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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT
ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

Second periodic reports submitted by States parties
under articles 16 and 17 of the Covenant

Addendum
BOLIVIA* ** **

[30 January 2007]

* The initial report (E/1990/5/Add.44) concerning rights covered by articles 1 to 15 was considered by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights at its twenty-fifth session, held in May 2001 (see E/C.12/2001/SR.15 to 17).

** The information submitted by Bolivia in accordance with the guidelines concerning the initial part of reports of States parties is contained in the core document (HRI/CORE/1/Add.54/Rev.2).

*** The present document was not formally edited before being sent to the United Nations translation services.

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Right to enjoy scientific progress and its applications

261. Bearing in mind that higher education must be made accessible to all on the basis of capacity by every appropriate means, and in particular through the gradual introduction of free education, it should be noted that Bolivia has State universities that offer free training.

262. In order to ensure that scientific progress makes a substantial contribution to national economic, cultural and social development, and to enhance Bolivia's standing, a number of specific policies must be put into practice.

263. The Department of Science and Technology, which reports to the Deputy Minister of Higher Education, Science and Technology, has prepared a National Science and

Technology and Innovation Plan for 2004-2009, which it is hoped will provide genuine support for the scientific and technological component of education.

264. Activities to disseminate science and culture, which are important in ensuring, through the process of integration, the adoption of genuine national and regional mechanisms that promote coordination and exchange and the establishment of networks and strategic alliances, have been pursued mainly through the Andrés Bello Convention.²⁹

265. Over the last few decades formal and informal educational programmes on science and technology have been implemented, which are intended to develop different strategies for acquainting children and young people with scientific knowledge.

266. Examples include the Cucli-Cucli Programme under the Andrés Bello Convention, the regional medium-term project on educational innovations organized by UNESCO and l'Oreal, and the innovative education network INNOVEMOS.

267. In addition, it should be noted that in cooperation with national science and technology organizations the Andrés Bello Convention has been promoting a joint plan of action on the popularization and teaching of science.

268. The National Science and Technology Plan includes a Programme for the Dissemination and Popularization of Science and Technology, whose purpose will be to promote the dissemination and spread of scientific knowledge in Bolivian society.

269. Activities to promote and develop cooperation are very useful; accordingly, human resources training has been promoted, for example by granting fellowships and periods of training in centres of excellence abroad.

270. Examples of such activities include those conducted under the Ibero-American Programme of Science and Technology for Development, such as workshops and courses, exchanges among researchers, miniforums, forums, etc.

271. UNESCO has also organized higher education fellowships and even competitive examinations for posts.