

LETTER OF ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES AND THE OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA CONCERNING WORKPLACE SAFETY AND HEALTH PROTECTIONS APPLICABLE TO MEXICAN WORKERS IN THE UNITED STATES

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the United Mexican States and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) of the Department of Labor of the United States of America, through its Embassy and consulates in the United States, hereinafter "the Participants";

CONSIDERING their desire to protect the well-being of Mexican workers in the United States;

CONSIDERING their desire to establish programs of cooperation to educate and inform Mexican workers and their employers in the United States as to their workplace rights and responsibilities, to encourage them to exercise their rights under occupational safety and health laws, and to educate them about the proper channels to do so;

CONSIDERING the importance of promoting and encouraging training programs for Mexican workers to continue to reduce injuries and illnesses in the workplace; and

CONSIDERING the intention of the Participants, through the Joint Declaration between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the United Mexican States and the Department of Labor of the United States of America to Work Together to Inform Mexican Workers in the United States about their Labor Rights, signed at Washington, D.C., on April 3, 2014;

Intend to collaborate as follows:

SECTION 1

Objective

To promote the workplace rights and well-being of Mexican workers in the United States through joint efforts between the Participants and with other relevant governmental agencies and private organizations in the United States, as appropriate and as mutually consented to by the Participants.

SECTION 2

Areas of Collaboration

In furtherance of this objective, the Participants intend to pursue the following initiatives to the extent funds are available:

1. Develop a joint pilot program to enable the Embassy of Mexico and its consulates to file OSHA complaints on behalf of workers.
2. Improve awareness of Mexican workers in the United States of workplace laws and regulations about occupational safety and health, including efforts to:
 - a. heighten awareness of availability of information regarding workplace inspection findings, corrective actions ordered, fines, and other enforcement and compliance efforts;
 - b. develop, translate, and disseminate informational materials, utilizing print and electronic media, addressing occupational safety and health concerns of Mexican workers in the United States, including:
 - Public Service Announcements to publicize occupational safety and health issues and who to contact for help in the United States;

- Videos and posters to illustrate worker safety and health hazards to reach populations that may not be literate; and
 - Videos to help workers understand how to file an OSHA complaint;
 - c. distribute and publicize the availability (where applicable) of Spanish language brochures, pamphlets, and other informational materials for Mexican workers regarding their occupational safety and health rights in the workplace;
 - d. publicize the OSHA toll-free telephone number for confidential consultations and resources available on OSHA'S Web site including the OSHA en Español Web page which provides information in Spanish about worker rights and responsibilities related to workplace safety and health; and
 - e. develop a process for Mexican Embassy and consulate officials to share feedback with OSHA regarding concerns received from Mexican workers employed in the United States.
- 3. Jointly develop, promote and conduct training programs, including:
 - a. development and implementation of joint training programs in the United States targeting industry sectors and workplaces with a high concentration of Mexican workers, in an effort to help workers understand and protect themselves from common workplace safety and health hazards;
 - b. formation of a bilateral working group of OSHA representatives to include national, regional and state officials, as appropriate, and Mexican consulate representatives to develop and conduct cross-cultural training sessions. The training would aim to increase awareness among OSHA's federal and state inspectors, compliance assistance specialists, consultants and trainers of the cultural sensitivities of Mexican workers and to enhance the ability of OSHA's staff to conduct inspections, consultative visits, and education and outreach efforts in workplaces with a high concentration of Mexican workers;

- c. development of a Construction Hazard Awareness Training Program to introduce Mexican workers employed in the United States to their occupational safety and health rights and responsibilities and to common hazards and controls on construction worksites; and
- d. heighten awareness of OSHA's federal and state field staffs' compliance assistance efforts, the OSHA Training Institute's Education Centers, Susan B. Harwood Grants, State Plans, and State Consultation Programs.

SECTION 3

Process of Consultation

The Participants intend to collaborate through joint efforts at the national level between OSHA and the Embassy of Mexico in Washington, D.C. and at the regional level between OSHA regional and area offices and the Mexican consulates in the United States. The Participants intend to identify points of contact for formal communication at the national and regional levels, who would be responsible for developing joint efforts within the areas of cooperation as may be decided. Representatives of the Participants intend to meet on a periodic basis to assure that these functions are carried out. The Participants have exchanged lists of national and regional representatives, who would serve as contact points to support these efforts.

SECTION 4

Expenses and Costs

Each Participant intends to finance its participation in any areas of cooperation undertaken pursuant to this Letter of Arrangement and subject to the availability of funds in each Participant's respective budget.

SECTION 5
Final Provisions

This Letter of Arrangement does not create any international obligations or responsibility for the States to which the Participants belong. This Letter of Arrangement becomes operative on the date of signing and is intended to cease after a period of three (3) years. This Letter of Arrangement may be modified by written consent of the Participants. Either Participant should endeavor to provide three (3) months written notification of its intent to discontinue this Letter of Arrangement to the other Participant.

Signed at Washington, D.C. in Spanish and English on the sixth day of November, two thousand fourteen.

**FOR THE OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY
AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**



David Michaels, PhD, MPH
Assistant Secretary

**FOR THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OF THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES**



Eduardo Medina Mora
**Ambassador of Mexico to the United States
of America**