

AGREEMENT
TO AMEND AND EXTEND THE
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OF
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AND THE
NICARAGUAN INSTITUTE OF TERRITORIAL
STUDIES OF NICARAGUA
CONCERNING
SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION
IN THE EARTH AND MAPPING SCIENCES

The Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter "Memorandum") Between the U.S. Geological Survey (hereinafter "USGS") of the Department of the Interior of the United States of America and the Nicaraguan Institute of Territorial Studies of Nicaragua (hereinafter "INETER") (hereinafter "Party" or "Parties") Concerning Scientific and Technical Cooperation in the Earth and Mapping Sciences signed by the USGS on March 4, 1999, and INETER on March 10, 1999, is hereby amended and extended as follows:

1. Article II: Delete Article II in its entirety and substitute the following:

ARTICLE II. COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES

1. Forms of cooperation under this Memorandum may consist of exchanges of technical information, visits, participation in training courses, conferences and symposia; the exchange of professional geoscientists in areas of mutual interest; and any other cooperative research consistent with programs of the Parties. Specific areas of cooperation may include, but are not limited to, such areas of mutual interest as:

- A. Earth-science investigations, including hazards, resources and the environment;
- B. Biology, biological investigations and technical developments;
- C. Geographic and geospatial analysis and investigations;
- D. Water resources and other hydrologic investigations; and
- E. Information systems.

2. Activities under this Memorandum shall be undertaken in accordance with the laws, regulations, and procedures of each country.”

2. Article IV: Delete article IV in its entirety and substitute the following:

ARTICLE IV. FEE AND TAX EXEMPTION

1. In accordance with its laws and regulations, each Party shall work toward obtaining on behalf of the other Party relief from taxes, fees, customs duties, and other charges (excluding fees for specific services rendered) levied with respect to:

A. All transfer, ownership, construction, renovation or maintenance of facilities or property by or on behalf of the other Party to implement this Memorandum;

B. The import, purchase, ownership, use or disposition (including export) of goods and services by or on behalf of the other Party in support of activities under this Memorandum; and

C. Personal property of personnel of the other Party or entities of that Party implementing provisions of this Memorandum.

2. Commodities provided for under this Memorandum and acquired by the United States, its contractors, grantees, or by foreign governments or their agents where such commodities were financed with United States funds, shall be exempt from taxation, including value-added taxes (VAT) and customs duties. If such taxation is imposed, then INETER shall provide timely reimbursement to the Government of the United States or its agents. Commodities include any material, article, supplies, goods or equipment. These same rules apply to all funds provided for in this Memorandum, including grants, salaries and all monetary assistance.”

3. All other terms and conditions of the Memorandum remain unchanged.

4. Entry into Force and Termination:

This Agreement shall enter into force upon signature and shall be effective from March 10, 2004. It remains in force until terminated by either Party upon ninety (90) days written notice to the other Party. The termination of this Agreement shall not affect the validity or duration of projects under this Agreement that are initiated prior to such termination.

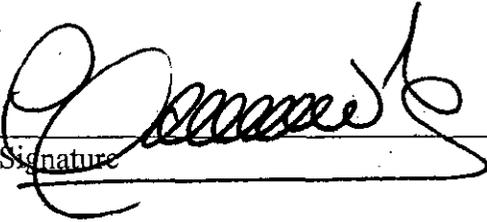
Done in Reston and Managua, in duplicate, in the English language.

FOR THE UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL
SURVEY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
THE INTERIOR OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA:

FOR THE NICARAGUAN INSTITUTE
OF TERRITORIAL STUDIES
OF NICARAGUA:



Signature



Signature

Charles G. Groat

Name

Claudio Gutiérrez Huete

Name

Director

Title

Executive Director

Title

MAY 24, 2004

Date

JUNE 25, 2004

Date

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