures, they should adapt existing programs to the needs of women in the hemisphere, adopt new programs designed to improve the condition of women, and establish mechanisms and procedures appropriate for the continuous study and evaluation of such programs in coordination with the Inter-American Commission of Women";

The Inter-American Commission of Women has been carrying out its Regional Plan of Action for the Decade of Women, which defines its priorities for work in six areas, the first of which deals specifically with the integration of women into the rural economy;

The Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences, at the Fourteenth Annual Meeting of its Board of Directors, adopted Resolution 28 (14/75), in which it recommended to the Director General that he use all means at his disposal to encourage greater participation by women in the technical and professional activities of IICA;

The Inter-American Commission of Women has established in the Republic of Argentina a Multinational Women's Center for Research and Training, which is permanent, multinational, multicultural, and multilingual, to serve as a support to the programs of activities of the CIM;

The Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences has gained valuable experience in the field of education of women for rural development and has incorporated the component "women" in some of the projects on which it provides advisory services in its member countries, establishing a specific program directed at the rural women of the region;

The Inter-American Commission of Women has made many efforts for the promotion and incorporation of rural women into development and has under way important projects aimed at the integration of women into the rural economy;

The Nineteenth Assembly of the Inter-American Commission of Women, in its resolution CIM/RES. 18 (XIX-0/78), approved the six lines of action for implementing the Regional Plan of Action for the short, medium, and long term, one of which is interagency coordination to strengthen the relations of the Commission with all the agencies of the system;

Article 17 of the Standards for the Implementation and Coordination of the Provisions of the Charter Relating to the Inter-American Specialized Organizations, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution AD/RES. 87 (II-0/72), provides that: "The programs and activities of the specialized organizations shall be carried out through a system that will avoid the duplication of effort or of expenditures and that will facilitate making the activities of the specialized organizations, those of the General Secretariat, and those of other organs of the OAS complementary";

The Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences has been directing actions to the female sector of the rural population, identifying itself with the objectives of the Inter-American Commission of Women for improvement of the conditions and quality of the life of rural women and their families; and

It is necessary to establish permanent mechanisms that will ensure compliance with the provisions cited, for effective coordination and liaison between the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences and the Inter-American Commission of Women that will enable them to contribute significantly to the advancement of women,

The two entities have agreed to sign the following

AGREEMENT:

Objectives:

Article 1. This Agreement establishes the general bases necessary for the attainment of the following objectives:

- a. To establish a frame of reference that will facilitate effective cooperation in programs and projects for women sponsored by both entities.
- b. To promote the exchange of information between IICA and the CIM on matters related to the situation of women in rural areas.

- c. To prepare specific projects for rural women, identified and previously agreed upon by both parties, for the purpose of seeking the financing necessary for their execution.
- d. To cooperate in the promotion and operation of the data-collection unit that the CIM is organizing in its Multinational Women's Center for Research and Training.
- e. To cooperate with the CIM in the compilation of statistics on the situation of rural women.

Execution:

Article 2. In pursuit of the objectives set forth in Article 1, the parties shall perform the actions that are necessary in accordance with the corresponding programming.

For its part, IICA shall invite the CIM to be represented in its institutional aid committee and the CIM shall provide its cooperation in those committees for the development of programs that will benefit rural women.

Article 3. This general agreement shall not interfere with the basic responsibilities and opportunities of the contracting parties to make independent agreements.

Article 4. The responsibilities each party assumes shall be limited to the availability of resources for the financing of specific projects.

Article 5. Each project shall be carried out in accordance with the stipulations the parties set on objectives, mutual obligations, the nature of the sources of financing, and the method of evaluation of the activities.

Article 6. IICA shall provide to the CIM the cooperation of the aid services of its technical and logistical teams that are available to cooperate in carrying out the work plan of CIM for the Decade of Women.

Article 7. The two entities shall regularly exchange progress reports on the performance of their activities in execution of this Agreement.

Article 8. The actions with the frame of this Agreement shall be coordinated, in the case of the Institute, by a high official designated by the Director General, and in the case of the CIM, by a high official designated by the Executive Secretariat of the Commission.

Duration:

Article 9. This Agreement shall enter into force upon being signed by the contracting parties.

Article 10. The duration of this Agreement is for an initial period of five years, with automatic renewal for equal periods unless one of the contracting parties notifies the other, at least six months in advance, of its intention to revise or terminate the Agreement.

Article 11. Ninety days before the cancelation or revision of this Agreement there shall be a full discussion between the institutions affected. After that discussion, the Agreement may be terminated, provided the activities for which funds have already been accepted have been completed.

Amendments:

Article 12. The terms of this Agreement may be amended, provided the contracting parties express their approval, through an exchange of notes that shall automatically be incorporated into the text of the Agreement.

Article 13. Any amendment or request that is needed between the Institute and the Commission, under the terms of this Agreement or of some Agreement on a specific project, should be made in writing. Such notification shall be considered valid when it is received by one party or the other at the addresses specified here following:

For the Institute:

Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences
Central Headquarters:
Apartado 55. San Isidro Coronado
San José, Costa Rica

For the Commission:

Inter-American Commission of Women
General Secretariat of the
Organization of American States
Washington, D.C. 20006, U.S.A.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the authorized representatives of the contracting parties sign this Agreement in duplicate:

FOR THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION OF
WOMEN

FOR THE INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTE
OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES

(signed) Carmen Delgado Votaw
President

(signed) José Emilio G. Araujo
Director General

in the city of La Paz, Bolivia, this sixteenth day of the month of May of the year one thousand nine hundred seventy-nine.