



## COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM BETWEEN “THE NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM CARLOS ANTONIO LOPEZ” AND “THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA”

### 1. STATEMENTS

- 1.1. This agreement is made between THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMY AND FINANCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF PARAGUAY ON BEHALF OF THE COORDINATION OF THE NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM “CARLOS ANTONIO LOPEZ”, located at Estrella St. 252, Asunción, Republic of Paraguay (herein referred to as “BECAL”), and “THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA”, jointly referred as the “Parties” herein.
- 1.2. BECAL and THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA share an interest in strengthening bilateral cooperation in the field of education between Paraguay and Australia, and enhancing the links between THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA and its academic counterparts in Paraguay.
- 1.3. BECAL and THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA by entering into this agreement, aim to foster cooperation and enhance the links between both institutions and agree to establish and administer the **JOINT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA/ BECAL**, under the terms and conditions contained in this agreement.
- 1.4. An important means of fostering such cooperation is through the awarding of scholarships to all interested Paraguayan students wishing to pursue postgraduate programs.

### 2. AGREEMENT

The Parties agree that the **JOINT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA/BECAL** will operate as follow:

- 2.1. Paraguayan students interested in this program will seek admission to postgraduate degree programs, including Master’s by coursework and research, and PhD programs offered by **THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA**, following the normal application procedures and meeting all the standard admission requirements, including all English language requirements established by **THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA**. **THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA** retains sole decision-making authority over which applicants are admitted to its programs.
- 2.2. Paraguayan students unconditionally accepted by **THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA** will submit a scholarship application to **BECAL**, following its application procedures and meeting all the requirements established by **BECAL**.



- 2.3. Paraguayan students who are selected as beneficiaries of the scholarship program offered by **BECAL** (Sponsored Students), will be eligible to be considered for shared financing under this agreement.
- 2.4. **THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA** will provide a discount of **20%** of the tuition fees to all Paraguayan Sponsored Students enrolled in postgraduate degree programs at one of **THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA** based campuses of the university.
- 2.5. **BECAL** pledges to provide appropriate funding to **THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA** for Paraguayan Sponsored Students who are selected as beneficiaries of the program offered by **BECAL** to be able to undertake the nominated course at **THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA**.
- 2.6. **BECAL** will, in accordance with **BECAL** guidelines and financial aid limits, fund a total of **50,000 US\$** for each **Master's student** awarded with the scholarship. The student's program duration must not exceed **24 months**. The funding amount includes tuition and additional expenses such as health insurance, stipend, flights, and other benefits established in **BECAL's** terms and conditions document. Funding will first be allocated towards tuition and any remaining funds will be allocated towards the remaining expenses stated in **BECAL's** terms and conditions document.
- 2.7. **BECAL** will, in accordance with **BECAL** guidelines and financial aid limits, fund a total of **90,000 US\$** for each **PhD student** awarded with the scholarship. The student's program duration must not exceed **48 months**. The funding amount includes tuition and additional expenses such as health insurance, stipend, flights, and other benefits established in **BECAL's** terms and conditions document. Funding will first be allocated towards tuition, and any remaining funds will be allocated towards the remaining expenses stated in **BECAL's** terms and conditions document.
- 2.8. **BECAL** will, in accordance with **BECAL** guidelines and financial aid limits, fund a total of **30,000 US\$** for each **Postdoctoral student** awarded the scholarship. The student's program duration must not exceed **24 months**. The funding amount includes tuition and additional expenses such as health insurance, stipend, flights, and other benefits established in **BECAL's** terms and conditions document. Funding will first be allocated towards tuition, and any remaining funds will be allocated towards the remaining expenses stated in **BECAL's** terms and conditions document.
- 2.9. **BECAL** will, in accordance with **BECAL** guidelines and financial aid limits, fund a total of **10,000 US\$** for each **undergraduate student** awarded with the scholarship. The student's program duration must not exceed **6 months**. The funding amount includes tuition and additional expenses such as health insurance, stipend, flights, and other benefits established in **BECAL's** terms and conditions document. Funding will first be allocated towards tuition and any remaining funds will be allocated towards the remaining expenses stated in **BECAL's** terms and conditions document. Note that the **JOINT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA/BECAL** will apply to postgraduate students only.



- 2.10. Paraguayan Sponsored Students are responsible for obtaining financial resources to cover any further amounts required to meet other costs and expenses that are not included in this **JOINT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA/BECAL**, during the period of their enrolment at **THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA** in concordance with the Student responsibilities detailed in Section five (5) of this agreement.
- 2.11. For the purpose of adequate implementation and monitoring of this agreement, each of the Parties hereby pledges to designate a representative, who will be responsible for ensuring the activities listed below:
- 2.11.1. **THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA** and **BECAL** provide prospective Paraguayan scholars with information on the programs of interest to the scholars and guidance on the process to apply to study at **THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA**.
  - 2.11.2. **THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA** provides **BECAL** with all relevant promotional material and prospectuses in order to encourage interest in its programs in Paraguay.
  - 2.11.3. **THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA** provides admission letters to all Paraguayan students accepted by **THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA** and encourages those students to contact and submit an application to **BECAL**.
  - 2.11.4. That **BECAL** provides **THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA** with institutional information on **BECAL** and the pertinent details related to this **JOINT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA/BECAL**.
  - 2.11.5. **BECAL** will provide the necessary financial arrangements for confirmed and selected Paraguayan Sponsored Students in accordance with **BECAL** guidelines and financial aid limits.
  - 2.11.6. That each party has the obligation to inform the other party of any change in the designated coordinator or signatory in charge of the implementation and monitoring of this agreement.
  - 2.11.7. The designated current representatives of this agreement are:



For THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA	For BECAL
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### 3. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

- 3.1. **THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA** will enroll all confirmed and selected Paraguayan Sponsored Students as full-time students for the duration of their enrolment.
- 3.2. **THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA** will provide orientation for the Sponsored Students.
- 3.3. **THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA** will provide advice on housing options to Sponsored Students and on any procedures to be followed.
- 3.4. **THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA** will provide the appropriate academic counselling and other support to Sponsored Students.

### 4. RESPONSIBILITIES OF BECAL

- 4.1. **BECAL** will be responsible to provide appropriate funding to Paraguayan Sponsored Students who are selected as beneficiaries of the Scholarship program offered by **BECAL** to be able to undertake the nominated course at **THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA** in accordance to the Section 2.5 of this agreement.
- 4.2. **BECAL** will be responsible for payment of living allowances according to **BECAL** guidelines and financial aid limits.
- 4.3. **BECAL** will be responsible to cover appropriate medical insurance costs for the Sponsored Students in accordance with Section 2.5 of this agreement.



- 4.4. **BECAL** will facilitate the promotion of this arrangement on a year-round basis, and will promote the scholarships to be awarded under this **JOINT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA/BECAL**.
- 4.5. **BECAL** will provide financial support to the Sponsored Students in order to obtain their appropriate visa for the defined study period in Australia, in concordance and compliance with the specific responsibilities for Sponsored Students listed on Section 2.5 of this agreement.

## 5. RESPONSIBILITIES OF STUDENTS

- 5.1. In order to maintain the financial support and benefits described in this **JOINT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA / BECAL**, Paraguayan Sponsored Students will be responsible for remaining enrolled throughout the entire study period of the selected program at **THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA**, according to **BECAL** guidelines.
- 5.2. Paraguayan Sponsored Students are required to obtain an appropriate visa for the defined study period in Australia. **THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA** will provide the necessary documentation to support the visa application and **BECAL** will provide the financial support described in Section 4.5 of this agreement.
- 5.3. Paraguayan Sponsored Students attending **THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA** are responsible for obtaining the appropriate Health Insurance.
- 5.4. Paraguayan Sponsored Students will be subject to the general regulations governing graduate students at **THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA** and subject to the normal disciplinary policies of **THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA** as well as to **BECAL** scholarships programs rules applicable.

## 6. SETTLEMENTS OF DISPUTES

- 6.1. Matters not included in this agreement or those related to it will be resolved, wherever possible, through mutual friendly discussion between the Parties. Any decision agreed must be acknowledged by an exchange of letters between the Parties.
- 6.2. Disputes or differences regarding the interpretation and fulfilment of this agreement shall be negotiated in good faith between the Parties. Both parties will endeavour to resolve a dispute or difference by informal discussions between the respective Coordinators of Activities established in this agreement. If the parties cannot resolve the dispute, they agree to submit to an alternative dispute resolution, subject to the rules that the parties themselves mutually agree to adopt.
- 6.3. Notwithstanding the existence of a dispute, the Parties must continue to perform their obligations under this agreement.





## 7. FINAL PROVISIONS

- 7.1. The present agreement shall come into effect on the date of its last signature by the undersigned representatives of each party and shall initially be in force for 5 years.
- 7.2. The present agreement may be amended by mutual consent through a written communication signed by both Parties. This notification should specify the date on which such an amendment shall come into effect and the nature of the amendment.
- 7.3. This agreement may be terminated by either Party by providing at least thirty days' notice to the other Party in writing. Sponsored students enrolled at **THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA** at the time of the termination will be able to complete their studies with the agreed financial support from **BECAL** and **THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA**.
- 7.4. This agreement is to be signed in one (1) original copy in English and one (1) original in Spanish, with both texts being identically authentic. In the event of any inconsistency between the texts, the English text will prevail.

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For **THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

For **BECAL**

**David Connell**

Associate Director, Global Engagement  
Global Engagement Office

**Alejandra Bogado Tervit**

General Director of Training for Development  
Coordination of the National Scholarship Program  
Carlos Antonio López – BECAL

**Andrea Mercedes Picaso**

Vice Minister  
Vice Ministry of Human Resources and  
Organizational Management  
Ministry of Economy and Finance