

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

RESTRICTED

S/C/N/17

18 June 1996

(96-2303)

Council for Trade in Services

Original: Spanish

NOTIFICATION PURSUANT TO ARTICLE VII.4 OF THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TRADE IN SERVICES

The following notification has been received from the delegation of El Salvador.

1. Member notifying:

Ministry of the Economy, Republic of El Salvador.

2. Notification under:

Article VII, paragraph 4 of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (recognition of diplomas).

3. Date of entry into force:

- Regional Convention on the Ratification of Higher Education Studies, Qualifications and Diplomas in Latin America and the Caribbean, signed at Mexico City on 19 July 1974, and ratified on 18 November 1976, Official Journal No. 235, Volume 253 of 21 December 1976.
- Central American Convention on the Exercise of University Professions and Recognition of University Studies, signed on 22 June 1962 and ratified on 25 May 1964, Official Journal No. 96, Volume 321, of 28 May 1964.
- Convention on the Mutual Recognition of the Validity of Academic Diplomas and the Equivalence of Studies between El Salvador and Spain, signed on 16 July 1904 and ratified on 20 March 1905, Official Journal No. 76, Volume 58 of 30 March 1905.
- Central American Convention on the Basic Unification of Education, signed in El Salvador on 22 June 1962 and ratified on 20 September 1963 (in accordance with Chapter 6), Official Journal 184 of 2 October 1963.
- Treaty of Friendship, Trade and Navigation with the Republic of Ecuador, signed at Washington on 29 March 1890 and ratified on 21 April 1891 (in accordance with Article 5); date of publication unknown owing to its age.
- Convention on Cultural Exchange with the United States of Brazil, signed in Brazil on 30 November 1965 and ratified on 8 February 1966, Official Journal No. 35 of 18 February 1966.

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- Cultural Convention between the Governments of the Republic of El Salvador and the Republic of Korea, signed in El Salvador on 26 June 1970, ratified on 10 September 1970, Official Journal 170, Volume of 18 September 1970.
- Convention on Cultural Exchange between the Republic of El Salvador and the Republic of Venezuela, signed in El Salvador on 21 November 1969 and ratified on 11 February 1971, Official Journal No. 42, Volume 230 of 2 March 1971.

4. Agency responsible for implementation and enforcement of the measures:

Ministry of Education, San Salvador, El Salvador.

5. Description of the measures:

The measures provided for in the above-mentioned documents may basically be classified in three groups.

Firstly, there is recognition of diplomas in order to allow the free exercise of university professions. This type of recognition is provided under the Treaty of Friendship, Trade and Navigation with Ecuador, the Convention on the Mutual Recognition of the Validity of Academic Diplomas and the Equivalence of Studies with Spain, and the Central American Convention on the Exercise of University Professions and Recognition of University Studies.

Secondly, there is the recognition of diplomas, degrees or certificates of study for academic purposes such as enrolment in training, specialization or further-study courses or establishments. This category includes the Convention on Cultural Exchange with the United States of Brazil.

Thirdly, there are four conventions that provide for recognition both for academic purposes and for the free exercise of professions. These conventions are the Central American Convention on the Basic Unification of Education, the Cultural Convention between the Governments of the Republic of El Salvador and the Republic of Korea, the Convention on Cultural Exchange between the Republic of El Salvador and the Republic of Venezuela, and the Regional Convention on the Ratification of Higher Education Studies, Qualifications and Diplomas in Latin America and the Caribbean. It should be mentioned that the first of these specifically concerns the free exercise of the teaching profession in Central America, and not professions of all types.

6. Members specifically affected:

Ecuador, Spain, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala, Brazil, Korea, Venezuela.

The Regional Convention on the Ratification of Higher Education Studies, Qualifications and Diplomas in Latin America and the Caribbean was signed with Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Chile, Haiti, Mexico, Paraguay, Venezuela, Bolivia, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama and Peru; however, we do not know which of these countries have ratified it besides El Salvador.

7. The texts are available from:

Dirrección de Política Comercial (Department of Trade Policy)
Ministerio de Economía (Ministry of the Economy)
Edificio C2, 3a Planta, Plan Maestro, Centro de Gobierno
Alameda Juan Pablo II y Calle Guadalupe,
San Salvador
El Salvador, Central America.