

QUARTERLY REPORT
May 1, 1991 - July 31, 1991
Submitted to the Agency for International Development
Office of Democratic Initiatives
Cooperative Agreement No. LAC-0770-A-00-0034-00

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I. OVERVIEW:

During the fourth quarter of the regional legislative development project, Modification No. 1 to the Consortium cooperative agreement was received, adding \$41,244.00 for an orientation conference for newly elected legislators in El Salvador. On July 31, an amendment to the cooperative agreement was received obligating second year monies in the amount of \$1,000,000.00.

The El Salvador orientation seminar was held on schedule in the Costa del Sol; as was the fourth General Assembly of ATELCA in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. The Consortium also sponsored an executive committee meeting of ATELCA in Guatemala City, Guatemala; in addition to a grant-writing seminar held in Miami at the request of the members of ATELCA. A high-level delegation of Costa Rican legislators, including the president of the Assembly, Miguel Angel Rodriguez, travelled to Europe for meetings with their counterparts in London, Brussels, Belgium, Bonn, Madrid, Rome and Paris under the sponsorship of the Consortium.

In July a preliminary Master Plan for the Development of the Paraguay legislature was submitted, as was the Consortium's response to USAID/Costa Rica's request for clarifications on the Master Plan for Modernization and Development of the Legislative Assembly. Efforts continued to develop a plan for bi-lateral activities in Panama and Haiti, and in June the Consortium provided technical assistance to the National Congress of Guatemala with a review and recommendations of their management information system. Professors from Florida International University prepared a multi-donor funding proposal document for USAID/Costa Rica and the Legislative Assembly. On July 23 and 24, the Consortium held its quarterly meeting in Washington, D.C.

II. PROGRESS:

Project Implementation Details:

Details of the implementation of these outputs/activities are developed below in chronological order. Reports, programs, participants lists and correspondence for these activities are appended in the attachments section of this report.

1. Clarifications submitted to USAID/Costa Rica

On May 31, after meeting with USAID/Costa Rica officials in Washington on TDY, the

Consortium provides USAID/Costa Rica with a lengthy document responding to a request for clarifications received on April 30, 1991. *Please find a copy of these documents appended in Attachment A.*

2. Costa Rica multi-donor funding proposal

Florida International University (FIU) provides expertise of Dr. Harvey Averch and Mr. Charles Frankenhoff to draft a multi-donor framework proposal designed to assist the legislature in coordinating multi-lateral participation in the development and modernization of the legislature. *See Attachment B.*

3. Haiti efforts continue

During the month of May Gerald Reed and Allan Rosenbaum of FIU travel to Haiti to continue project discussions with the USAID mission and the National Assembly. Gerald Reed, Ana Carazo and Larry Harrington begin to plan implementation of the activities scheduled under the anticipated buy-in.

4. Panama buy-in developed

On June 24-27, 1991 the Consortium fields a team consisting of Caleb McCarry of the Center for Democracy (CFD) and Gerald Reed (FIU/SPAS) to Panama in response to a request for clarifications on the proposal for bi-lateral activities there. The proposal was re-written and submitted in final form to the AID mission in June, and final approval was given shortly thereafter.

5. Technical Assistance provided to the Guatemalan Congress

From June 13 through the 16, Manuel Lorenzo of FIU performs an interim evaluation of the management information system designed and installed in the Guatemalan Congress under the aegis of an earlier, AID-funded cooperative agreement to the Center for Democracy.

6. El Salvador Orientation Seminar held June 20-22, 1991

The CFD responds to an emergency request from the El Salvador Legislative Assembly and arranges with USAID/El Salvador to implement a comprehensive orientation seminar for the recently-elected members of the Legislative Assembly, with participation of Allen Weinstein, Larry Harrington, and Caleb McCarry of the CFD; University President Mitch Maidique and Gerald Reed of FIU; and Charles Dawson of the University at Albany (U/A). The goals and objectives of the seminar were to provide El Salvador's newly elected legislators with training in fundamental legislative processes, to provide an opportunity to discuss the role of the Assembly in the El Salvadoran system, and to acquaint the members with the legislative development efforts of USAID/El Salvador. The seminar accomplished these goals by focusing on the following objectives: 1) providing the members a thorough overview of the

Legislative Assembly's structure, organization, and functions; 2) providing information regarding the organization, staffing, and resources necessary for legislative operations; 3) providing a non-partisan setting for a dialogue regarding the role and function of the legislature and legislators in a democratic society. Approximately one-hundred and fifty legislators and speakers participated in this seminar, a report of which is attached. *Please find a complete report on this seminar appended in attachment C.*

7. Technical assistance provided to the National Assembly of Haiti

As a follow-up to the Project Proposal submitted to USAID/Haiti in May, an evaluation and recommendations for commodity procurement for the National Assembly are made by a team from FIU, including a review of the MIS potential for the National Assembly.

8. Preliminary Master Plan for the initial development of the Legislature of Paraguay.

As a result of a visit to Paraguay in May 12-15, 1991 an action plan for the National Assembly of Paraguay was submitted by U/A to AID/W in June. *Please find a copy of the document in Attachment D.*

9. Consortium sponsors high-level visit to Europe in pursuit of Costa Rica initiatives

The Center for Democracy, on behalf of the Consortium, sponsors a high-level visit by Legislative Assembly President Miguel Angel Rodriguez and a bipartisan delegation from the Costa Rica Legislative Assembly to discuss the Master Plan document. Meetings include European Parliament President Enrique Baron Crespo, German Foreign Minister Dieter Gensher, Vice President of Spain Narciso Serra, Italian Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti and French Assembly President Laurent Fabius. The itinerary included London, ENGLAND; Brussels, BELGIUM; Bonn, GERMANY; Madrid, SPAIN; Rome, ITALY and Paris, FRANCE. *Please see attachment E for trip report.*

10. ATELCA activities

On May 23-27, in Tegucigalpa, HONDURAS, the Center for Democracy leads the Consortium in organizing the Fourth General Assembly of the Association of Central American legislative Technicians (ATELCA). The focus of the first days' meeting was how a bill becomes a law, with speakers from the National Congress of Honduras, the U.S. Senate, and the National Assembly of Nicaragua. Additionally, the Guatemalan delegation provided a demonstration of their recently-installed Management Information System, as well as their recently published *Manual de Procedimientos Legislativos*. The second day of the conference was given to the reports of standing committees of ATELCA which had meetings in Panama and El Salvador in March and April, respectively. Dean Rosenbaum of FIU gave

a presentation of the graduate studies opportunities available at FIU. *Please see Attachment F for agenda and participants list.*

On June 14 in Guatemala City, GUATEMALA, the Center for Democracy sponsors and organizes a meeting of the ATELCA executive committee, with participation of Caleb McCarry and Manuel Lorenzo. The executive committee met to discuss the following issues: the organization of a budget seminar; the organization of a grant-writing seminar; comparative documentation of how a bill becomes a law in Central America; legal recognition of ATELCA in Guatemala; the upcoming meeting in Miami with other Latin American countries; and various other administrative matters.

In July, at the request of ATELCA, FIU hosts a seminar on grant-writing in Miami. All six member countries of ATELCA are represented.

Administrative matters:

See *Problem Areas* section.

Problem Areas:

The following problem was resolved during the fourth quarter: Amendment No. 2 granted line-item flexibility and provided incremental funding for year two of the project.

III. SCHEDULING

In addition to continuing to respond to AID concerns and requests for information regarding on-going and pending projects, there are several programmatic activities planned for the first quarter of the second year of this project. These activities are listed briefly below:

August: FIU will host a delegation to the annual meeting of the National Conference of State Legislators

FIU will coordinate a budget seminar for the bi-cameral legislature of Haiti

September: CFD will host delegations from all six Central American countries to the Third Strasbourg Conference on Parliamentary Democracy to be held in Strasbourg, France September 16-18, 1991; FIU will host a delegation from Haiti.

IV. STATUS OF BUY-INS:

The following report highlights the status of potential buy-ins as of the close of this reporting period:

- 1) Panama: During the fourth quarter, the Consortium continues to respond to USAID/Panama requests for revisions and clarifications to the project proposal. The final report was submitted in July.
- 2) Costa Rica: Pursuit of this effort continued with FIU submitting, at USAID/Costa Rica's request, a multi-donor funding proposal.
- 3) Haiti: FIU continues to work with the Haitian Senate, Chamber of Deputies and the USAID mission to develop an acceptable project proposal.
- 4) Nicaragua: There are no developments to report.
- 5) Guatemala: U/A is preparing to submit the "Program for Immediate Action" to USAID/Guatemala.
- 6) El Salvador: Amendment No. 1 received and signed June 19, 1992 for \$41,244 to provide an orientation seminar for the newly elected legislators in that country.

VI. CONSORTIUM ACTIVITIES:

This section is designed to provide information on the activities and administrative development of the Consortium itself. Funding, staff adjustments and other issues that affect the operation of the Consortium are discussed here.

1. On July 31, The Center for Democracy receives Amendment No. 2 to its Consortium cooperative agreement obligating \$1,000,000 in second year monies and granting line item flexibility.
2. Also received during the fourth quarter of the project was Amendment No. 1, adding \$41,244.00 to the regional cooperative agreement for an orientation conference for the newly elected legislators of the Salvadoran Legislative Assembly (*appended in Attachment G*).
3. Third Consortium Committee Meeting held in Washington, D.C. July 23-24, 1991.
4. Patricia S. Williams joined the staff of The Center for Democracy as the Chief Operating Officer in June.