

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE MINISTRY OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT OF BRAZIL CONCERNING LABOR COOPERATION

Recognizing the value of dialogue and cooperation between the Department of Labor of the United States of America (USDOL) and the Ministry of Labor and Employment of Brazil (MTE),

USDOL and MTE intend to undertake activities as described below:

Overall Objective

USDOL and MTE (hereinafter referred as “the Participants”) affirm their common objective to promote hemispheric collaboration on labor issues and strengthen cooperation on labor matters to ensure equitable economic growth, support widely-shared prosperity and address areas of challenge, including promoting employment, providing social protection, protecting labor rights and strengthen social dialogue, pursuant to the Hemispheric Decent Work Agenda.

Areas for Cooperation

The Participants intend to cooperate in areas that might include, but may not be limited to:

1. Employment programs that can help workers address the impact of the global economic crisis, including employment generation, employability, skills and competency development, professional qualification and promotion of decent work, with special attention to vulnerable groups;
2. Youth employment and green jobs;
3. Equal opportunities and treatment of work, including gender, race, ethnicity and people with disability;
4. Social protection programs;
5. Occupational safety and health;
6. Child labor and forced labor;
7. Social dialogue and collective bargaining; and
8. Other labor issues that may be mutually consented to by the Participants. All activities engaged in are to be with the mutual consent of the Participants.

Forms of Cooperation

Unless otherwise mutually decided, the Participants intend to implement such cooperation through activities such as:

- Exchange of information on successful labor programs and initiatives;
- Studies and analyses of the impact of different policies on employment, wages and income distribution; and
- Convening of joint seminars, workshops, video conferences, and meetings of mutual interest.

Overall coordination for all activities under this Memorandum of Understanding is to be conducted by the Bureau of International Labor Affairs of USDOL and the Bureau of International Affairs at MTE.

The Participants may invite the participation of other appropriate agencies within each government to enhance the cooperation under this Memorandum of Understanding.

Where considered appropriate and upon mutual arrangement, the Participants may invite the participation of representatives of workers, employers, non-government and international organizations.

The Participants each intend to bear their own costs associated with the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding. By mutual arrangement, other sources of funding may be sought in support of cooperative programs.

This Memorandum of Understanding becomes operative on the date of signing and is intended to cease in December 2014. It may be modified by written consent of the Participants. Either Participant should endeavor to provide 90 days advanced written notification to the other Participant of its intent to discontinue this Memorandum of Understanding.

This Memorandum of Understanding constitutes political commitments and is not legally binding.

Signed at Guadalajara, Mexico on the 17 day of May of two thousand and twelve, in duplicate, in the English and Portuguese languages.