

POLITICAL CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES

CURRENT TEXT

(last review effected 2/10/2003)

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The First Chief of the Constitutionalist Army, in charge of the Executive Power of the Nation, has seen fit to address to me on this date the following decree:

VENUSTIANO CARRANZA, First Chief of the Constitutionalist Army, in charge of the Executive Power of the United Mexican States, hereby makes known:

That the Constituent H. Congress meeting in this city on December 1, 1916, by virtue of the writ of summons of September 19 the same year issued by the Chief Executives, in accordance with the provisions of article 4 of the amendments made on the 14th of that month to the decree of December 12, 1914 given in Veracruz, supplementing the Plan de Guadalupe of March 26, 1913, has seen fit to issue the following:

POLITICAL CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES AMENDING THAT OF FEBRUARY 5, 1857.

FIRST TITLE

CHAPTER I

On individual guaranties

Article 1

In the United Mexican States all individuals enjoy the guaranties granted by this Constitution, which cannot be restricted or suspended except in the cases and under the conditions specified therein.

Slavery is forbidden in the United Mexican States. Foreign slaves entering national territory will, by this sole fact, obtain their freedom and the protection of law.

All discrimination motivated by ethnic or national origin, genus, age, different capacities, social condition, conditions of health, religion, opinion, preferences, civil status or any other offending human dignity, the purpose of which is to nullify or damage the rights and freedom of the individual, is hereby prohibited.

Article 2

The Mexican Nation is single and indivisible.

The Nation has a multicultural composition, based originally on its indigenous peoples, which are those descending from the population living in the present territory of the country at the beginning of the Colonial era, and which retain their own social, economic, cultural and political institutions, or part thereof.

An awareness of their indigenous identity should be a basic criterion to decide to whom the provisions on indigenous peoples apply.

The communities comprising an indigenous people are those forming a social, economic and cultural Unit, settled in a territory and which recognize their own authorities in accordance with their uses and customs.

The right of the indigenous peoples to free determination will be exercised within a constitutional framework of autonomy which ensures national Unit. Recognition of the indigenous peoples and communities will be recorded in the constitutions and laws of the federative entities, which should take into account ethno-linguistic and physical settlement criteria, in addition to the general principles established in the previous paragraphs of this article.

A. This Constitution recognizes and guaranties the right of the indigenous peoples and communities to free determination and, as a result , to autonomy in:

I. Resolving on their internal forms of cohabitation and social, economic, political and cultural organization.

II. Applying their own normative systems in the regulation and solution of their internal conflicts, abiding by the general principles of this Constitution, respecting individual guaranties, human rights and, in consequence, the dignity and integrity of women. The law will lay down the cases and procedures for validation by the corresponding judges or tribunals.

III. To elect the authorities or representatives for exercising their own forms of internal government in accordance with their standards, procedures and traditional practices, guaranteeing the participation of women under conditions of equality with men, within a framework respecting the Federal covenant and the sovereignty of the states.

IV. To preserve and enrich their languages, knowledge, and all the elements representing their culture and identity.

V. To preserve and improve the habitat and the integrity of their lands, in the terms established under this Constitution.

VI. To agree, with respect to the forms and varieties of ownership and holding of the land established in this Constitution and in the corresponding laws, and to the rights acquired by third parties or by members of the community, to the preferred use and enjoyment of natural resources of the places which the communities inhabit and occupy, except for those which correspond to the strategic areas in the terms of this Constitution. For these purposes the communities can associate themselves in the terms of law.

VII. To elect representatives to the town councils, in the municipalities with an indigenous population.

The constitutions and laws of the federative entities will recognize and regulate these rights in the municipalities, for the purpose of strengthening political participation and representation in accordance with their traditions and internal rules.

VIII. To fully agree to the jurisdiction of the State. To guarantee this right in all lawsuits and procedures to which they are a party, individually or collectively, their customs and cultural characteristics should be taken into account with respect to the precepts of this Constitution. The indigenous peoples have at all times the right to be assisted by interpreters and defending counsel possessing a knowledge of their language and culture.

The constitutions and laws of the federative entities will establish the rules for free determination and autonomy which best express the situations and aspirations of the indigenous peoples in each entity, together with the norms for recognition of the indigenous communities as entities of public interest.

B. The Federation, the States and the Municipalities, in order to promote the equality of opportunities of the indigenous peoples and eliminate any discriminatory practice, will establish the institutions and determine the policies necessary to guarantee surveillance of indigenous rights and the comprehensive development of their peoples and communities, which should be designed and operated jointly with same.

In order to reduce the deficiencies and wants affecting the indigenous peoples and communities, said authorities will have the obligation to:

I. To foster regional development in the indigenous areas for the purpose of strengthening local economies and improving the living conditions of their peoples, through actions coordinated with the three orders of government and with the participation of the communities. Municipal governments will determine in all fairness the budgets assigned for direct administration by the communities for specific purposes.

II. To guarantee and increase the levels of schooling, favoring bilingual and intercultural education, literacy, the termination of basic education, productive training and education to high school level and above. To establish a scholarship system for indigenous students at all levels. To define and develop educational programs with a regional content which recognize the cultural inheritance of their peoples, in accordance with relevant law and in consultation with the indigenous communities. To promote a respect and knowledge of the numerous cultures existing in the nation.

III. To ensure effective access to the health services by expanding national system coverage, taking due advantage of traditional medicine and supporting the nutrition of the indigenous peoples through feeding programs, especially for the infant population.

IV. To improve the conditions of the indigenous communities and of their spaces for community sharing and recreation, through activities which facilitate access to public and private financing for construction and the improvement of living conditions, and to expand the coverage of the basic social services.

V. To promote the incorporation of indigenous women to development by the support of productive projects, the protection of their health, the granting of incentives to further their education and their participation in the adoption of decisions related to community life.

VI. To expand the communications network permitting an integration of the communities, by the construction and expansion of communication channels and telecommunication. To establish conditions in order for the indigenous communities and peoples to acquire, operate and administer communication media, in the terms established under applicable law.

VII. To support productive activities and the sustainable development of the indigenous communities through actions permitting them to attain the sufficiency of their economic income, the application of incentives for public and private investments which encourage the creation of employment, the incorporation of technology to increase their own productive capacity, and to ensure an equitable access to supply and commercialization systems.

VIII. To establish social policies to protect migrants from the indigenous communities, both in national territory and abroad, by actions to guarantee the labor rights of agricultural day workers; to improve the conditions of health of the women; to support the children and young people of migrant families through special education and nutrition programs; and to keep watch over for the respect for their human rights and promote the diffusion of their cultures.

IX. To consult the indigenous peoples when preparing the National Development Plan and those of the states and municipalities and, as applicable, to incorporate the recommendations and proposals made.

To guarantee compliance with the obligations indicated in this section, the Chamber of Deputies of the H. Congress of the Union, the legislatures of the federative entities and the town councils, within their respective spheres of competence, will establish the specific items aimed toward the compliance of these obligations in the expenditure budgets they approve, together with the forms and procedures for the communities to participate in their exercise and surveillance.

Without prejudice to the rights established herein in favor of the indigenous peoples, their communities and peoples, all communities comparable thereto will possess, as applicable, the same rights as established by law.

Article 3

Every individual has the right to receive education. The State – federation, states, Federal District and municipalities – will provide pre-school, primary and secondary education. Pre-schooling, primary and secondary education will represent the obligatory basic education.

The education given by the State will be aimed toward a harmonious development of all human faculties and will foster in same, at the same time, love for his country and an awareness of international solidarity in independence and in justice.

I.- Since article 24 guarantees the freedom of religion, this education will be secular and, as a result, will be kept completely free of any religious doctrine;

II.- The criterion which will orient this education will be based on the results of scientific progress, will fight against ignorance and its effects, servitude, fanaticism and prejudice.

Moreover:

a) It will be democratic, considering democracy not only as a legal structure and a political regime, but as a lifestyle based on a constant economic, social and cultural improvement of the people;

b) It will be national, insofar as – without hostilities nor exclusions – it will respond to an understanding of our problems, to the exploitation of our resources, to the defense of our political independence, to the assurance of our economic independence and to the continuity and growth of our culture, and

c) It will contribute to a better human comprehension, both for the elements it contributes for the purpose of strengthening education, together with an

appreciation for the dignity of the individual and the integrity of the family, a conviction of the general interest of Society, both for the care taken in maintaining the ideals of fraternity and equal rights for all men, avoiding the privileges of race, religion, groups, sexes or individuals;

III.- In order to fully comply with the contents of the second paragraph and in section II, the Federal Executive will determine the plans and programs of study for pre-school, primary, secondary and high school education for the entire Republic. For this purpose, the Federal Executive will consider the opinion of the governments of the federative entities and of the Federal District, and of the different social sectors involved in education, in the terms indicated by law.

IV.- All the education provided by the State will be free;

V.- In addition to providing the pre-school, primary and secondary education indicated in the first paragraph, the State will promote and attend all to all educational types and forms – including initial education and higher education – necessary for the development of the nation, will support technological and scientific research, and encourage the strengthening and spreading of our culture.

VI.- Individuals can provide education in all types and forms. In the terms established by law, the State will grant and withdrawn recognition of official validity on studies undertaken at private schools. In the case of pre-school, primary, secondary and high school education, private individuals should:

a) Impart education following the same ends and criteria established in the second paragraph and section II, and comply with the plans and programs to which section III refers, and

b) Previously obtain, in each case, the express authorization of public power, in the terms established by law;

VII.- The universities and other higher education institutions granted autonomy by law, will have the faculty and responsibility of self-government; complying with their purposes of educating, investigating and diffusing culture in accordance with the principles of this article, respecting the freedom of subject and research and of free examination and discussion of ideas; will determine their plans and programs; fix the terms of entry, promotion and permanence of their academic staff; and manage their capital. The labor relations of both academic and administrative personnel will be governed by article 123, part A of this Constitution, in the terms and with the forms established by the Federal Labor Law, in accordance with the characteristics of a special work, in such a way that they agree with the autonomy, the freedom of subject and research and the aims of the institutions to which this section refers; and

VIII.- The H. Congress of the Union, for the purpose of unifying and coordinating education throughout the Republic, will issue the necessary laws for the purpose of distributing the educational social function between the Federation, the States and the Municipalities, of fixing the economic contributions corresponding to this public service, and of indicating the penalties applicable to officials who have failed to comply or who fail to enforce the respective provisions, as with all those they infringe.

Article 4

Man and woman are equal before the law. This will protect the organization and the development of the family.

Everyone is entitled to decide freely, responsibly and informatively, on the number and frequency of their children.

Everyone is entitled to the protection of health. The law will define the bases and forms for access to the health services and will establish the concurrence of the Federation and federative entities on the matter of general health, in accordance with the provisions of article 73, section XVI, of this Constitution.

Everyone is entitled to an environment suitable for their development and well-being.

Every family is entitled to enjoy suitable and seemly housing. The law will establish the instruments and support necessary to foster respect for the dignity of childhood and the full exercise of their rights.

Boys and girls are entitled to having their food, health, education and healthy entertainment needs satisfied for their overall development.

Ascendants, tutors and guardians are obliged to safeguard these rights. The State will make the necessary provisions to foster respect for the dignity of childhood and a full exercise of children's rights.

The State will grant facilities to private individuals to cooperate in complying with the rights of childhood.

Article 5

No person can be prevented from engaging in the profession, industry, commerce or work he desires, so long as these are lawful. The exercise of this freedom can only be cancelled by judicial decision when the rights of a third party are infringed, or by government resolution, dictated in the terms of law, when the rights of Society are offended. No-one can be deprived of the fruits of his work except under a court order.

The Law determine in each State which professions require a title for exercise, the conditions to be met for obtaining this and the authorities responsible for its issue.

No-one can be obliged to render personal services without fair retribution and without their full consent, except for work imposed as a penalty by the judicial authorities, which will adjust to article 123, sections I and II.

Turning to public services, these can only be obligatory in the terms established by the respective laws, that of arms and that of the juries, together with the performance of council duties and those of popular election, either direct or indirect. Electoral and census duties will be obligatory and free, but those carried out professionally in the terms of this Constitution and the corresponding laws will be reimbursed. Professional services of a social nature will be obligatory and reimbursed in the terms of law and with the exceptions indicated thereby.

The State cannot allow any contract, pact or agreement to be formalized the purpose of which is the impairment, loss or irrevocable sacrifice of a person's liberty for any reason.

Nor can any agreement be permitted in which the person agrees to his proscription or banishment or under which he temporarily or permanently waives his right to exercise a certain profession, industry or trade.

The work contract will only oblige to the rendering of the service for the time fixed by law, without being able to exceed one year to the detriment of the worker, and cannot be extended, under any circumstances, to the waiver, loss or impairment of any political or civil right.

Failure to comply with said contract on the part of the worker, will only oblige the latter to the corresponding civil liability, without under any circumstances being able to represent coercion over his person.

Article 6

An expression of ideas will not be the object of any judicial or administrative inquisition unless it attacks morals, the rights of a third party, gives rise to any offense or disturbs public order; the right to the information will be guaranteed by the State.

Article 7

The freedom to write and publish documents on any subject is inviolable. No law nor authority can establish prior censure nor demand surety from authors or printers, nor restrict the liberty of the press, which has no limits other than the respect for private life, morals and public peace. Under no circumstances can the printing press be seized as an instrument of offense.

The organic laws will dictate as many provisions as may be necessary to avoid that, on the pretext of denouncements for press offenses, the vendors, "paper sellers", operators and other employees of the establishment from which the document denounced issued, be imprisoned, unless their responsibility is previously demonstrated.

Article 8

Public officials and employees will respect the exercise of the right to petition, always providing that this is prepared in writing and in a pacific and respectful manner; but in political matters only the citizens of the Republic may make use of this right.

A written resolution from the authority to whom they were addressed should be issued for all petitions, which authority is obliged to notify the petitioner thereof within a short period of time.

Article 9

The right of pacifically associating or meeting for any lawful purpose cannot be coerced; but this right applies only to the citizens of the Republic in order to take part in the political affairs of the country. No armed meeting is entitled to deliberate.

No assembly or meeting for the purpose of presenting a petition or making a protest for any act of authority will be considered illegal, nor can it be dissolved, if no injustices are committed against said authority, nor use made of violence or threats to intimidate same or oblige it to resolve in the sense desired.

Article 10

The inhabitants of the United Mexican States will be entitled to possess arms in their domiciles, for their security and legitimate defense, with the exception of those forbidden by Federal Law and those reserved for the exclusive use of the Army, Navy, Air Force and National Guard. Federal law will determine the cases, conditions, requirements and places where the inhabitants can be authorized to bear arms.

Article 11

All men are entitled to enter the Republic, to leave same, to travel through its territory and to change residence, without the need of a letter of security, passport, safe conduct or other similar requirements. The exercise of this right will be subordinate to the faculties of the judicial authorities in the cases of criminal or civil liability, and to those of the administrative authorities as regards the restrictions placed by law on emigration, immigration and the general health of the Republic, or on pernicious foreigners residing in the country.

Article 12

In the United Mexican States no titles of nobility will be granted, nor prerogatives or hereditary honors, nor will any effect be given to those granted by any other country.

Article 13

No-one can be judged by private laws or by special courts. No person or corporation can have jurisdiction, nor enjoy higher emoluments than those which compensate public services and are fixed by law. The jurisdiction of war exists for offenses and faults against military discipline, but the military tribunals can in no case and under no circumstances extend their jurisdiction over persons not belonging to the Army. When a peasant is involved in an offense or fault of a military nature, the corresponding civil authority will hear the case.

Article 14

No law will have a retroactive effect to the prejudice of any person.

No-one can be deprived of life, liberty or of their properties, possessions or rights except by a process followed before the previously-established courts, in which the basic formalities of procedure are complied with in accordance with laws issued prior to the fact.

In trials of a criminal nature it is forbidden to impose, by simple analogy and even by majority of reason, any penalty whatsoever which is not decreed by a law exactly applicable to the offense in question.

In lawsuits of a civil nature, the formal sentence must be in accordance with the letter or juridical interpretation of the law, and in the absence of the latter will be based on the general principles of law.

Article 15

The formalization of treaties for the extradition of political prisoners is not authorized, nor for that of common delinquents who occupied the position of slaves in the country where they committed the felony; nor of agreements or treaties under which the guaranties and rights established by this Constitution for the man and the citizen were altered.

Article 16

No-one can be molested in their person, family, domicile, papers or possessions except by virtue of a written mandate by a competent authority, giving the grounds and legal cause of the procedure.

No warrant of arrest can be released except by the judicial authority and without a prior denouncement or accusation of a fact indicated by law as a felony,

punishable at least by imprisonment, and where data exists accrediting the *corpus delicti* and making the responsibility of the accused probable.

The authority issuing a judicial warrant for arrest must place the accused at the disposition of the judge, without any delay whatsoever and under its strictest responsibility. Violation of the foregoing will be punishable under criminal law.

In cases of flagrant delinquency, any person can detain the accused and placing him without delay at the disposition of the immediate authority and the latter, with the same promptness, at that of the Police Department.

Only in urgent cases in the case of a serious offense classified as such by law, and in view of a patent risk that the accused may escape the action of justice, always providing it is not possible to appear before the judicial authority by reason of the time, place or circumstances, the Police Department can, under its responsibility, order his arrest, giving the grounds and reasons motivating this action.

In cases of emergency or flagrancy, the judge receiving the consignment of the prisoner should immediately ratify the arrest or decree release, with the reservations of law.

No suspect can be held by the Police Department for more than forty eight hours, during which time his release should be ordered or he should be placed at the disposition of the judicial authority; this term can be duplicated in those cases considered by law as organized delinquency. Any abuse of the foregoing provisions will be punishable under criminal law.

In all search warrants, which only the judicial authority can issue and which must be written, the place to be inspected must be given, the person or persons to be arrested and the objects searched for, to which the formality should be solely restricted, preparing on conclusion a circumstantial report in the presence of two witnesses proposed by the occupant of the premises inspected or, in his absence or refusal, by the authority carrying out the proceedings.

Private communications are inviolable. The Law will punish under criminal legislation any action taken against their liberty and privacy. Only the Federal judicial authority can, at the request of the federal authority empowered by law or by the Head of the Police Department of the corresponding federative entity, can authorize any private written communication to be opened. For this purpose, the competent authority must, in writing, provide the grounds and legal reasons for the petition, also mentioning the kind of intervention, the subject matter of same and its duration. The Federal judicial authority cannot grant these authorizations in the case of materials of a electoral, fiscal, mercantile, civil, labor or administrative nature, nor in the case of communications between the accused and his defending counsel.

Authorized interventions will be adjusted to the requirements and limitations provided for by law. The results of the interventions which fail to comply with the latter, will lack all value as evidence.

The administrative authorities can practice visits to domicile for the sole purpose of ensuring that sanitary and police regulations have been met, and require that the books and papers essential for evidencing that tax provisions have been complied with, being subject in this case to the respective laws and to prescribed search formalities.

The correspondence circulating between offices in envelopes, will not be registered, and any violation of same will be penalized by law.

In times of peace no member of the Army may lodge in a private home against the will of the owner, nor impose any benefit whatsoever. In times of war soldiers can demand lodging, resources, food and other benefits, in the terms of the corresponding martial law.

Article 17

No person may take the law into his own hands, nor resort to violence to claim his rights.

Everyone is entitled to claim justice through courts facilitated to dispense same in the periods and terms fixed by law, returning their judgments quickly, fully and impartially. Their service will be free of charge, judicial costs being therefore forbidden.

Federal and local laws will establish the necessary media to guarantee the impartiality of the courts and the full implementation of their resolutions.

No-one can be imprisoned for debts of a purely civil nature.

Article 18

Preventive imprisonment can only be applied to crimes meriting corporal punishment. The place for this will differ from that intended for the expiation of penalties and they will completely separate one from the other.

The criminal system will be organized by Federation and State Governments, in their respective jurisdictions, on the basis of work, training for same and education as media for the social rehabilitation of the delinquent. Women will serve their sentences in places separate from those intended for men for this purpose.

The State Governors, subjecting themselves to the provisions of the respective local laws, can formalize agreements of a general nature with the Federation, in order that prisoners sentenced for civil felonies to expiate their sentence in establishments depending from the Federal Executive.

The Federation and State Governments will establish special institutions for dealing with minor offenders.

The prisoners of Mexican nationality serving sentences in foreign countries, can be transferred to the Republic in order for them to serve their sentences based on the social rehabilitation systems provided for in this article, and the prisoners of foreign nationality sentenced for offenses of a Federal nature throughout the Republic, or before courts of equity in the Federal District, can be transferred to their countries of origin or residence, subjecting themselves to the International Treaties formalized for this purpose. The State Governors can request the Federal Executive, based on the respective local laws, to include common law offenders in these Treaties. Transfer of the prisoners can only take place with their express consent.

Those sentenced, in the cases and under the conditions established by law, can serve their sentences in the prison centers closest to their domicile, for the purpose of fostering their reintegration into the community as a form of social rehabilitation.

Article 19

No detention before the judicial authorities can exceed a term of seventy two hours as from the placement of the accused at their disposition, without being justified by a warrant for arrest detailing: the offense of which the prisoner is accused; the place, time and circumstances of execution, together with the details provided by the preliminary investigation, which should be sufficient to verify the *corpus delicti* and the probable guilt of the accused.

This period can only be extended at the request of the accused, in the form indicated by law. An extension of the arrest to his detriment will be penalized by criminal law. The authority responsible for the established in which the accused is interned, who fails to receive an authorized copy of the warrant for arrest or the request for extension within the term indicated above, should call the attention of the judge to this fact in the record of conclusion of term and, should he not receive this document within the three hours following, he will set the accused free.

All proceedings will be obligatorily followed for the felony or felonies indicated in the formal warrant for arrest or subjection to trial. Should the handling of a process show that the prisoner has committed a crime other than that for which he is being tried, this should form the object of a separate investigation, without prejudice to a subsequent declaration of accrual, as applicable.

Any mistreatment in the arrest or in prison, any annoyance inferred without legal motive; any amount or contribution paid in the prisons, are abuses which will be corrected by law and repressed by the authorities.

Article 20

In all criminal proceedings, the accused, the victim or the person offended will have the following guaranties:

A. The accused:

I.- Immediately this is requested, the judge should grant him provisional liberty under bail, always providing that no felonies are involved for which, due to their gravity, the law expressly forbids this benefit. In the case of minor offenses, the judge can deny provisional liberty at the request of the Police Department, when the accused has been previously convicted for any offense classified as serious by the law, or when the Police Department provides elements to the judge to show that the liberty of the accused would represent, due to his previous conduct or because of the circumstances and nature of the offense committed, would represent a risk to the person offended or to Society.

The amount and form of bail fixed should be attainable by the accused. Under circumstances to be determined bylaw, the judicial authority can modify the amount of bail. In order to resolve on the form and amount of the bail, the judge should take into account the nature, form and circumstances of the offense; the characteristics of the accused and the possibility of compliance with the his procedural obligations; the damages and losses caused to the victim, and the amount of the fine, as applicable, which could be imposed on the accused.

The law will decide on serious cases in which the judge could revoke provisional liberty;

II. He cannot be obliged to declare. All absence of communication, intimidation or torture is forbidden and will be punishable under the criminal code. A confession rendered before any authority other than the Police Department or the judge, or before these without the attendance of his defending counsel, will lack al value as evidence;

III.- He will be told at a public hearing, and within the forty eight hours following his consignment to justice, the name of his accuser and the nature and cause of the accusation, in order for him to be well aware of the punishable offense attributed to him and able to contest the charge, rendering in this act his preliminary declaration.

IV.- When this is requested, he will be confronted, in the presence of the judge, by his accuser, except as provided in Part B, section V of this article.

V.- The witnesses and other evidence he offers will be received, granting him the time the law considers necessary for this purpose and helping him to obtain the appearance of the persons whose testimony he requests, always providing that these are present in the place of trial.

VI.- He will be tried in public by a judge or jury of citizens who know how to read and write, residents of the place and district where the offense was committed, always providing that he could be punished by a penalty of over one year's imprisonment. In all cases offenses committed through the press against public order or the exterior or interior security of the Nation, will be judged by a jury.

VII. All the data he requests for his defense and which are recorded in the process, will be facilitated to him.

VIII. He will be tried within four months, in the case of offenses the maximum penalty for which does not exceed two years' imprisonment, and before one year should the applicable penalty exceed this time, unless he requests a longer term for his defense;

IX.- He will be notified of the rights consigned in his favor under this Constitution from the commencement of the process, and will be entitled to a suitable defense either directly, by a lawyer or by someone of his confidence. If he does not wish or is not able to appoint someone to defend him after having been required to do so, the judge will appoint a defense counsel for him. He will also be entitled to his defense counsel appearing in all stages of the process, and the latter will be obliged to do so as often as this is required of him; and

X.- Under no circumstances can the imprisonment or detention be extended due to failure to pay the fees of defending counsel or for any other payment of money, due to civil liability or for any similar reason.

Nor can preventive imprisonment be extended for more time than that established as maximum for the offense originating the process.

In all terms of imprisonment imposed by a sentence, the time of the detention will be calculated.

The guaranties provided in sections I, V, VII and IX will also be observed during the preliminary investigation, in the terms and with the requirements and limitations established by law; the provisions of section II will not be subject to any condition whatsoever.

B. The victim or person offended:

I.- Will receive legal assistance; will be informed of the rights established in his favor under the Constitution and, when so requested, will be informed of the progress of the criminal proceedings;

II.- Will cooperate with the Police Department in order for the latter to receive all the data or elements of proof he has in his possession, both in the preliminary investigation and at the trial, and in order for the corresponding formalities to be implemented.

When the Police Department considers that it is not necessary to proceed with the action, it must provide the grounds and reason for its refusal;

III. To the receipt of emergency medical and psychological attention from the commissioning of the offense;

IV.- That he be compensated for the damage. In cases where this is applicable, the Police Department will be obliged to request the repair of the damage, and the judge cannot absolve the prisoner from this repair if a condemnatory sentence has been returned.

The law will establish prompt procedures for executing sentence as regards repair of the damage;

V.- When the victim or person offended are minors, they will not be obliged to confront the accused in the case of violation or kidnapping. In these cases, statements will be made in the conditions established by law; and

VI.- To request the measures and conditions provided by law for his safety and assistance.

Article 21

The imposition of penalties can only be effected by the judicial authorities. Investigation and prosecution of the offenses corresponds to the Police Department, which will be assisted by a policeman coming under its immediate authority and command. The administrative authorities will be responsible for applying penalties for violations of government and police regulations, which will consist solely of a fine or arrest for up to thirty six hours; but should the transgressor fail to pay the fine imposed this will be exchanged for the corresponding arrest, which will in no case exceed thirty six hours.

If the transgressor is a day worker, laborer or worker, he cannot be penalized by a fine in excess of the amount of his daily payment or salary.

In the case of non-salaried workers, the fine will not exceed one day of their income.

Resolutions of the Police Department on failure to exercise and withdrawal from criminal action, can be impugned through jurisdictional channels in the terms established by law.

Public safety is a matter for which the Federation, Federal District, States and Municipalities are responsible, within the respective competences indicated by this Constitution. The performance of police institutions will be governed by the principles of legality, efficiency, professionalism and honesty.

The Federation, the Federal District, the States and the Municipalities will be coordinated, in the terms indicated by law, for the establishment of a national public security system.

Article 22

The penalties of mutilation and infamy, branding, flogging, beating torture of any kind, excessive fines, the confiscation of goods and any other unusual and transcendental penalties are prohibited.

The complete or partial application of the assets of a person by the judicial authorities will not be considered as a confiscation of goods, when this is for payment of the civil liability arising from the commission of a felony, or for the payment of taxes or fines. Nor will a seizure of assets ordered by the judicial authorities in a case of unlawful enrichment, in the terms of article 109, be considered as a confiscation; nor the seizure of goods belonging to the prisoner, for offenses of those considered as organized crime, or with respect to which said person acts as owner, should he fail to accredit the lawful origin of said goods.

Application in favor of the State of goods insured and abandoned in the terms of applicable provisions, will not be considered confiscation. The judicial authorities will resolve application in favor of the State of goods insured by reason of an investigation or process followed for offenses of organized crime, when said investigation or process is concluded without a decision having been returned as to the goods insured. The judicial resolution will be dictated following proceedings in which a hearing is granted to third parties, and the *corpus delicti* considered by law as the result of organized crime has been fully accredited, always providing these are goods of which the accused in the corresponding investigation or process has been the owner, proprietor or has acted as such, independently or whether or not they have been transferred to third parties, unless the latter evidence that they are the holders or acquirers in good faith.

The death penalty for political offenses is also forbidden and, as regards others, can only be imposed on a traitor to the homeland in a foreign war, on a parricide, a homicide involving treachery, premeditation or advantage, on an arsonist, a

kidnapper, a highway robber, a pirate and on prisoners responsible for serious offenses of a military nature.

Article 23

No criminal proceedings should involve more than three instances. No-one can be tried twice for the same offense, whether he is absolved or condemned in the proceedings. The practice of absolving the instance is forbidden.

Article 24

All men are free to profess the religious belief they prefer and to practice the ceremonies, devotions or acts of the respective cult, always providing that these do not represent an offense or misdemeanor penalized by law.

The H. Congress cannot dictate laws establishing or prohibiting any religion whatsoever.

Public religious acts are generally celebrated in the churches. Any which are held outside of these due to unusual circumstances will be subjected to the regulatory law.

Article 25

The State is responsible for supervising national development in order to guarantee that this is comprehensive and sustainable, that it strengthens the Sovereignty of the Nation and its democratic system and that, by fostering economic growth and employment and a fairer distribution of income and wealth, it permits full exercise of the freedom and dignity of individuals, groups and social classes, whose security is protected by this Constitution.

The State will plan, convey, coordinate and orient national economic activities, and will carry out the regulation and fostering of activities demanding general interest within the framework of liberties granted by this Constitution.

The public sector, the social sector and the private sector will be involved in national economic development with social responsibility, without overlooking other forms of economic development which contribute to the development of the Nation.

The public sector will be exclusively responsible for the strategic area indicated in article 28, paragraph four of the Constitution, the Federal Government always maintaining ownership and control over any institutions which may be established.

Likewise, it can participate as a driving force in accordance with law, either directly or with the social and private sectors, to promote and organize the priority sectors for development.

It will support and foster companies from the social and private sector of the economy under the criteria of social equity and productivity, subjecting these to the forms dictated by public interest and to the use, for general benefit, of the productive resources, ensuring their conservation and that of the environment.

The law will establish methods to facilitate the organization and expansion of social sector economic activities, workers' organizations, cooperatives, communities, companies a majority interest in which, or their entirety, is held by the workers and, in general, all forms of social organization for the production, distribution and consumption of socially necessary goods and services.

The law will encourage and protect the economic activities of individuals, and ensure the existence of conditions for expansion of the private sector to contribute to national economic development, in the terms established by this Constitution.

Article 26

The State will organize a democratic planning system for national development which impresses solidity, dynamism, permanence and equity on the growth of the economy, for the political, social and cultural independence and democratization of the Nation.

The purposes of the national project contained in this Constitution will determine the planning goals. Planning will be democratic. Through the participation of the different social sectors the aspirations and demands of Society will be gathered for their incorporation into the development plan and programs. There will be a national development plan to which Federal Public Administration programs will be subject by obligation.

The law will empower the Executive to establish participation and popular consultation procedures in the national democratic planning system, and the criteria for the preparation, implementation, control and evaluation of the development plan and programs. It will likewise select the agencies responsible for the planning process and the bases, in order for the Federal Executive to coordinate with the governments of the federative entities, and resolve and agree with private individuals the action to be taken for their preparation and implementation

The H. Congress of the Union will have the intervention indicated by law in the democratic planning process.

Article 27

Ownership of the lands and waters coming within the boundaries of national territory corresponds originally to the Nation, which had had and has the right to transfer the dominion of same to private individuals, representing private property.

Expropriation can only take place by reason of public utility and by indemnity.

The nation will possess at all times the right to impose on private property the characteristics dictated by public interest, together that of regulating, to the benefit of Society, the exploitation of natural elements available for appropriation, for the purpose of making an equitable distribution of public wealth, protecting its conservation, achieving a balance development of the country an improvement in the living conditions of the rural and urban population. The necessary measures will therefore be dictated to regulate human settlements and establish suitable provisions, uses, reserves and their future for lands, waters and forests, for the purpose of implementing public works and planning and regulating the foundation, conservation, improvement and growth of the population centers in order to preserve and restore the ecological balance; for dividing large landed estates; to dispose, in the terms of the regulatory law, the collective exploitation and organization of the common lands and communities; for the development of small rural properties; for the promotion of agriculture, livestock-raising, forestry and other economic activities in the rural media, and to avert the destruction of the natural elements and the damages which the property may suffer to the prejudice of Society.

The Nation possesses the direct dominion of all natural resources on the continental shelf and the submarine reserves of the islands; of all the minerals or substances which in veins, strata, masses or fields represent deposits the nature of which differs from the components of the land, such as minerals from which metals and metalloids are extracted for use in industry; precious stone, rock salt and salt deposits formed directly by sea water; the products obtained from rock decomposition when their exploitation calls for subterranean work; the mineral or organic fields of materials suitable for use as fertilizers; mineral solid fuels; petroleum and all solid, liquid or gaseous hydrogen carbides; and the space located above national territory in the extent and terms fixed by International Law.

The waters of the territorial seas are the property of the Nation in the extent and terms fixed by International Law; inland marine waters; those of the lagoons and estuaries which communicate permanently or intermittently with the sea; that of naturally-formed inland lakes which are directly linked to constant currents; those of the rivers and their direct or indirect tributaries, from the point of the source where the first permanent, intermittent or torrential waters commence, to their outlets in the sea, lakes, lagoons or estuaries whose basins, zones or banks are crossed by dividing lines of two or more entities or between the Republic and a neighboring country, or when the banks serve as a boundary between two federative entities or of the Republic with a neighboring country; that of the springs located on the beaches, maritime zones, sources, beds or banks of the lakes, lagoons or estuaries belonging to the Nation and those extracted from the mines; and the sources, beds or banks of internal lakes or currents to the extent fixed by law. The waters of the subsoil can be freely lighted by means of artificial works,

but when demanded by public interest or other fields are affected, the Federal Executive may restrict their extraction and utilization and even establish forbidden lands, as with other waters belonging to the Nation. Any other waters not included in the above listing will be considered as an integral part of the ownership of the lands through which they flow or in which their deposits are to be found, but if located on two or more properties, the exploitation of these waters will be considered of public utility, and subject to the dispositions dictated by the State.

In the cases to which the two preceding paragraphs refer, the dominion of the Nation cannot be transferred nor prescribed and the exploitation, use or utilization of the resources in question, by private individuals or by companies formed in accordance with Mexican law, cannot be implemented except by concession granted by the Federal Executive, in accordance with the rules and conditions established by law. Legal norms referring to activities or works for exploiting the minerals and substances to which paragraph four refers, will govern the implementation and verification of those effected or which should be effected as from their entry into force, independently of the date the concessions were granted, and failure to observe same will give rise to their cancellation. The Federal Power will have the power to establish and suppress national reserves. The corresponding declarations will be made by the Executive in the cases and conditions provided by law. In the case of petroleum and solid, liquid or gaseous hydrogen carbides or of radioactive minerals, no concessions of granted will be granted, nor will any which may have been issued in the past subsist, and the Nation will carry out the exploitation of these products in the terms of the respective Regulatory Law. The Nation will be exclusively responsible for generating, conveying, transforming, distributing and supplying electric power for the purpose of rendering public service. In these matters no concessions will be granted to private individuals, and the Nation will exploit the assets and natural resources required for these ends.

The Nation is also responsible for the exploitation of the nuclear fuels for the generation of nuclear energy, and the regulation of their applications for other purposes. Nuclear energy can only be utilized for pacific purposes.

The Nation will exercise in an exclusive economic zone located outside the territorial sea and adjacent thereto, the rights of sovereignty and the jurisdictions determined by the laws of H. Congress. The exclusive economic zone will be extended to two hundred nautical miles, measured as from the base line from which territorial waters are measured. In those cases where this extension results in over-positioning with the economic zones belonging to other States, the delimitation of the respective zones will be effected to the extent this is necessary, under agreements with other States,

The capacity to acquire dominion of the lands and waters of the Nation, will be governed by the following:

1.- Only Mexicans by birth or by naturalization and Mexican companies will be entitled to acquire dominion of the lands, waters and their attributes or to obtain concessions for the exploitation of mines or waters. The State can grant the same right to foreigners, always providing that they agree before the Ministry of Relations to consider themselves as Mexican with respect to said assets and, for this reason, not to invoke the protection of their governments as regards same under the penalty, should they so do, of forfeiting the assets they have acquired for this reason to the benefit of the Mexican Nation. Under no circumstances can foreigners acquire direct dominion over lands and waters within a strip of one hundred kilometers along the borders and fifty on the beaches.

The State, in accordance with internal public interests and the principles of reciprocity, can, in the judgment of the Ministry of Relations, grant authorization to foreign states to acquire, in the place of permanent residence of the Federal Powers, the private real estate property necessary for the direct servicing of their embassies or legations.

II.- The religious associations established in the terms of article 130 and its regulatory law, will have the capacity to exclusively acquire, possess or manage the assets essential for their purpose, with the requirements and limitations established by law.

III. - Charity organizations, public or private, the purpose of which is to aid the needy, scientific research, the spreading of teaching, the reciprocal help of the associates or any other lawful purpose, can only acquire the real estate essential for their purpose, immediately or directly intended for same, subject to the conditions of the regulatory law.

IV.- Mercantile stock companies can hold rustic properties, but only to the extent necessary for compliance with their purpose.

In no case can the companies of this type hold in ownership lands utilized for agricultural, livestock-raising or forestry purposes in an extent of more than the respective equivalent to twenty five times the limits indicated in section XV of this article. The regulatory law will regulate the capital structure and the minimum number of partners in these companies, in order for the lands belonging to the company not to exceed the limits of a smallholding in relation to each partner. In this case, all individual stock ownership corresponding to rustic lands, will be accruable for computation purposes. Likewise, the law will indicate the conditions for foreign participation in these companies.

The law itself will establish the means for registration and control necessary for compliance with the provisions of this section.

V.- Duly-authorized banks may, in accordance with credit institutions laws, may have capitals imposed on urban and rustic properties in accordance with the provisions of said laws, but cannot hold in proprietorship or administration more real estate than that absolutely necessary for their direct purpose.

VI.- The states and the Federal District , together with the municipalities for the entire Republic, will be fully capacitated to acquire and hold all the real estate necessary for public services.

The laws of the Federation and of the States within their respective jurisdictions, will decide on the cases when the occupancy of private property is of public utility, and in accordance with said laws the administrative authorities will make the corresponding statement. The price to be fixed as indemnity for the thing expropriated, will be based on the amount shown as the fiscal value of same in the cadastral or collection offices, whether this value has been declared by the owner or simply tacitly accepted by him for making his payments on that base. Any excess value or otherwise of the private property due to improvements or deterioration occurring after the date of assignment of the fiscal value, will be the only thing subject to expert opinion and judicial resolution. This will also apply in the case of objects with no fixed value in the financial offices.

The exercise of actions corresponding to the Nation under the provisions of this article, will be enforced by the courts; but within this procedure and by order of the corresponding tribunals, to be dictated within a maximum term of one month, the administrative authorities will proceed to occupy, administer, auction off or sell the lands or waters in question and all their accessories, without it being possible to revoke the action taken by said authorities before a judgment is returned which can be appealed to the executive but not to a higher court.

VII.- The legal status of the common lands and communal population nuclei is hereby recognized, and their ownership of the land recognized, both for the human settlement and for productive activities.

The law will protect the integrity of the lands of indigenous peoples.

The law, taking into consideration the respect for and strengthening of the communitary life of the common lands and communities, will protect the land for human settlement and regulate the exploitation of lands, forests and waters for communal use and supply of the development activities necessary to raise the living standards of their inhabitants.

The law, with respect to the will of the communal and common land holders in adopting the conditions which most convene their interests in exploiting their productive resources, will govern exercise of the rights of the communal population over the land and of each common land holder over his lot. It will likewise establish

the procedures by which common and communal land holders can associate between themselves, with the State or with third parties and grant the use of their lands; and, in the case of common land holders, transmit the rights to their lots among the members of the population nucleus; it will also establish the requirements and provisions through which the common land assembly will confer on the common land holder domino over his lot. In the case of the transfer of lots, the preferential right established by law will be respected.

Within the same population nucleus, no common land holder can hold more land than the equivalent of 5% of all the common land. In all cases, the ownership of land in favor of a single common land holder must adjust to the limits indicated in section XV.

The general assembly is the supreme authority of the common or communal land nucleus, with the organization and duties indicated by law. The common or communal land commissary, democratically elected in the terms of law, is the representative authority of the nucleus and responsible for implementing the resolutions of the assembly.

The restitution of lands, forests and waters to the population nuclei will take place in the terms of the regulatory law;

VIII.- The following are declared null and void:

a) All transfers of lands, waters and woodland belonging to the villages, hamlets, congregations or communities and effected by the political chiefs, Governors of the States, or any other local authority in contravention of the provisions of the Law of June 25, 1856 and other relative laws and provisions;

b) All the concessions, compositions or sales of lands, waters and woodland made by the Ministries for Development, Finance or any other federal authority from the first of December 1876 to date, under which common lands, lands communally distributed or those of any other type belonging to the villages, hamlets, congregations or communities and population nuclei have been illegally invaded and occupied.

c) All surveying or demarcation activities, transactions, transfers or auctions occurring during the period of time to which the preceding section refers, carried out by companies, judges or other authorities of the States or the Federation, under which the lands, waters or woodland of the common lands, lands communally distributed or those of any other type belonging to population nuclei have been illegally invaded or occupied.

The sole exceptions to the above annulment are lands which have been registered in distributions made under the Law of June 25, 1856, and held directly in dominion for more than ten years, when the surface area does not exceed fifty hectares.

IX.- Any apparently lawful division or distribution made between the residents of any population nucleus in which there has been an error or flaw, can be annulled when this is requested by three-fourths of the residents holding one-fourth of the lands forming the subject matter of the division, or one-fourth of said residents when they are in possession of three-fourths of the land.

X.- (repealed)

XI.- (repealed)

XII.- (repealed)

XIII.- (repealed)

XIV.- (repealed)

XV.- Large landed estates are prohibited in the United Mexican States.

A small agricultural property will be considered to be that not exceeding per individual one hundred hectares of first-class humid or irrigated lands or their equivalent in other types of land.

For the purpose of equivalents, one hectare of irrigated land will be compared with two of seasonal land, four of good quality summer pasture and eight of forest, woodland or summer pasture in arid areas.

Also considered as a smallholding is a surface area not exceeding one hundred and fifty hectares per individual when the land is used for cotton cultivation, with irrigation; and three hundred when used for banana, sugar cane, coffee, sisal, rubber, vine, olive, quinine, vanilla, cacao, prickly pear or fruit tree cultivation.

A small livestock-raising property will be considered to be that not exceeding per individual the necessary surface area to maintain up to five hundred head of cows, oxen, horses, mules or their equivalent in sheep and goats, in the terms established by law, in accordance with the fodder capacity of the lands.

When by reason of irrigation, drainage or any other works carried out by the owners or holders of a smallholding, the quality of their lands has improved, it will continue to be considered a smallholding even though, in view of the improvement obtained, the maximums given in this section are surpassed, always providing that the requirements fixed by law are met.

When improvements are made to the lands of a small livestock raising property and these are destined for agricultural use, the surface area utilized for this purpose cannot exceed, as applicable, the limits to which the second and third paragraphs of this section refer in relation to the quality of said lands before the improvement;

XVI.- (repealed)

XVII.- The H. Congress of the Union and the State legislatures, within their respective jurisdictions, will issue laws which establish the procedures for dividing and transferring the extensions which come to exceed the limits given in sections IV and XV of this article.

The surplus should be divided and transferred by the proprietor within the period of one year as from the corresponding notification. If, once this period has passed, the surplus has not been transferred, sale should take place by public auction. Under equal conditions, the preferential right provided under regulatory law will be respected.

Local laws will organize the family patrimony, deciding on the assets to comprise same, on the basis that it will be non-transferable and will not be subject to any seizure or encumbrance;

XVIII.- All contracts and concessions made by the Governments prior to the year 1876 will be declared revisable, resulting in consequence in the monopolization of land, waters and the natural wealth of the Nation by a single individual or corporation, and the Executive of the Union will be facilitated to declare these void when they imply serious consequences for public interest;

XIX.- Taking this Constitution as a base, the State will adopt the necessary measures for a fast and honest imparting of agrarian justice, for the purpose of guaranteeing legal security in the holding of common and communal land and smallholdings, and to support the legal appraisal of the peasants.

All matters pending or those between two or more population nuclei, of whatever origin, on the boundaries of common and communal land, are of federal jurisdiction, as are those on the landholding of common and community lands. For these purposes and, in general, for the administration of agrarian justice, the law will appoint autonomous courts having full jurisdiction, comprising the magistrates proposed by the Federal Executive and named by the Chamber of Senators or, in the recesses of the latter, by the Permanent Commission.

The law will establish an agency for the procurement of agrarian justice, and

XX.- The State will promote conditions for overall rural development, for the purpose of generating employment and guaranteeing their well-being to the peasant population, together with their participation and incorporation in national development, and will promote farming, animal husbandry and forestry activities for an optimum use of the land, with infrastructure works, supplies, credits, and training and technical assistance services. It will likewise issue the regulatory legislation to plan and organize farming and animal husbandry activities and their industrialization and commercialization, considering them of public interest.

Article 28

In the United Mexican States monopolies, monopolistic practices, state stores and tax exemption in the terms and conditions fixed by Law are prohibited. The same treatment will be given to prohibitions for the protection of industry.

Therefore, the law will severely punish, and the authorities will efficiently pursue, all concentrations or hoarding in one or a few hands of basic consumer goods, the purpose of which is to raise prices; all agreements, procedures or combination of the producers, industrialists, merchants or service providers prepared in any way to avoid free concurrence or competition between them and oblige the consumer to pay exaggerated prices and, in general, everything representing an unlawful exclusive advantage in favor or one or several specific persons, to the prejudice of the general public or of any social class.

The Law will fix bases for maximum prices to be indicated for the articles, goods or products considered necessary for the national economy or popular consumption, and will also impose courses of action on the distribution of these articles, goods or products, in order to avoid that unnecessary or excessive intermediaries give rise to an insufficiency of supply, as well as a rise in prices. The law will protect the consumers and foster their organization to better care for their interests.

The activities exercised exclusively by the State in the following strategic items will not be considered monopolies: post office, telegraphs and radiotelegraphy; petroleum and other hydrocarbons; basic petrochemicals; radioactive minerals and the generation of nuclear energy; electricity, and the activities expressly indicated by the laws issued by the H. Congress of the Union. Communication via satellite and the railroads are priority areas for national development, in the terms of article 25 of this Constitution; the State, on exercising its dominion over same, will protect the security and the sovereignty of the Nation and, on granting concessions or permits, will maintain or establish the dominion of the different communication channels, in accordance with applicable law.

The State will possess the agencies and companies it requires for an efficient management of the strategic areas under its care, and in activities of a priority nature where, in accordance with Law, it participates directly or with the social and private sectors.

The State will have a central bank which will be autonomous in the exercise of its duties and in its management. The bank's priority objective will be to ensure the stability of the acquisitive value of the national currency, thus reinforcing the rectorate of national development which corresponds to the State. No authority can order the bank to grant financing.

The activities exercised exclusively by the State through the central bank in the strategic areas of money coinage and the issue of banknotes, do not represent monopolies. The central bank, in the terms established by law and with the intervention corresponding to the competent authorities, will regulate exchange, together with brokerage and the financial services, possessing the necessary attributes of authority to carry out said regulation and oversee its observance. Bank activities will be entrusted to persons to be appointed by the President of the Republic with the approval of the Chamber of Senators or the Permanent Commission, as applicable; they will occupy office for periods the length and arrangement of which will foster the autonomous exercise of their duties; they can only be removed for a serious fault and can hold no other employment, charge or commission, except for those they undertake on behalf of the bank and unremunerated activities in teaching, scientific, cultural or charitable associations. The persons in charge of managing the central bank can be subject to political proceedings in accordance with the provisions of article 110 of this Constitution.

Workers' associations formed to protect their own interests and the cooperative associations or corporations of producers in order that, in defense of their interests or general interest, they sell national or industrial products directly forming the principal source of wealth of the regions where they are produced or which are not basic items, will not represent monopolies, always providing that said associations come under the surveillance or protection of the Federal Government or of the States, and upon authorization obtained for such purpose from the respective legislatures in each case. The same Legislatures, either directly or at the proposal of the Executive, can repeal authorizations granted for forming the associations in question, when this is called for by public interests.

Nor will the privileges conceded for a specific time to authors and artists for protecting their works, or those which, for the exclusive use of their inventions are granted to inventors and those perfecting any improvement be considered monopolies.

The State, subjecting itself to law, can in cases of general interest grant the rendering of public services or the exploitation, use and utilization of assets coming under Federal domination, with the exceptions provided for in said laws. The laws will fix the methods and conditions assuring an efficient rendering of the services and social utilization of the assets, and will avert concentration phenomena contrary to public interests.

The subjection to public service systems will adhere to the provisions of the Constitution, and can only be implemented by law.

Subsidies can be granted to priority activities when these are general, of a temporary nature and do not substantially affect the finances of the Nation. The State will supervise their application and evaluation the results.

Article 29

In cases of invasion, a serious disturbance of the public peace, or any other which places the public in serious danger or conflict, only the President of the United Mexican States, in agreement with the State Ministers, the Administrative Departments and the Attorney General for the Republic and with the approval of the H. Congress of the Union and, in the recesses of the latter, of the Permanent Commission, can suspend throughout the country or in a specific place the guaranties which form an obstacle to confronting the situation quickly and easily; but this should be done for a limited time, by means of general preventions and without the suspension affecting a specific individual. Should the suspension take place during a session of H. Congress, the latter will grant the authorizations it considers necessary in order for the Executive to handle the situation, but if it occurs during a recess period, H. Congress will be convened without delay to resolve same.

CHAPTER II The Mexicans

Article 30

Mexican nationality is acquired by birth or by naturalization.

A. Mexicans by birth:

I.- Are those born within the territory of the Republic, independently of the nationality of their parents.

II.- Those born abroad, the children of Mexican parents born in national territory, of a Mexican father born in nationality territory, or of a Mexican mother born in national territory;

III.- Those born abroad, the children of Mexican parents by naturalization, of a father Mexican by naturalization, or of a mother Mexican by naturalization;

IV.- Those born aboard Mexican vessels or aircraft, either war or mercantile.

B. Mexicans by naturalization.

I.- Are the foreigners obtaining a letter of naturalization from the Ministry of Relations;

II.- A foreign woman or man who contract marriage with a Mexican man or woman, having or establishing their domicile within national territory and complying with the other requirements indicated for such purpose by law.

Article 31

Mexicans will have the following obligations:

I.- To ensure that their children or pupils attend public or private schools in order to obtain pre-school, primary and secondary education, and receive military training in the terms of law;

II.- To receive suitable civic and military instruction in the terms of law, skill in the handling of weapons and an awareness of military discipline, so that they are fit in the exercise of their citizens' rights, on the days and at the times given by the Town Council of the place they live;

III.- To enlist and serve in the National Guard in accordance with the respective organic law, to ensure and defend independence, territory, honor, and the rights and interests of the homeland, together with tranquility and internal order, and

VI. To contribute to public expenses, those of the Federation and those of the Federal District or the State and Municipality in which they live, in the proportional and equitable manner provided by law.

Article 32

The Law will govern exercise of the rights granted under Mexican legislation to Mexicans holding another nationality, and will establish norms to avoid conflicts due to dual nationality.

Exercise of the positions and functions for which one must be Mexican by birth, as provided in the present Constitution, are reserved for those meeting these qualifications and not possessing another nationality. This reservation will also apply in similar cases contained in other laws of the H. Congress of the Union.

In times of peace, no foreigner can serve in the Army, nor in the police or public security forces. In order to belong to the Army in times of peace and to the Navy or Air Force at all times, or hold any office or commission in same, one must be Mexican by birth.

This same status will be essential for captains, pilots, employers, machinists, mechanics and, in general, the entire crew manning any vessel or aircraft

operating under the Mexican flag or insignia. It will also be necessary to hold the position of Port Captain and all pilotage and airport commander services.

Mexicans will be preferred to foreigners under equal circumstances, for all types of concessions and for all Government employment, charges or commissions where the status of citizen is not essential.

CHAPTER III

Foreigners

Article 33

Foreigners are those not possessing the status mentioned in article 30. They are entitled to the guaranties listed in Chapter I, First Title, of the present Constitution, but the Executive of the Union will have the exclusive faculty of evicting any foreigner whose presence it considers inconvenient from national territory, immediately and without the need of a previous trial.

Foreigners can under no circumstances involve themselves in the political affairs of the country.

CHAPTER IV

Mexican citizens

Article 34

Then men and women who, as Mexicans, also meet with the following requirements, are citizens of the Republic:

- I.- They are over 18 years of age, and
- II.- They earn an honest living.

Article 35

A citizen will have the following prerogatives:

- I.- To vote in popular elections;
- II. Be voted into all politically-elected offices, and named for any other employment or commission having the characteristics established by law;
- III.- To associate themselves individually and freely in order to pacifically take part in the political affairs of the country;
- IV.- To take up arms in the Army or National Guard for the defense of the Republic and its institutions, in the terms provided by law, and

V.- To exercise the right of petition in all kinds of businesses.

Article 36

A citizen of the Republic will be obliged to:

I.- To register in the municipal cadastre, declaring the property held by the citizen, the industry, profession or work from which he obtains his subsistence, and also to register in the National Citizens Register, in the terms determined by law.

The organization and permanent working of the National Citizens Register and the issuance of a document verifying Mexican citizenship are services of public interest and, therefore, the responsibility of the State and the citizens in the terms established by law;

II.- To enlist in the National Guard;

III.- To vote in popular elections in the terms indicated by law;

IV.- To hold popularly-elected positions in the Federation or in the States, which will in no case be gratis; and

V.- To occupy the position of counselor in the municipality where he resides, electoral and jury functions;

Article 37

A) No Mexican citizen by birth can be deprived of his nationality.

B) Mexican citizenship by naturalization will be lost in the following cases:

I.- By the voluntary acquisition of a foreign nationality, by representing himself in any public instrument as a foreigner, by using a foreign passport, or by accepting or using titles of nobility which imply the subjection to a foreign state, and

II.- By residing abroad for five years continuously.

C) Mexican citizenship is lost:

I.- By the acceptance or use of titles of nobility from foreign governments;

II.- By voluntarily providing professional services to a foreign government without the permission of the Federal H. Congress or its Permanent Commission;

III.- By accepting or using foreign decorations without the permission of the Federal H. Congress or its Permanent Commission;

IV.- By admitting from the government of another country titles or functions without previous license from the Federal H. Congress or its Permanent Commission, excepting literary, scientific or humanitarian titles which can be accepted freely;

V.- By assisting a foreigner or a foreign government against the Nation, in any diplomatic claim or before an international court, and

VI.- In the other cases established by law.

In the case of sections I to IV of this item, the H. Congress of the Union will establish under the corresponding regulatory law, the cases of exception in which permits and licenses will be understood as granted, once the period indicated in the law has elapsed, by solely presenting a petition by the interested party.

Article 38

The rights or prerogatives of citizens will be suspended;

I.- By failure to comply, without justified cause, with any of the obligations imposed by article 36. This suspension will last for one year and will be imposed in addition to the other penalties for the same cause indicated by law.

II.- Due to being subject to criminal proceedings for an offense meriting a term of imprisonment, to be counted as from the date of the formal warrant of arrest;

III.- During the suppression of a criminal action;

IV.- Due to confirmed vagrancy or drunkenness, declared in the terms provided by law;

V.- Due to being a fugitive from justice, from issue of the warrant for arrest until criminal action has prescribed; and

VI.- Under a sentence which can be appealed to the Executive but not to a higher court, which imposes this suspension as a penalty.

The law will establish the cases in which the rights of citizenship are lost, and those in which they are suspended, and manner of reinstalling same.

SECOND TITLE

CHAPTER I

National sovereignty and the form of government.

Article 39

National sovereignty resides essentially and basically in the people. All public power emanates from the people and is installed for the latter's benefit. The people will hold at all times the inalienable right to alter or amend the form of their government.

Article 40

It is the will of the Mexican people to become a representative, democratic and Federal Republic consisting of states which are free and sovereign in everything concerning their internal government; but joined in a federation established in accordance with the principles of this basic law.

Article 41

The people will exercise their sovereignty through the Powers of the Union, in the cases where these are competent, and by those of the States, in the terms respectively established by the present Federal Constitution and the individual State constitutions, which can in no case contravene the provisions of the Federal Pact.

The renewal of the Legislative and Executive powers will take place by free, authentic and periodic elections, held according to the following conditions:

I.- Political parties are entities of public interest; the law will determine the specific forms of their intervention in the electoral process. National political parties will be entitled to participate in State and Municipal elections.

The purpose of the political parties will be to promote the participation of the people in democratic life, contribute to the integration of national representation and, as organizers of the citizens, to make possible the access of the latter to the exercise of public power, in accordance with the programs, principles and ideas they put forward, and by free, universal, secret and direct suffrage. Only citizens can affiliate themselves freely and independently to the political parties.

II.- The law will guarantee that national political parties possess the elements, in an equitable manner, to carry out their activities. They will therefore be entitled to the permanent use of the social communication media, in accordance with the forms and procedures established therein. The law will also establish the rules to which the financing of the political parties and their election campaigns will be subject, and must guarantee that public resources prevail over those of a private nature.

Public financing for the political parties who maintain their registration after each election, will be composed of the funds intended for the maintenance of their normal permanent activities and those aimed towards the obtaining of votes during the electoral process, and will be granted in accordance with the following and the provisions of law:

- a) Public financing to sustain their normal permanent activities will be fixed yearly ,
applying the minimum campaign costs calculated by the Higher Management Agency of the Federal Electoral Institute, the number of senators and deputies to be elected, the number of political parties represented in the Chambers of the H. Congress of the Union and the duration of the electoral campaigns. Thirty percent of the total amount arising in line with the foregoing will be distributed equally among the political parties, and the remaining 70% will be distributed among them in accordance with the percentage of votes obtained in the previous election of deputies;
- b) Public financing for activities intended to obtain the vote during the electoral processes, will be equivalent to an amount equal to the public financing corresponding to each political party for normal activities that year; and
- c) A percentage of the annual expenses incurred by political parties by reason of activities in connection with education, training, socio-economic and political investigation activities, and also editorial tasks, will be reintegrated.

The law will establish criteria to determine the limits to expenditures incurred by political parties in electoral campaigns; will establish the maximum amounts contributed by their sympathizers and the procedures for controlling and supervising the origin of all their resources and, likewise, will list the penalties to be imposed for failure to comply with these provisions.

III.- The organization of federal elections is a State function carried out through an autonomous electoral entity called the Federal Electoral Institute, possessing its own legal status and resources, in whose composition the Legislative Power of the Union, national political parties and the citizens participate in the terms of law. In exercising this state function, the certainty, legality, independence, impartiality and objectivity will be the principle rectors.

The Federal Electoral Institute will be the authority on the subject, independently of its decisions and working and the professionalism of its performance; its structure will include management, executive, technical and surveillance agencies. The General Council will be the highest management agency and will consist of a Director-Chairman and eight electoral members, while the members of the Legislative Assembly, representatives of the political parties and an Executive Secretary will attend with voice but without vote; rules for the organization and working of these agencies will be determined by law, together with their order of rank. Executive and technical agencies will have the qualified personnel necessary to render professional electoral services. The provisions of the electoral law and of the Statutes based on which the General Council is approved, will govern the labor relationships of public agency servants. The surveillance

agencies will consist predominantly of representatives of the national political parties. The directive booths will be made up by citizens.

The Director-Chairman and electoral members of the General Council will be elected, successively, by the vote of two-thirds of the present members of the Chamber of Deputies or, if this is in recess, by the Permanent Commission, as proposed by the parliamentary groups. Under the same procedure, eight alternate electoral members will be named, by order of priority. The law will establish the corresponding laws and procedure.

The Director-Chairman and electoral members will remain in office for seven years, and can have no other employment, charge or commission, excepting those where they act on behalf of the General Council and which they occupy in unremunerated teaching, scientific, cultural, research or charity positions. The reimbursement to be received by the Director-Chairman and electoral members will be equal to that provided to the Ministers of the Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation.

The Executive Secretary will be appointed by two-thirds of the General Council, at the proposal of its Chairman.

The law will establish the requirements to be met for his appointment by the Director-Chairman of the General Council, the Electoral Members and the Executive Secretary of the Federal Electoral Institute, which will be subject to the responsibilities system established under the Third Title of this Constitution.

The members of the Legislative Assembly will be proposed by the parliamentary groups having a party affiliation in either of the Chambers. There will only be one Member for each parliamentary group, notwithstanding its recognition in both Chambers of the H. Congress of the Union

The Federal Electoral Institute will be formally and directly in charge of, in addition to those determined by law, the activities on civic training and education, electoral geography, the rights and prerogatives of the groups and political parties, to the electoral list and voters, the printing of electoral material, preparation of the electoral working day, computation in the terms indicated by law .

IV. - In order to guarantee the principles of constitutionality and legality of electoral acts and resolutions, a method of impugnation will be established in the terms of this Constitution and the law. This system will formalize the different stages of the electoral process and will guarantee protection of the citizens to vote, receive votes and of association, in the terms of article 99 of this Constitution.

In electoral matters the filing of Constitutional and legal means of impugnation will have no suspensive effect on the impugned act or resolution.

CHAPTER II

The parts forming the Federation and National territory

Article 42

National territory consists of:

- I.- The parts forming the Federation;
- II.- That of the islands, including reefs and keys in adjacent seas;
- III.- That of the islands of Guadalupe and those of Revillagigedo located in the Pacific Ocean;
- IV.- The continental shelf and the submarine bases of the islands, keys and reefs;
- V.- The waters of the territorial seas in the extension and terms fixed by International Law the inland seas;
- VI.- The space located above national territory, with the extension and forms established by said International Law.

Article 43

The component parts of the Federation are the States of Aguascalientes, Baja California, Baja California Sur, Campeche, Coahuila, Colima, Chiapas, Chihuahua, Durango, Guanajuato, Guerrero, Hidalgo, Jalisco, Mexico, Michoacan, Morelos, Nayarit, Nuevo Leon, Oaxaca, Puebla, Queretaro, Quintana Roo, San Luis Potosi, Sinaloa, Sonora, Tabasco, Tamaulipas, Tlaxcala, Veracruz, Yucatan, Zacatecas and the Federal District.

Article 44

The City of Mexico is the Federal District, seat of the Powers of the Union and Capital of the United Mexican States. This will consist of the territory it presently holds and, should the Federal powers be transferred elsewhere, will be erected in the State of the Valley of Mexico with the boundaries and extension assigned by the General H. Congress.

Article 45

The States of the Federation will retain the extension and boundaries they have held up to now, always providing that these represent no difficulties.

Article 46

The states can arrange their respective boundaries within themselves, under friendly agreements; but these arrangements will not be implemented without the approval of the H. Congress of the Union.

Article 47

The State of Nayarit will have the territorial extension and boundaries currently corresponding to the Territory of Tepic.

Article 48

The islands, the keys and reefs of the adjacent seas belonging to national territory, the continental shelf, the submarine bases of the islands, of the keys and reefs, territorial waters, inland maritime waters and the space located above national territory, will depend directly from the Government of the Federation, with the exception of those islands over which, to date, the States have exercised jurisdiction.

T I T L E T H I R D

CHAPTER I

Division of powers

Article 49

The Supreme Power of the Federation is divided for exercise into Legislative, Executive and Judicial.

No two or more of these Powers can be combined in a single person or corporation, nor the Legislative be deposited in an individual, except in the case of special powers conferred on the Executive of the Union in accordance with the provisions of article 29. In no other case, except as provided in article 131, second paragraph, will special powers to legislate be conferred.

CHAPTER II

Legislative power

Article 50

The Legislative Power of the United Mexican States is deposited in a General H. Congress, to be divided into two Chambers, one of Deputies and the other of Senators.

F I R S T S E C T I O N

E L E C T I O N A N D I N S T A L L M E N T O F T H E H . C O N G R E S S

Article 51

The Chamber of Deputies will be composed of representatives of the Nation, elected in their entirety every three years. For every proprietary deputy, an alternate will be elected.

Article 52

The Chamber of Deputies will consist of 300 deputies, elected according to the relative majority voting principle, under the uninominal electoral district system, and 200 deputies to be elected according to the proportional representation principle, under the Regional Listings System, voted in plurinominal circumscriptions.

Article 53

The territorial demarcation of the 300 uninominal electoral districts will be the result of dividing the overall population of the country into the indicated districts. Distribution of the uninominal electoral districts between the federative entities will take place, keeping in mind the most recent population census, without the representation of a State being less than two majority deputies under any circumstances.

For the election of the 200 deputies according to the proportional representation principle and the Regional Listing System, five plurinominal electoral circumscriptions will be established in the country. The Law will decide on the form of establishing the territorial demarcation of these circumscriptions.

Article 54

Election of the 200 deputies according to the proportional representation principle and the assignment by regional listings system, will be subject to the following conditions and to the provisions of law:

I.- In order to register its regional listings, a political party must show that it participates with candidates for deputy by a relative majority in at least two hundred uninominal districts;

II.- Any political party which achieves at least two per cent of the total votes issued for the regional listings of the plurinominal circumscriptions, will be entitled to have deputies attributed thereto according to the proportional representation principle;

III.- A political party complying with the two foregoing conditions, independently and in addition to the relative majority verification obtained by their candidates, will have the number of deputies corresponding thereto from its regional listing in each plurinominal circumscription. The order of the candidates in the corresponding lists will be followed in the assignment.

IV.- No political party can have more than 300 deputies for both principles.

V.- Under no circumstances can a political party have a number of deputies for both principles representing a percentage of the total Chamber exceeding by eight points its percentage of the national vote cast. This base will not be applied to the political party which, in the light of its victories in uninominal districts, obtains a

percentage of seats in the Chamber which exceeds the total percentage of its national votes cast plus eight percent; and

VI.- In the terms of the provisions of sections II, IV and V above, the remaining proportional representation deputations, following assignment of those corresponding to the political party coming under the conditions of sections IV and V, will be awarded to the remaining political parties entitled thereto in each of the plurinominal circumscriptions, in direct proportion to the respective national votes received by the latter. The rules and formulas for these purposes will be established by law.

Article 55

The following requirements must be complied with in order to be a deputy:

- I.- He must be a Mexican citizen by birth, in the exercise of his rights;
- II.- He must be twenty-one years of age on the date of the election;
- III.- He must be a native of the State in which the election takes place, or a resident of same with an effective residence of more than six months prior to the date of same.

In order to be able to appear on electoral plurinominal circumscription listings as a candidate or deputy, he must be a native of one of the federative entities coming within the circumscription where the election is held, or an effective resident of same for more than six months prior to the date in which this is held.

Residence is not lost by absence in the performance of a popularly-elected public office.

IV.- He should not be on active service in the Federal Army nor hold a position of command in the police or rural gendarmery of the district where the election is held, for at least ninety days prior to same.

V.- He should not be a Minister or Under Minister of State, nor a Justice of the Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation, unless he formally resigns from his functions ninety days before the election, in the case of the first two, and two years, in the case of the Justices.

State Governors cannot be elected in the entities of their respective jurisdictions during their period in office, even when they formally resign from their positions.

The Ministers of Government for the States, the Magistrates and Federal or State Judges, cannot be elected in the entities of their respective jurisdictions unless they resign from their positions ninety days prior to the election.

VI.- Not be a Minister of any religious cult, and

VII.- Not come under any of the disqualifications indicated in article 59.

Article 56

The Chamber of Senators will consist of one hundred and twenty five senators, of which, in each State and in the Federal District, two will be elected according to the principle of relative majority vote and one will be assigned to the first minority. For these effects, political parties should register a listing with two candidate formulas. The senatorship of the first minority will be assigned to the candidate formula heading the listing for the political party which, in itself, has occupied the second place in the number of votes for the entity in question.

The thirty two remaining senators will be elected according to the proportional representation principle, by the system of listings voted in a single national plurinominal circumscription. The rules and formulas for this purpose will be established by law.

The Chamber of Senators will be renovated in its entirety every six years.

Article 57

For each proprietary Senator an alternate will be elected.

Article 58

To be a senator, one must comply with same requirements as for being a deputy, except that of age, which will be a minimum of 25 years on the date of the election.

Article 59

Senators and Deputies to the H. Congress of the Union cannot be reelected for the immediate period.

Alternate Senators and Deputies can be elected for the immediate period as proprietary, always providing that they have not been in exercise; but proprietary Senators and Deputies cannot be elected for the immediate period as alternates.

Article 60

The public agency provided for in article 41 of this Constitution, as decided by law, will declare the validity of the elections of deputies and senators in each of the uninominal electoral districts and in each of the federative entities; it will issue certifications with respect to the candidate formulas obtaining a majority vote and make the assignment of first minority senators in accordance with article 56 of this Constitution and the law. It will likewise make the statement of validity and assignment of deputies according to the proportional representation system, in accordance with article 54 of this Constitution and the law.

Determinations on the statement of validity, the granting of certifications and the assignment of deputies or senators can be impugned before the regional Chambers of the Electoral Tribunal for the Judicial Power of the Federation, in the terms indicated by law.

Resolutions of the Chambers to which the preceding paragraph refers, can only be reviewed by the Superior Chamber of the said Tribunal, by means of an objection which political parties can only file when, due to the damages committed, the results of the election could be affected. The sentences of the Chamber are final and cannot be contested. The law will establish the budgets, procedural requirements and processes for this means of objection.

Article 61

Senators and deputies have freedom of speech for opinions stated in their performance of office, and can never be recriminated for these.

The President of each Chamber will ensure that the constitutional jurisdiction of their members is respected, together with the inviolability of the place where sessions are held.

Article 62

Proprietary deputies and senators cannot, during their period in office, hold any other salaried commission or employment in the Federation or the States without prior permission from the respective Chamber, but in this case they will cease in their respective duties during the term of the new occupation. The same rule will be followed with the alternate deputies and senators when in exercise of office. Any violation of this provision will be punished by loss of the nature of deputy or senator.

Article 63

The Chambers cannot open session nor exercise their charge without the attendance, at each, of more than half the total number of their members; but those present at one or the other should meet on the day indicated by law and compel those absent to attend within the thirty days following, being warned that should they fail to do so it will be understood by this sole fact that they fail to accept their charge. Both the vacancies for deputies and senators of the H. Congress of the Union occurring at the commencement of the legislature, and those which arise later, will be filled: the vacancies for deputies and senators of the H. Congress of the Union by the relative majority principle, the respective Chamber will convene special elections in accordance with article 77, section IV of this Constitution; vacancies for members of the Chamber of Deputies elected by the proportional representation principle, will be filled by the formula of candidates from the same party who follow in order on the respective regional list, after having assigned the corresponding deputies; vacancies for members of the Chamber of Senators

elected by the proportional representation principle, will be filled by the formula of candidates from the same party who follow in order on the respective regional list, after having assigned the corresponding senators; and vacancies of members of the Chamber of Senators elected by the first minority principle, will be filled by the formula of candidates from the same party who have been registered in second place on the corresponding list for the federative entity in question.

It is also understood that deputies and senators who are absent for ten consecutive days without justification or without previous license from the President of their respective Chamber, of which he is advised, waive their right to appear until the following period, giving way to their alternates.

If there is no quorum to install either of the Chambers or for them to exercise their functions once installed, the alternates will be immediately convened to present themselves as soon as possible to take up their appointments, during the course of the thirty days previously mentioned.

Those who have been elected as deputies or senators and who fail to present themselves without justified cause, in the opinion of the respective Chamber, to take up their duties within the term indicated in the first paragraph of this article, will incur in liability for the penalties provided by law. Also incurring in liability under the same law are the National Political Parties which, having presented candidates for deputies or senators in an election, resolve that their members who have been elected should not present themselves to take office.

Article 64

The deputies and senators who fail to attend a session without justified cause, or without permission from the President of the respective Chamber, will not be entitled to the corresponding fee for the day they are absent.

Article 65

The H. Congress will meet as from September 1 each year for the holding of a first period of regular sessions, and as from March 15 each year for a second period of regular sessions.

Both Periods of Sessions of the H. Congress will deal with the study, discussion and voting on the Proposed Laws presented thereto and on resolving on the other matters for which they are responsible in accordance with this Constitution.

In each Period of Regular Sessions the H. Congress will attend first to the matters indicated in its Organic Law.

Article 66

Each period of regular sessions will last sufficient time to deal with all the matters mentioned in the foregoing article. The first period can only be extended to

December 15 of the same year, except when the President of the Republic takes office on the date provided in article 83, in which case sessions can be extended to December 31 of that same year. The second period cannot be extended beyond April 30 the same year.

Should the two Chambers not be in agreement in resolving the Sessions prior to the date indicated, this will be resolved by the President of the Republic.

Article 67

The H. Congress or only one of the Chambers, in the case of matter exclusive thereto, will meet in special session whenever they are convened for this purpose by the Permanent Commission; but in both cases they will only deal with the matter or matters submitted to their judgment by the Commission itself, which will be stated in the respective convocation.

Article 68

The two Chambers will reside in the same place and cannot be transferred to another without first agreeing on the transfer and the time and form of verifying same, naming the same place for the meeting of both. But should both agree on the transfer but differ on the time, form and place, the Executive will resolve the difference, selecting one of the two options in question. Neither Chamber can suspend its sessions for more than three days without the consent of the other.

Article 69

The President of the Republic will attend the opening of the Regular Sessions of the First Period of the H. Congress, and will present a written report in which he records the general status of the public administration of the country. At the opening of the special sessions of the H. Congress of the Union, or a single one of its Chambers, the President of the Permanent Commission will report on the motive or reasons giving rise to the summons.

Article 70

All resolutions issued by the H. Congress will have the nature of a law or decree. Laws or decrees will be notified to the Executive signed by the presidents of both Chambers and by a secretary of each, and will be promulgated in this form: "The H. Congress of the United Mexican States hereby decrees: (text of the law or decree).

The H. Congress will issue the Law governing its structure and internal working.

The law will determine the forms and procedures for grouping the deputies together, according to their party, for the purpose of guaranteeing the free expression of the ideological currents represented in the Chamber of Deputies.

This law cannot be vetoed nor does it require promulgation by the Federal Executive to come into force.

SECOND SECTION LAW PREPARATION AND FORMATION

Article 71

The right to propose laws or decrees is incumbent upon:

- I.- The President of the Republic;
- II.- The Deputies and Senators of the H. Congress of the Union; and
- III.- The State Legislatures.

Laws proposed by the President of the Republic, by the State Legislatures or by their Delegations, will then be passed to commission, Those presented by the deputies or senators will be subject to the processes covered by the Regulation of Debates.

Article 72

All draft laws or decrees, the resolution of which does not fall exclusively within the competence of either of the Chambers, will be successively discussed in both, observing the Regulation of Decrees as to the form, intervals and method of procedure in the discussions and voting.

A. Once a draft has been approved in the Chamber of its origin, it will pass for discussion to the other. Should it be approved by the latter, it will be forwarded to the Executive who, in the absence of any comments, will publish same immediately.

B. Any draft which is not returned with comments to its originating Chamber within ten working days will be considered to have been approved by Executive Power unless, upon the expiry of this term, H. Congress is closed or its activities suspended, in which case
The return should take place on the first working day H. Congress resumes sitting.

C. A draft law or decree which has been discarded in whole or in part by the Executive, will be returns, with his comments, to its Chamber of origin. It should be discussed once again by the latter and, if confirmed by two-thirds of the total number of votes, will pass once again to the reviewing Chamber. If approved by the same majority in the latter, the draft will become law or decree and will be returned to the Executive for its promulgation.

Voting on laws or decrees will be nominal.

D. Should any draft law or decree be discarded in its entirety by the reviewing Chamber, it will be returned to that of its origin with the comments made by the former. If, after having been examined again, it should be approved by an absolute majority of the members present, it will return to the Chamber by which it was discarded, which will again take it into consideration and, if approved by the same majority, will pass to the Executive for the effects of section A; but if rejected, it cannot be presented again during the same period of sessions.

E.- Should a draft law or decree be discarded in part, or amended, or added to by the reviewing Chamber, the new discussion by its Chamber of origin will deal solely with what has been discarded or on the amendments or additions, without being to alter the articles approved in any way. Should the additions or amendments made by the reviewing Chamber be approved by an absolute majority of the votes present in its Chamber of origin, the entire draft will be passed to the Executive for the purposes of section A. Should the additions or amendments made by the reviewing Chamber by majority vote in its Chamber of origin, it will return to the former in order for the reasons for this to be taken into consideration, and if by an absolute majority of the votes cast said additions or amendments are rejected in this second review, the draft, wherein approved by both Chambers, will be passed to the Executive for the purposes of section A. Should the reviewing Chamber insist, by an absolute majority of the votes present, on said additions or amendments, the entire draft will not be presented again until the following period of sessions, unless both Chamber agree by an absolute majority of their members present, that the law or decree be issued solely with the articles approved, and that those added or amended be reserved for their examination and voting in the following sessions.

F. In interpreting, amending or repealing laws or decrees, the same procedures established for their formation will be observed.

G.- Any draft laws or decrees rejected in their Chamber of origin, cannot be presented again in the same year's sessions.

H.- The formation of laws and decrees can commence without differentiation in the Chamber in which they are presented, excepting draft dealing with loans, contributions or taxes, or on the recruiting of troops, all of which should be discussed first in the Chamber of Deputies.

I.- Drafts laws or decrees will be discussed preferably in the Chamber where they are presented, unless one month has passed since they were passed to the resolving Commission without the latter having returned an opinion, since in this case the same draft law or decree can be presented and discussed in the other Chamber.

J.- The Executive of the Union cannot comment on the resolutions of H. Congress or on any of the Chambers, when they exercise the functions of an electoral body or jury, and the same will apply when the Chamber of Deputies declares that one of the high officers of the Federation should be accused for official crimes.

Nor can he do so on the decree convening special sessions issued by the Permanent Commission.

THIRD SECTION THE POWERS OF THE H. CONGRESS

Article 73

The H. Congress is empowered:

I.- To admit new States to the Federal Union;

II.- (repealed)

III.- To form new States within the limitations of those already existing, it being necessary for this purpose:

1st.- For the fraction or fractions who ask to become States, to have a population of at least one hundred and twenty thousand inhabitants.

2nd.- For it to be proved before H. Congress that the area in question possesses sufficient elements to decide on its political existence.

3rd.- For the Legislatures of the States whose territory is being dealt with be heard, on the convenience or inconvenience of the formation of the new State, being obliged to render their report within six months, counted as from the day on which the respective communication is forwarded to them.

4th.- That the Executive of the Federation also be heard, who will return his report within seven days counted as from that on which he is asked.

5th.- That the creation of the new State be voted by two-thirds of the deputies and senators present in their respective Chambers.

6th.- That the resolution of H. Congress be ratified by a majority of the State Legislatures, following examination of a copy of the file, always providing that the Legislatures of the States whose territory is in question have given their consent.

7th.- Should the Legislatures of the States whose territory is in question have refused their consent, the ratification mentioned in the preceding fraction should be made by two-thirds of the total Legislatures of the remaining States.

IV.- To formally arrange the limits of the States, determining any differences existing between them on the boundaries of their respective territories, unless these differences are of a contentious nature;

V.- To change the residence of the Supreme Powers of the Federation;

VI.- (repealed)

VII.- To impose the contributions necessary to cover the Budget;

VIII.- To provide bases on which the Executive can formalize loans on the credit of the Nation, to approve these same loans and to recognize and order that the national debt be paid. No loan can be formalized except for the execution of works which produce a direct increase in public revenue, except those formalized for the purpose of monetary regulation, conversion operations and those contracted during an emergency declared by the President of the Republic in the terms of article 29. Likewise, to annually approve the amounts of indebtedness to be included in the revenues law required, as applicable, by the Government of the Federal District and the entities of its public sector, according to the bases of the corresponding law. The Federal Executive will annually report to the H. Congress of the Union on the exercise of said debt, for which purpose the Head of the Federal District will ensure that he receives the report made on exercise of the corresponding resources. The Head of the Federal District will also report to the Assembly of Representatives of the Federal District, on rendering the public account;

IX.- To prevent that restrictions be established on State to State trading;

X.- To legislate throughout the Republic on hydrocarbons, mining, the cinematographic industry, trade, games involving betting and raffles, financial brokerage and services, electric and nuclear power, and to issue the labor laws regulating Article 123;

XI.- To create and suppress public Federal employment and indicate, increase or reduce their remunerations;

XII.- To declare war, in view of the data presented thereto by the Executive;

XIII.- To dictate laws under which sea and land prisoners should be declared good or bad, and to issue laws on maritime law in war and peace;

XIV.- To recruit and maintain the armed forces of the Union, that is: the National Army, Navy and Air Force, and to regulate their organization and service;

XV.- To issue regulations for the purpose of organizing, arming and disciplining the National Guard, reserving to the citizens forming same the respective appointments of chiefs and officers, and to the States the faculty of instructing same according to the discipline prescribed by said regulations;

XVI.- To dictate laws on nationality, the legal status of foreigners, citizenship, naturalization, colonization, emigration and immigration and the general health of the Republic.

1st.- The General Health Council will depend directly from the President of the Republic, without the intervention of any State Ministry, and its general provisions will be obligatory within the country.

2nd.- In the event of epidemic of a serious nature or the danger of exotic illnesses invading the country, the Health Department will be obliged to dictate the essential preventive measures immediately, with the reservation of their subsequent approval by the President of the Republic.

3rd.- The health authority will be executive by nature, and its provisions will be obeyed by the administrative authorities of the country.

4th.- The measures put into effect by the Council in the campaign against alcoholism and the sale of substances which poison the individual or degenerate the human species , together with those adopted to prevent and combat environmental pollution, will be subsequently review by the H. Congress of the Union in the cases coming within its competence;

XVII.- To dictate laws on general communication channels, and on posts and mails, to issue laws on the use and exploitation of the waters coming within Federal jurisdiction;

XVIII.- To establish mints, fix the conditions they must observe, dictate rules to determine the relative value of foreign currency and adopt a general weights and measures system;

XIX.- To fix the rules to which the occupation and sale of vacant lands and their price should be subject;

XX.- To issue the laws for organizing the Mexican Diplomatic and Consular Corps;

XXI.- To establish offenses and misdemeanors against the Federation and establish the punishments to be imposed for same;

The Federal authorities can also hear offenses of common jurisdiction, when these are connected with Federal misdemeanors;

XXII.- To grant amnesty for felonies the hearing of which pertains to the Federal courts;

XXIII.- To issue laws establishing the bases for coordination between the Federation, the Federal District, the States and the Municipalities on the matter of public security; and for the organization and working, entry, selection, promotion and recognition of the members of public security institutions within the Federal environment;

XXIV.- To issue the Law regulating organization of the Superior Control Agency of the Federation and others governing the processing, control and evaluation of the Powers of the Union and the Federal public agencies;

XXV.- To establish, organize and maintain throughout the Republic rural, elementary, higher, secondary and professional schools; those of scientific research, the beaux arts and technical teaching, practical agricultural and mining schools, those for arts and crafts, museums, libraries, observatories and other institutes involved with the general culture of the inhabitants of the Nation and to legislate everything concerning said institutions; to legislate on fossil remains or traces and on archeological, artistic and historical monuments, the conservation of which is of national interest; and also to dictate the laws aimed to equitably distributing the exercise of the educative function and the economic funds corresponding to this public service between the Federation, the States and the Municipalities, endeavoring to unify and coordinate education throughout the Republic. The titles issued by the establishments in question will possess full effect throughout the Republic.

XXVI.- To grant license to the President of the Republic and to establish itself as an Electoral College and appoint the citizen who is to replace the President of the Republic, either as substitute, interim or provisional, in the terms of articles 84 and 85 of this Constitution;

XXVII.- To establish, organize and maintain throughout the Republic rural, elementary, higher, secondary and professional schools; those for scientific research, beaux arts and technical teaching; practical agricultural, arts and trades schools, museums, libraries, observatories and other institutes referring to the general culture of the inhabitants of the Nation, and to legislate in everything concerning these institutions.

The Federation will have jurisdiction over the schools which she establishes, maintains and organizes, without reducing the freedom held by the States to legislate over the same branch of learning. The titles issued by the establishments in question will possess full effect throughout the Republic.

XXVIII.- (repealed)

XXIX.- To establish contributions:

1st.- On foreign trade;

2nd.- On the use and exploitation of the natural resources mentioned in article 27, paragraphs 4 and 5;

3rd.- On credit institutions and insurance companies;

4th.- On public services granted under concession or operated directly by the Federation, and

5th.- Special on:

- a) Electric power
- b) The production and consumption of processed tobacco;
- c) Gasoline and other products obtain from petroleum;
- d) Tapers and matches;
- e) Maguey juice and the products of its fermentation;
- f) Forestry exploitation, and
- g) Beer production and consumption.

The federative entities will participate in the rendering of these special contributions, in the proportion determined by federal secondary law. The local legislatures will fix the percentage corresponding to the revenue of the Municipalities as tax on electric power;

XXIX-B.- To legislate on the nature and use of the National Flag, Great Seal and Anthem;

XXIX-C.- To issue laws establishing the concurrence of the Federal Government, of the States and of the Municipalities, within their respective spheres of influence,

on the matter of human settlements, for the purpose of complying with the purposes mentioned in article 27, third paragraph of this Constitution;

XXIX-D.- To issue laws on national planning for economic and social development;

XXIX-E.- To issue laws on the programming, promotion, gathering and implementation of activities of an economic nature, especially those referring to supply and others aimed toward the sufficient and opportune production of socially and nationally necessary goods and services;

XXIX-F.- To issue laws aimed toward the promotion of Mexican investment, the regulation of foreign investment, the transfer of technology and the generation, diffusion and application of the scientific and technological knowhow required for national development;

XXIX-G.- To issue laws establishing the concurrence of the Federal Government, of the State Governments and the Municipalities, within their respective spheres of influence, on the matter of environmental protection and the preservation and restoration of ecological balance;

XXIX-H.- To issue laws prepared by administrative law courts, possessing full autonomy to return verdicts, which are in charge or resolving controversies arising between the Federal Public Administration and private individuals, establishing the rules for their organization, their working, the procedure and appeals against their resolutions;

XXIX-I.- To issue laws establishing the bases on which the Federation, the States, the Federal District and the municipalities will coordinate their activities on the matter of civil protection; and

XXIX-J.- To legislate on the matter of sports, establishing the general bases for coordinating the faculty existing between the Federation, the states, the Federal District and municipalities, in addition to the participation of the social and private sectors; and

XXIX-K.- To issue laws on the matter of tourism, establishing the general bases for coordination of the faculties existing between the Federation, States, Municipalities and the Federal District, together with the participation of the social and private sectors.

XXX.- To issue all the laws which may be necessary for the purpose of makin the foregoing faculties effective, and all others granted by this Constitution to the Powers of the Union.

Article 74

The following are exclusive faculties of the Chamber of Deputies:

I.- To issue the Solemn Proclamation making known throughout the Republic the Statement of President-Elect made by the Electoral Tribunal of the Judicial Power of the Federation;

II.- To coordinate and evaluate, without prejudice to its technical and procedural autonomy, the performance of the Superior Control Agency of the Federation, in the terms provided by law;

III.- (Repealed)

IV. To annually examine, discuss and approve the Federal Expenditure Budget , first discussing the contributions which it considers necessary to cover same, and to review the Public Accounts for the preceding year.

The Federal Executive will ensure delivery to the chamber of the proposed Law on Revenue and the draft Federal Expenditure Budget by, at latest, the 15th of the month of November, or until the 15th of December when he takes office on the date provided in article 83, and the Minister of the corresponding Office must appear to render account of same.

There can be no secret entries, other than those considered necessary, in said Budget; which will be employed by the ministers by written agreement of the President of the Republic.

The purpose of the review of Public Accounts is to know the results of the financial handling, check that this has been in accordance with the criteria indicated in the Budget, and compliance with the objectives of the programs.

For review of the Public Accounts, the Chamber of Deputies will rely on the Superior Control Agency of the Federation. Should the examination made by the latter reveal discrepancies between the amounts corresponding to revenue or expenditure, as compared with the respective items and entries, or should no exactness or justification exist in the revenue obtained or expenses incurred, the responsibilities will be determined in accordance with Law.

The Public Accounts for the previous year should be presented to the Chamber of Deputies of the H. Congress of the Union within the first ten days of the month of June.

The term for presentation of the proposed Law on Revenue and the draft Federal Expenditure Budget, together with the Public Accounts, can only be extended upon the sufficiently justified request of the Executive, in the opinion of the Chamber or

the Permanent Commission, with the appearance in all cases of the Minister of the corresponding Office to report on the reasons giving rise to same;

V.- To declare whether or not criminal action is called for against public servants incurring in an offense, in the terms of article 111 of this Constitution.

To hear the accusations made against public servants to which article 110 f this Constitution refers, and to act as accusatory agency in any political action filed against them;

VI.- (repealed)

VII.- (repealed)

VIII.- Any others expressly conferred thereon under this Constitution.

Article 75

The Chamber of Deputies, on approving the Expenditure Budget, cannot omit indicating the reimbursement corresponding to an employment established by law; and, should the establishment of this reimbursement be omitted for any reason, the fixed in the previous Budget or in the law establishing the employment will be understood to apply.

Article 76

The following are exclusive powers of the Senate:

I. To study the foreign policy followed by the Federal Executive based on the annual reports rendered by the President of the Republic and the corresponding Minister to Congress; and, moreover, to approve international treaties and diplomatic conventions formalized by the Executive of the Union;

II.- To ratify the appointments made by the same officer of the Attorney General for the Republic, Ministers, diplomatic agents, Consuls General, higher employees of the Treasury, Colonels and other high officers of the National Army, Navy and Air Force, in the terms provided by law;

III.- To authorize it also to permit the departure of national troops outside the boundaries of the Country, the passage of foreign troops through national territory and the stationing of squadrons of another power, for more than one month, in Mexican waters;

IV.- To give its consent for the President of the Republic to dispose of the National Guard outside its respective States, fixing the necessary force;

V.- To declare, when all the constitutional powers of a State have disappeared, that the time has come to appoint a provisional governor, who will convene elections in accordance with the constitutional laws of the same state. The appointment of Governor will be made by the Senate on the proposal by the President of the Republic of three candidates, with the approval of two-thirds of the members present, and during recess, by the Permanent Commission in accordance with the same rules. The official thus named cannot be elected Constitutional Governor in elections held convened by him. This provision will govern always providing that the State constitutions do not provide for the situation.

VI.- To resolve on the political matters arising among the powers of a State when one of them appears before Congress for this purpose, or when, due to said matters, the constitutional order has been interrupted by armed conflict. In this case the Senate will dictate its resolution, subjecting this to the General Constitution of the Republic and that of the State;

Exercise of this and the previous faculty will be governed by law.

VII.- To set itself up as a sentencing Jury for hearing in a political action the misdemeanors or omissions committed by public servants which damage fundamental public interests and the good dispatch of same, in the terms of article 110 of this Constitution;

VIII.- To appoint the Justices of the Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation, from between three candidates submitted to its consideration by the President of the Republic, and to give or refusal approval of their requests for license or resignation submitted by said officer;

IX.- To appoint and remove the Head of the Federal District in the cases provided for in this Constitution;

X.- Any others attributed thereto by the Constitution.

Article 77

Each of the Chambers may, without the intervention of the other:

I.- Dictate economic resolutions with respect to its internal system;

II.- To communicate within the legislative Chamber and with the Executive of the Union, by means of internal commissions;

III.- To appoint the employees of its ministry and establish their internal regulations; and

IV.- To issue a convocation, within a period of 30 days counted as from the occurrence of the vacancy, for special elections to be held within the 90 days following, for the purpose of filling the vacancies among its members to which article 63 of this Constitution refers, in the case of vacancies or deputies and senators of the Congress of the Union, by the relative majority principle, unless the vacancy occurs within the final year of exercise of the corresponding legislator.

FOURTH SECTION THE PERMANENT COMMISSION

Article 78

During the recesses of the Congress of the Union there will be a Permanent Commission consisting of 37 members, of whom 19 will be Deputies and 18 Senators, appointed by their respective Chambers on the eve of closure of the ordinary periods of sessions. For each proprietary member the Chambers will appoint a substitute from among their members.

The Permanent Commission will have the following attributes, in addition to those expressly conferred thereon by this Constitution:

I.- To give its consent to the use of the National Guard in the cases mentioned in article 76, section IV;

II.- To receive, as applicable, the protest of the President of the Republic;

III.- To resolve the matters coming within its competence; to receive proposed laws and proposed addressed to the Chambers during the recess of the Congress of the Union, and pass them for resolution to the Commissions of the Chambers to which they are addressed, in order for them to be dealt with in the next period of sessions;

IV.- To resolve, directly or at the proposal of the Executive, on the convening of Congress or of a single Chamber to special sessions, the vote of two-thirds of the individuals present being necessary in both cases. The call will mention the purpose or purposes of the special sessions;

V.- To grant or refuse ratification of the appointment of the Attorney General for the Republic, submitted for approval by the Federal Executive;

VI.- To grant license to the President of the Republic for up to thirty days, and appoint the interim president to take his place during his absence;

VII.- To ratify the appointments made by the President of ministers, diplomatic agents, Consuls General, the higher employees of the Treasury, colonels and

other high-ranking officers of the National Army, Navy and Air Force, in the terms of law, and

VIII.- To hear and resolve on the requests for license presented thereto by the legislators.

SECTION V SUPERIOR CONTROL AGENCY OF THE FEDERATION

Article 79

The Superior Control agency of the Federation, of the Chamber of Deputies, will possess technical and procedural autonomy in the exercise of its attributes and to resolve on its internal organization, working and resolutions, in the terms provided by law.

This superior control agency of the Federation will be responsible for:

I.- To subsequently control revenue and expenditures; the handling, custody and application of the funds and resources of the Powers of the Union and of federal public entities, and to comply with the objectives contained in the federal programs, through the reports to be rendered thereto in the terms of law.

It will also control the federal resources exercised by the federative entities, the municipalities and private individuals.

Without prejudice to the reports to which the first paragraph of this section refers, in the special cases determined by law, it can require the subjects of control to review the items it considers pertinent and to return a report thereto. Should these requirements not be attended to in the periods and terms indicated by law, this can lead to the placement of the corresponding responsibilities.

II.- To deliver the report on the results of reviewing the Public Accounts of the Chamber of Deputies by, at latest, March 31st of the year following their presentation. Included in this report will be the opinions on its review and the section corresponding to control and verification of compliance with the programs, including the comments and observations of those audited, which will be of a public nature.

The superior control agency of the Federation should refrain from comment on its performance and observations until it renders the reports to which this article refers; the law will establish the penalties applicable to those violating this provision.

III.- To investigate the acts or omissions implying any irregularity or unlawful conduct in the entry, outlay, handling, custody and application of federal funds and

resources, and make visits to domicile for the sole purpose of requiring exhibition of the books, papers or files essential for carrying out its investigations, subjecting itself to the laws and formalities established for inspections, and

IV.- To determine the damages and losses affecting the Federal Public Treasury or the net worth of federal public entities and place directly on those responsible the corresponding pecuniary penalties and indemnities, as well as to promote before the competent authorities the placing of other responsibilities; to promote the acts of responsibility to which the Fourth Title of this Constitution refers, and to file criminal denunciations and accusations, in which procedures it will have the intervention indicated by law.

The Chamber of Deputies will appoint the head of the control agency by the vote of two-third of its members present. The law will determine the procedure for his appointment. Said person will remain in office for eight years and can be reappointed once only. He can only be removed for the serious motives indicated by law by the same voting required for his appointment, or for the reasons and in accordance with the procedures provided in the Fourth Title of this Constitution.

To be the head of the superior control agency of the Federation one must comply, in addition to the requirements mentioned in article 95, sections I, II, IV, V and VI of this Constitution, with those indicated by law. During his exercise of office he cannot form part of any political party, nor hold any other employment, charge or commission, except for unremunerated work in scientific, teaching, artistic or charity associations.

The Powers of the Union and those subject to control will facilitate the assistance required by the superior control agency of the Federation in the exercise of its functions.

Federal Executive Power will apply the administrative procedure of execution for collecting the pecuniary penalties and indemnities to which section IV of the present article refers.

CHAPTER III

Executive power

Article 80

Exercise of the Supreme Executive Power of the Union will be deposited in a single individual, who will be called "President of the United Mexican States".

Article 81

Election of the President will be direct and in the terms provided by the electoral law.

Article 82

In order to be President, it is necessary:

- I.- To be a Mexican citizen by birth, in the full enjoyment of his rights, the son of a Mexican father or mother, and have resided in the country for at least twenty years.
- II.- To have attained the age of 35 years at the time of the election ;
- III.- To have resided in the country for the entire year prior to the election. Absence from the country for up to thirty days will not interrupt the residence.
- IV.- Not to belong to the ecclesiastic state nor be the minister of any cult;
- V.- Not to be on active service, should he belong to the Army, six months prior to the date of the election.
- VI.- Not to be a minister or under minister of the State, head or secretary general of an Administrative Department, Attorney General of the Republic nor Governor of a State, unless he relinquishes his post six months prior to the date of the election; and
- VII.- Not to come under any of the reasons for incapacity established in article 83.

Article 83

The President will begin to exercise office on December 1st and will remain therein for six years. Any citizen who has held the office of President of the Republic, popularly elected or as interim, provisional or substitute President, can under no conditions and for no reason hold this position again.

Article 84

In the case of a formal absence of the President of the Republic occurring during the first two years of the respective period, if Congress is in session it will immediately form itself into an Electoral College and, with the attendance of at least two-thirds of its total number of members, will appoint an interim president by secret vote and by an absolute majority; the same Congress will summon to voting, within ten days following the appointment of the interim president, for the election of a president to conclude the respective period; with a period elapsing of not less than fourteen months nor more than eighteen between the date of such summons and that indicated for the holding of the elections.

Should Congress not be in session, the Permanent Commission will immediately appoint a provisional president and convene Congress to special sessions in order

for the latter, in turn, to name an interim president and issue the respective call to presidential elections in the terms of the preceding paragraph.

When the President's absence occurs during the last four years of the respective period, should the Congress of the Union be in session it will appoint the substitute president to conclude the period; should Congress not be in session, the Permanent Commission will appoint a provisional president and summon the Congress of the Union to special sessions in order for it to establish itself as an Electoral College and elect the substitute president.

Article 85

If, at commencement of the constitutional period, the present elect should fail to present himself, or if the election had not been completed and declared on December 1, the president whose period has concluded will, in any case, cease in office, and the interim President appointed by the Congress of the Union or, in his absence and as provisional president, that appointed by the Permanent Commission, will take charge of the Executive Power in accordance with the provisions of the preceding article.

When the absence of the president is temporary, the Congress of the Union, if in session or, in its defect, the Permanent Commission, will appoint an interim president to take charge for the duration of said absence.

When the absence of the president is for more than thirty days and the Congress of the union is not in session, the Permanent Commission will summon Congress to special sessions in order for the latter to resolve on the license and appoint, as applicable, the interim president.

If the absence from temporary becomes permanent, the provisions of the previous article will apply.

Article 86

The office of President of the Republic can only be resigned for a serious motive to be classified by the Congress of the Union, before the one to present the resignation.

Article 87

The President, on taking office, will take the following protest before the Congress of the Union or before the Permanent Commission, in the recesses of the former: "I protest that I will keep and ensure the keeping of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States and the laws emanating therefrom, and to perform loyally and patriotically the office of President of the Republic which has been conferred on me by the people, looking in all things for the good and prosperity of the Union; and should I fail to do so, let the Nation demand it of me".

Article 88

The President of the Republic cannot abandon national territory without the permission of the Congress of the Union or, as applicable, the Permanent Commission.

Article 89

The faculties and obligations of the President are the following:

I.- To promulgate and implement the laws issued by the Congress of the Union, ensuring their exact observance in the administrative sphere;

II.- To freely appoint and remove the ministers of office, remove diplomatic agents and high Treasury employees, and freely name and remove the other employees of the Union whose appointment or removal is not otherwise determined in the Constitution or by law;

III.- To appoint the ministers, diplomatic agents and Consuls General, with the approval of the Senate;

IV.- To name, with the approval of the Senate, the Colonels and other high-ranking officers of the National Army, Navy and Air Force, and the higher employees of the Treasury;

V.- To appoint the other officers of the National Army, Navy and Air Force in accordance with law;

VI.- To dispose of the entire permanent armed forces, that is of the land army, navy and air force, for the internal security and exterior defense of the Federation;

VII.- To dispose of the National Guard for the same purposes, in the terms provided by article 76, section IV;

VIII.- To declare war in the name of the United Mexican States, following a law by the Congress of the Union;

IX.- To appoint the Attorney General of the Republic, with the ratification of the Senate;

X.- To direct external policy and formalize international treaties, submitting these to the approval of the Senate. In following said policy, the person in charge of Executive Power will observe the following standard principles: the self-determination of peoples; that of no intervention the pacific resolution of controversies; the proscription of threats or the use of force in international relations; the legal equality of States; international cooperation for development; and the fight for international peace and security.

XI.- To summon the Congress to special sessions, when so resolved by the Permanent Commission;

XII.- To provide Judicial Power with the assistance it needs for a prompt exercise of its functions;

XIII.- To equip all kinds of ports, establish maritime and border customs, and decide on their location;

XIV.- To grant, according to law, pardon to prisoners sentenced for crimes coming within the competence of the Federal courts and those sentenced for civil offenses in the Federal District;

XV.- To grant exclusive privileges for a limited period, in accordance with the respective law, to the discoverers, inventors or improvers of any branch of industry;

XVI.- When the Chamber of Senators is not in session, the President of the Republic can make the appointments mentioned in sections III, IV and IX, with the approval of the Permanent Commission;

XVII.- (repealed)

XVIII.- To present to the consideration of the Senate three candidates for the appointment of Justices of the Supreme Court of Justice and submit their licenses and resignations to the approval of the Senate;

XIX.- (repealed)

XX.- The others expressly conferred by this Constitution.

Article 90

Federal Public Administration will be centralized and semi-state according to the Organic Law issued by the Congress, which will distribute the administrative business of the Federation entrusted to the Ministries of State and Administrative Departments, and define the general bases for creation of the semi-state entities and the intervention of the Federal Executive in their operation.

The relationship between the semi-state entities and the Federal Executive, or between the latter and the Ministries of State and Administrative Departments, will be regulated by law.

Article 91

To be a Minister of State, one must be a Mexican citizen by birth, in full exercise of one's rights and be thirty years of age or over.

Article 92

All Regulations, Decrees, Resolutions and Orders of the President should be signed by the Minister of State or Head of the Administrative Department to which the matter corresponds, without which they cannot be implemented.

Article 93

The Ministers of Office and Heads of the Administrative Departments will render account of the status of their respective spheres to Congress, following the opening of the period of regular sessions.

Either of the Chambers may require the ministries of state, the Attorney General for the Republic, the heads of the administrative departments and the directors and administrators of federal semi-state entities or companies with a predominantly-State participation, to report when a law is discussed or a matter studied coming within their respective fields or activities.

The Chambers, at the request of one-fourth of their members in the case of the deputies, and of half, in the case of the Senators, are empowered to form commissions to investigate the working of said semi-state entities and companies with a predominantly-State participation. The results of the investigations will be reported to the Federal Executive.

CHAPTER IV Judicial power

Article 94

Exercise of the Judicial Power of the Federation is deposited in a Supreme Court of Justice, in an Electoral Tribunal, in Collegiate and Unitary Circuit Courts and in District Courts.

The management, surveillance and discipline of the Judicial Power of the Federation, with the exception of the Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation, will be entrusted to the Council of the Federal Judicature in the terms established bylaw, in accordance with the bases indicated by this Constitution.

The Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation will consist of eleven Justices, and will function in Full Session or in Chambers.

In the terms disposed by law, the sessions of the Full Court and Chambers will be public and, by exception, secret, in the cases when this is called for by morals or public interest.

The competence of the Supreme Court, the working of same in Full Session and Chambers, the competent of the Circuit Courts, of the District Courts and of the

Electoral Tribunal, together with the responsibilities incurred by the public servants of the Judicial Power of the Federation, will be governed by the provisions of law, in accordance with the grounds established by this Constitution.

The Council of the Federal Judicature will determine the number, division in circuits, territorial competence and, as applicable, specialization by subject matter, of the Collegiate and Unitary Circuit Courts and of the District Courts.

A Full Session of the Supreme Court of Justice will be empowered to issue general resolutions, for the purpose of achieving an adequate distribution between the Chambers of matters to be heard by the Court, and to remit to the Collegiate Circuit Courts, for a greater speed in dispatching the matters involved, those in which jurisprudence has been established or where, under said resolutions, the court itself determined for a better distribution of justice. These resolutions will come into force upon their publication.

The law will fix the terms under which the jurisprudence established by the Tribunals of the Judicial Power of the Federation over interpretation of the Constitution, laws and federal or local regulations and treaties formalized by the Mexican State is obligatory, together with the requirements for their interruption and amendment.

The remuneration received for their services by the Justices of the Supreme Court, the Circuit Magistrates, the District Judges and the Members of the Federal Judicature, together with the Electoral Magistrates, cannot be lowered during their term of office.

The Justices of the Supreme Court of Justice will remain in office for fifteen years, and can only be removed in the terms of the Fourth Title of this Constitution and, upon the expiry of their period, will be entitled to a retirement pension.

No-one who has been a Justice can be appointed for a new period, unless they have taken office with a provisional or interim nature.

Article 95

In order to be elected a Justice of the Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation, it is necessary:

- I.- To be a Mexican citizen by birth, in full exercise of his political and civil rights;
- II.- To be at least thirty-five years of age on the day of the appointment;

III.- To hold on the day of the appointment, with a minimum antiquity of ten years, the professional title of attorney-at-law, issued by an authority or institution legally empowered for such purpose;

IV.- To enjoy a good reputation and not to have been sentenced for an offense incurring corporal punishment of over one year's imprisonment; but in the case of theft, fraud, forgery, abuse of confidence and others which seriously damage good repute in the eyes of the public, he will be disqualified from office whatever punishment was imposed;

V.- Have resided in the country for the two years prior to the appointment; and

VI.- Not to have been a Minister of State, head of an administrative department, Attorney General of the Republic or for Justice of the Federal District, senator, Federal deputy nor the governor of any State nor Head of the Federal District, during the year to the date of his appointment.

The appointments of Justices should fall preferably among those persons who have served with efficiency, capacity and probity in the distribution of justice, or who have distinguished themselves for their honesty, competence and professional antecedents in the exercise of juridical activities.

Article 96

To appoint Justices of the Supreme Court of Justice, the President of the Republic will submit three candidates for consideration to the Senate which, after the appearance of the persons proposed, will appoint the Justice to fill the vacancy. Appointment will take place by the vote of two-thirds of the members of the Senate present, within a thirty-day term which cannot be extended. Should the Senate fail to resolve within said term, the office of Justice will be occupied by the person who, within said three candidates, is named by the President of the Republic.

Should the Chamber of Senators reject all of the candidates proposed, the President of the Republic will submit another three candidates, in the terms of the preceding paragraph. Should these three candidates be rejected, the office will be occupied by the person who, within said three candidates, is named by the President of the Republic.

Article 97

The Circuit Magistrates and District Judges will be appointed and attached by the Council of the Federal Judicature, based on objective criticism and in accordance with the requirements and procedures established by law. They will remain in exercise of office for six years, upon the termination of which, if ratified or promoted to a higher office, they can only be deprived of their positions in the cases and in accordance with the procedures established by law.

The Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation can appoint one or more of its members or any District Judge or Circuit Magistrate, or name one or several special commissioners, when it so considers this convenient or should the Federal Executive or one of the Chambers of the Congress of the Union s request, or the Governor of a State, solely to investigate a fact or facts which represent a serious violation of an individual guaranty. It can also ask the Council of the Federal Judicature to investigate the conduct of a Federal judge or magistrate.

The Supreme Court of Justice is empowered to officially investigate any fact or facts representing a violation of the popular vote, but only in the cases where, in its judgment, the legality of the entire election process of one of the Powers of the Union may be jeopardized. The results of the investigation will be opportunely delivered to the competent authorities.

The Supreme Court of Justice will appoint and remove its secretary and other officers and employees. The Magistrates and judges will appoint and remove the respective officers and employees of the Circuit Courts and District Courts, in accordance with legal provisions on the judicial career.

Every four years, the Full Court will elect the President of the Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation from among its members, who cannot be reelected for the immediately following period.

Each Justice of the Supreme Court of Justice, on taking office, will protest before the Senate in the following form:

President: "Do you protest to loyally and patriotically perform the office of Justice of the Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation which has been conferred on you, and to keep and ensure the keeping of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States and the laws emanating therefrom, looking in all things for the good and prosperity of the Union/'

Justice: "Yes, I do so protest".

President: " Should you fail in your task, the Nation will demand it of you".

The Circuit Magistrates and District Judges will render protest before the Supreme Court of Justice and the Council of the Federal Judicature.

Article 98

When a Justice is absent for more than one month, the President of the Republic will submit the appointment of an interim Justice to the approval of the Senate, in accordance with the provisions of article 96 of this Constitution.

Should a Justice be absent by death or any formal motive for separation, the President will submit a new appointment to the approval of the Senate, in the terms of article 96 of this Constitution.

Resignations of the Justices of the Supreme Court of Justice will only be acceptable for serious motives; they will be submitted to the Executive and, if accepted by the latter, will be forwarded for approval to the Senate.

The licenses of Justices, when not exceeding one month, can be granted by the Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation; those which exceed this time can be granted by the President of the Republic with the approval of the Senate. No license can exceed the period of two years.

Article 99

The Electoral Tribunal will, with the exception of the contents of article 105, section II of this Constitution, be the maximum jurisdictional authority on the subject and the specialized agency of the Judicial Power of the Federation.

For the exercise of its attributes, the Tribunal will function with a Superior Chamber and Regional Chambers, and its sessions for resolutions will be public, in the terms determined by law. It will have the juridical and administrative personnel necessary for adequate working.

The Superior Chamber will consist of seven Electoral Magistrates. The President of the Tribunal will be elected by the Superior Chamber from among its members, to hold office for four years.

The Electoral Tribunal is responsible for formally and conclusively resolving, in the terms of this Constitution and of the Law, on:

- I.- Any objections in the federal elections of deputies and senators;
- II.- Any objections filed on the election of President of the United Mexican States, which will be resolved at a single instance by the Superior Chamber;

The Superior Chamber will carry out the final count in the election of the President of the United Mexican States, once resolved, as applicable, any objections against same, proceeding to formulate the declaration of validity of the election and that of the President Elect with respect to the candidate obtaining the higher number of votes;

- III.- The objections to acts and resolutions of the Federal electoral authority, other than those indicated in the two preceding sections, which violate constitutional or legal norms;

IV.- The objections to formal and firm acts or resolutions of the competent authorities of federative entities to organize and classify the elections or resolve the controversies arising during same, which can determine development of the respective process or the final result of the elections. This channel will only apply when the requested repair is materially and legally possible within the electoral terms, and feasible before the constitutional date legally fixed for the installation of the agencies or formal possession of the appointed functionaries;

V.- The objections to acts and resolutions which violate the political electoral rights of the citizens to vote and be voted for, and of free and pacific affiliation to take part in the political affairs of the country, in the terms indicated by this Constitution and the laws;

VI.- Labor conflicts or differences between the Tribunal and its servants;

VII.- Labor conflicts or differences between the Federal Electoral Institute and its servants;

VIII.- The determination or imposition of penalties in the matter; and

IX.- Any others indicated by law.

When a Chamber of the Electoral Tribunal maintains a thesis on the unconstitutionality of any act or resolution, or on the interpretation of a precept of this Constitution, and said thesis can be contradictory to one maintained by the Chambers or a Full Session of the Supreme Court of Justice, any of the Justices, the Chambers or the parties can denounce the contradiction, in the terms indicated by law, in order for a Full Session of the Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation to formally decide which thesis should prevail. Any resolutions dictated in this case will not affect matters already resolved.

The organization of the Tribunal, the competency of the Chambers, the procedures for resolving the matters coming within its competency, together with the mechanisms for establishing obligatory jurisprudence criteria in the matter, will be those determined by this Constitution and the laws.

The management, surveillance and discipline of the Electoral Tribunal will correspond, in the terms of law, to a Commission of the Council of the Federal Judicature, consisting of the President of the Electoral Tribunal, who will preside; an Electoral Magistrate the Superior Chamber appointed by ballot; and three members of the Council of the Federal Judicature. The Tribunal will propose its budget to the President of the Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation for inclusion in the draft Budget for the Judicial Power of the Federation. Likewise, the Tribunal will issue its Internal Regulations and the general resolutions for its suitable working.

The Electoral Magistrates forming the Superior Chamber will be elected by the vote of two thirds of the members of the Chamber of Senators present or, in its recesses, by the Permanent Commission, at the proposal of the Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation. The law will indicate the corresponding rules and procedure.

The Electoral Magistrates forming the Superior Chamber must satisfy the requirements established by law, which cannot be fewer than those required to be a Justice of the Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation, and will remain in office for ten years, which cannot be extended. The resignations, absences and licenses of Electoral Magistrates of the Superior Chamber will be processed, covered and granted by said Chamber, as applicable, in the terms of article 98 of this Constitution.

The Electoral Magistrates forming the regional chambers must satisfy the requirements indicated by law, which cannot be fewer than those required to be a Magistrate of the Collegiate Circuit Court. They will remain in office for eight years, which cannot be extended, unless they are promoted to a higher position

The personnel of the Tribunal will govern its working relations in accordance with the provisions applicable to the Judicial Power of the Federation and to the special rules ad exceptions indicated by law..

Article 100

The Council of the Federal Judicature will be an agency of the Judicial Power of the Federation having technical and administrative independence, and to issue resolutions.

The Council will consist of seven members, of whom one will be the President of the Supreme Court of Justice, who will also be President of the Council; three Members appointed by the Court in full session from among the Circuit Magistrates and District Judges, by a majority of at least eight votes; two Members named by the Senate, and one by the President of the Republic.

All Members must meet the requirements listed in article 95 of this Constitution, and be persons outstanding for their professional and administrative capacity, honesty and honorability in the exercise of their activities. In the case of those appointed by the Supreme Court, they must also be recognized in the judicial field.

The Council will function in Full Session or in commissions. Full Sessions will resolve on the appointment, ascription, ratification and removal of magistrates and judges, and on the other matters determined by law.

Except for the President of the Council, the remaining Members will remain in office for five years, will be replaced at regular intervals and cannot be appointed for a new period.

The Members will not represent those appointing them, and will therefore exercise their duties with independence and impartiality. During their term in office, they can only be removed in the terms of the Fourth Title of this Constitution.

The law will provide the bases for the formation and updating of officials, and for development of the judicial career, which will be governed by the principles of excellence, objectivity, impartiality, professionalism and independence.

As provided by law, the Council will be empowered to issue general resolutions for suitably carrying out their duties. The Supreme Court of Justice can ask the Council to issue such general resolutions as it considers necessary to ensure a suitable exercise of the Federal jurisdictional function. The Court in Full Session can also review and, as applicable, revoke those approved by the Council, by a majority of at least eight votes. The law will establish the terms and procedures for exercising these functions.

Council decisions will be final and inviolable and, therefore, will not be subject to a judgment or appeal of any kind against same, except for those referring to the appointment, ascription, ratification and removal of magistrates and judges, which can be reviewed by the Supreme Court of Justice for the sole purpose of verifying that they have been adopted according to the rules established by the respective organic law.

The Supreme Court of Justice will prepare its own budget, while the Council will do so for the rest of the Judicial Power of the Federation, without prejudice to the provisions of article 9, seventh paragraph of this Constitution. The budgets prepared in this way will be remitted by the President of the Supreme Court for inclusion in the draft Expenditure Budget of the Federation. The administration of the Supreme Court of Justice corresponds to its President.

Article 101

The Justices of the Supreme Court of Justice, Circuit Magistrates, District Judges, the respective secretaries and the Members of the Federal Judicature, in conjunction with the Magistrates of the Superior Chamber of the Electoral Tribunal, cannot under any circumstances accept nor hold any employment or commission of the Federation, of the States, of the Federal District or of private individuals, except for unpaid offices in scientific, teaching, literary or charitable associations.

Persons who have accepted the office of Justice of the Supreme Court of Justice, Circuit Magistrate, District Judge or Member of the Federal Judicature, together with Magistrate of the Superior Chamber of the Electoral Tribunal, will be unable,

during the two years following the date of their retirement, to act as sponsors, attorneys or representatives in any procedure before the agencies of the Judicial Power of the Federation.

During this term, persons who have held the office of Justice, except in a provisional or interim nature, cannot occupy the positions indicated in article 95, section VI, of this Constitution.

The impediments listed in this article will also apply to the judicial officers under license.

Any violation of the contents of the preceding paragraphs will be penalized by loss of the respective office within the Judicial Power of the Federation, and of the payments and benefits corresponding subsequently to same, apart from any other penalties applicable by law.

Article 102

A.- The Police Department of the Federation will be organized by law, and its officers appointed and removed by the Executive in accordance with the respective law. The Police Department of the Federation will be presided over by an Attorney General for the Republic appointed by the Holder of the Federal Executive and ratified by the Senate or, during the recesses thereof, by the Permanent Commission. To be an Attorney General it is necessary: to be a Mexican citizen by birth, to be at least thirty five years of age on the day of the appointment; to have a minimum seniority of ten years, with a professional title of attorney-at-law; to enjoy a good reputation, and not to have been sentenced for fraudulent practices. The attorney general can be freely removed by the Executive.

The Police Department of the Federation is responsible, before the courts, for the persecution of all offenses of a Federal nature; and is also responsible for requesting warrants of arrest against suspects; looking for and presenting the evidence verifying the latter's guilt; to ensure that lawsuits are regularly processed in order for the administration of justice to be swift and expeditious; to request application of the penalties and intervene in all business determined by law.

The Attorney General for the Republic will personally intervene in the controversies and actions to which article 10 of this Constitution refers.

In all business to which the Federation is a party, in the case of diplomats and Consul Generals and such others in which the Police Department of the Federation should intervene, the Attorney General will do so either directly or through his agents.

The Attorney General for the Republic and his agents will be responsible for any breach, omission or violation of the law in which they incur by reason of their functions.

The office of Government juridical advisor will be entrusted to the Federal Executive established by law for this purpose.

B.- The Congress of the Union and the legislatures of the federative entities will, within their respective spheres of competence, establish human rights agencies covering the Mexican legal order, which will hear complaints against acts or omissions of an administrative nature made by any authority or public servant, excepting those of the Judicial Power of the Federation, which violate these rights.

The entities to which the preceding paragraph refers will prepare public, not obligatory, recommendations, and denunciations and complaints before the respective authorities.

These entities will not be competent in the case of electoral, labor and jurisdictional matters.

The agency established by the Congress of the Union will be entitled the National Human Rights Commission, and will possess procedural and budgetary autonomy, legal capacity and its own capital.

The National Commission on Human Rights will possess an Advisory Board consisting of ten directors elected by the vote of two thirds of the members present of the Chamber of Senators or, during its recesses, by the Permanent Commission of the Congress of the Union, with the same qualifying vote. The law will determine the steps to be taken for presentation of the proposals directly by the Chamber. The two directors having most seniority in office will be replaced annually, unless proposed and ratified for a second period.

The President of the National Commission on Human Rights, who will also be that of the Advisory Committee, will be elected in the same terms of the preceding paragraph. He will be elected for five years, can be re-elected once only, and can only be removed from office in the terms of the Fourth Title of this Constitution.

The President of the National Commission on Human Rights will present a report on activities annually to the Powers of the Union. For this purpose, he will appear before the Chambers of Congress in the terms provided by law.

The National Human Rights Commission will hear any dissenting opinions filed in connection with the recommendations, resolutions or omissions of equivalent agencies in the federative entities.

Article 103

The tribunals of the Federation will resolve any controversy arising:

- I.- From laws or acts of the authorities which violate individual guaranties;
- II.- From laws or acts of the federal authorities which infringe or restrict the sovereignty of the States or the sphere of competence of the Federal District, and
- III.- From laws or acts of the authorities of the States or Federal District which invade the sphere of competence of the federal authorities.

Article 104

The tribunals of the Federation will be responsible for hearing:

- I.- All controversies of a civil or criminal nature arising on the compliance with, and application of, Federal laws or international treaties formalized by the Mexican State. When these controversies solely affect private interests, they can also hear these, at the election of the complainant, the judges and civil equity courts of the States and the Federal District. Sentences of the first instance can be appealed before the immediate superior of the judge hearing the first stage of the matter;
- I-B.- Appeals for review filed against the formal resolutions of administrative courts to which article 73, section XXIX-H, and article 122, section IV, insert e), of this Constitution refer, solely in the cases indicated by law. The reviews, to be heard by the Collegiate Circuit Courts, will be subject to the processes established by the regulatory law on articles 103 and 107 of this Constitution for review in indirect actions for relief ("amparo") , and no process or appeal whatsoever can be filed against the resolutions returned thereon by the Collegiate Circuit Courts;
- II.- All controversies arising on maritime law;
- III.- Those to which the Federation is a party;
- IV.- the controversies and procedures to which article 105 refers, which can only be heard by the Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation;
- V.- Those arising between a State and one or residents of another;
- VI.- Cases arising in connection with members of the Diplomatic and Consular Corps.

Article 105

The Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation will, in the terms of the regulatory law, hear the following matters:

I.- Any constitutional controversies, except those referring to electoral matters, arising between:

a).- The Federation and a State or the Federal District;

b).- The Federation and a municipality;

c).- The Executive Power and the Congress of the Union; the former and any of the Chambers of the latter or, as applicable, the Permanent Commission, whether as federal agencies or for the Federal District;

d).- One State and another;

e).- A State and the Federal District;

f).- The Federal District and a municipality;

g).- Two municipalities of different States;

h).- Two powers of the same State, on the constitutionality of their acts or on general provisions;

i).- A State and one of its municipalities, on the constitutionality of their acts or on general provisions;

j).- A State and a municipality of another State, on the constitutionality of their acts or on general provisions;

k).- Two government agencies of the Federal District, on the constitutionality of their acts or on general provisions;

Whenever controversies arise on general provisions of the States or of the municipalities impugned by the Federation, of the municipalities impugned by the States, or in the cases to which inserts c), h) and k) above refer, and a resolution emitted by the Supreme Court of Justice declares these invalid, said resolution will have general effects when approved by a majority of at least eight votes.

In other cases, the resolutions of the Supreme Court of Justice will have effect solely with respect to the parties in the controversy.

II.- On actions involving unconstitutionality, the purpose of which is to establish a possible contradiction between a general rule and this Constitution.

Actions on unconstitutionality can be exercised within the thirty calendar days following the publication date of the rule, by:

- a).- The equivalent of thirty-three percent of the members of the Chamber of Deputies of the Congress of the Union, against federal laws or those of the Federal District, issued by the Congress of the Union;
- b).- The equivalent of thirty-three percent of the members of the Senate, against Federal laws or those of the Federal District, issued by the Congress of the Union, or international treaties formalized by the Mexican State;
- c).- The Attorney General for the Republic, against laws of a federal or state nature and those of the Federal District, together with international treaties formalized by the Mexican State;
- d).- The equivalent of thirty three percent of the members of any of the State legislative entities, against laws issued by said entity; and
- e).- The equivalent of thirty three percent of the members of the Assembly of Representatives for the Federal District, against laws issued by said Assembly, and
- f).- Political parties registered with the Federal Electoral Institute, through their national leaders, against electoral federal or local laws; and political parties with State registration, through their leaders, exclusively against electoral laws issued by the legislative entity of the State ranting them registration.

The only channel for presenting the nonconformity of electoral laws with the Constitution is that provided in this article.

Electoral federal and local laws should be promulgated and published at least ninety days prior to commencement of the electoral process in which they will be applied, and during same no fundamental legal amendments can be made.

The resolutions of the Supreme Court of Justice can solely declare the invalidity of the rules impugned, always providing they were approved by a majority of at least eight votes.

III.- Officially or on a duly-based petition of the corresponding Unitary Circuit Court or of the Attorney General for the Republic, it can hear appeals against sentences returned by District Judges in matters to which the Federation is a party and which, due to their importance and transcendental interest, merit same.

The declaration of invalidity of resolutions to which sections I and II of this article refer will not have retroactive effects, except in criminal matters, in which the general principles and legal provisions applicable to this subject will govern.

In the event of default on the resolutions to which sections I and II of this article refer, the procedures laid down in the first two paragraphs of article 107, section XVI of this Constitution will be applied, as applicable.

Article 106

The Judicial Power of the Federation will be responsible, in the terms of the respective law, for settling the controversies arising on matters of competence between the Courts of the Federation, between these and those of the States or Federal District, between those of one State and those of another, or between those of a State and those of the Federal District.

Article 107

All the controversies mentioned in Article 103 will be subject to the procedures and forms of a legal nature determined by law, in accordance with the following:

I.- An action for relief (“amparo”) will always be followed at the instance of the injured party;

II.- The sentence will be such that it only concerns private individuals, limiting itself to relieving them and protecting them in the special case dealt with in the complaint, without making a general statement with respect to the law or action giving rise to same;

A deficiency in the claim should be supplemented in accordance with the provisions of the Regulatory Law on Articles 103 and 107 of this Constitution, in the case of actions for relief.

When acts are protested the consequence of which is or could be to deprive common lands, or the population nuclei which in fact or by right have a communal status, or common or communal land holders, of the ownership or possession and enjoyment of their lands, waters, pasturelands and woodlands, all proofs which could benefit the entities or individuals mentioned should be officially gathered and the formalities considered necessary resolved to specify their agrarian rights, together with the nature and effects of the acts protested.

In the lawsuits to which the preceding paragraph refers, neither dismissal for procedural inactivity nor the elapse of the instance will apply to the prejudice of the common or communal land nuclei or of the common or communal land holders, but one or the other can be decreed to their benefit. Nor will withdrawal or the express consent of said acts apply when acts are reclaimed which affect the collective rights of the nuclei, unless the first is resolved by the General Assembly or the latter emanates therefrom.

III.- When acts by judicial, administrative or labor tribunals are protested, actions for relief will only apply in the following cases:

a) against formal sentences or findings and resolutions which conclude the case, with respect to which no ordinary appeal by which they can be amended or modified applies, whether the violation is committed in same or when, committed during the proceedings, affects the defense of the complainant, extending the result of the award; always providing that in civil matters the violation has been impugned in the course of the proceedings, by means of a regular appeal established by law and invoked as a tort in the second instance, if committed in the first. These requirements will not be necessary in an action for relief against sentences returned in controversies on civil status actions or which affect the order and stability of the family.

b).- Against acts in the process of trial the implementation of which it is impossible to repair, out of court or upon conclusion, once the applicable resources have been exhausted, and

c).- Against acts affecting persons alien to the proceedings.

IV.- In administrative matters, actions for relief are also applicable against resolutions giving rise to irreparable injury under a recourse, proceedings or legal defense media. It will not be necessary to exhaust these when the law establishing same demands, to suspend the objected action, requirements exceeding those provided in the Regulatory Law on Actions for Relief as a condition to decree said suspension;

V.- Actions for relief against formal sentences or findings and resolutions which conclude the action, whether the violation occurs during the proceedings or in the sentence itself, will be filed before the corresponding collegiate circuit court, in accordance with the distribution of competences established by the Organic Law on the Judicial Power of the Federation, in the following cases:

a).- In criminal matters, against resolutions returned by the judicial courts, whether federal, civil equity or military;

b.- In administrative matters, when individuals object to formal sentences and resolutions terminating the action returned by administrative or judicial courts, which cannot be remedied under a recourse, lawsuit or ordinary means of legal defense.

c).- In civil matters, when objections are brought against formal sentences dictated in actions of a federal nature or mercantile actions, whether the authority dictating the sentence is federal or local, or in civil equity actions.

In civil actions of a federal nature sentences can be protested under actions for relief by either of the parties, even by the Federation, in defense of their capital interests, and

d).- In labor matters, when objections are filed against findings dictated by local Boards or the Federal Conciliation and Arbitration Board or by the Federal Conciliation and Arbitration Tribunal of Workers at the Service of the State.

The Supreme Court of Justice, either officially or on a well-founded petition by the corresponding Collegiate Circuit Court, or by the Attorney General for the Republic, can hear direct actions for relief which so merit due to their interest and importance.

VI.- In the cases to which the foregoing section refers, the regulatory law on articles 103 and 107 of this Constitution will indicate the process and terms to which the collegiate circuit courts and, as applicable, the Supreme Court of Justice, should submit themselves, for dictating their respective resolutions;

VII.- Actions for relief against actions in court, out of court or following conclusion, or which affect persons alien to the proceedings, against laws or against acts of administrative authority, will be filed before the District Judge within whose jurisdiction the action in question took place or was attempted, and processing will be limited to the official report, to a hearing to which a summons will be issued in the same ruling in which the report was ordered, the evidence offered by the interested parties will be received and allegations heard, sentence being returned at the same hearing;

VIII.- The sentences returned on matters of relief by District Judges or Unitary Circuit Courts will be subject to review. The Supreme Court of Justice will hear these:

a).- When federal or local laws, international treaties, regulations issued by the President of the Republic in accordance with Article 89, section I of this Constitution and regulations to local laws issued by the governors of the States or by the Head of the Federal District, have been impugned in the claim for relief on the grounds that they directly violate this Constitution, the problem of constitutionality subsists in the appeal;

b).- When the cases covered by article 13, sections II and III of this Constitution, are considered;

The Supreme Court of Justice, either officially or at a well-founded request by the corresponding Collegiate Circuit Court, can hear actions for relief in review which so merit due to their interest and importance.

In the cases not provided for under the preceding paragraphs, the collegiate circuit courts will hear the review, and no appeal whatsoever can be brought against their sentences;

IX.- The resolutions returned on direct actions for relief by the Collegiate Circuit Courts admit no recourse, unless they resolve on the unconstitutionality of a law or establish a direct interpretation of a precept of the Constitution the resolution of which, in the judgment of the Supreme Court of Justice and in accordance with general understanding, cover the establishment of an important and transcendental criterion. Only under this hypothesis will a review by the Supreme Court of Justice apply, limiting the subject matter of the appeal exclusively to resolution of matters directly related to the Constitution;

X.- Acts reclaimed can be the object of suspension in the cases and under the conditions and guaranties determined by law, for which purpose the nature of the alleged violation, the difficulty of repairing the damages and losses which the victim could suffer through its implementation, those to which the suspension gives rise for affected third parties, and public interests will be taken into consideration.

Said suspension should be granted with respect to formal sentences on criminal matters upon notification of the filing of an action for relief and, in civil matters, by means of a bonds given by the complainant to respond for the damages and losses said suspension involves, which will be null and void should the other party provide a back bond to ensure replacement of things to their previous state if the relief is granted, and to pay the corresponding damages and losses;

XI.- Suspension will be requested before the responsible authority in the case of direct actions for relief filed before the Collegiate Circuit Courts, and the responsible authority will itself resolve in this connection. In all cases the injured party should file the claim for relief before said responsible authority, attaching copies of the complaint for the other parties to the action, including the Police Department, and a copy for file. In all other cases, the District Courts or the Unitary Circuit Courts will hear and resolve on the suspension;

XII.- Violation of the guaranties of article 16, on criminal matters, 19 and 20 will be reclaimed before the superior court of that committing same, or before the corresponding District Judge or Unitary Circuit Court, being able to protest, in both cases, the resolutions pronounced in the terms prescribed by section VIII.

Should the District Judge or Unitary Circuit Court not reside in the same place as the responsible authority, the law will determine before which judge or court the request for relief should be presented, who can provisionally suspend the protected action in the cases and terms established by the same law;

XIII.- When the Collegiate Circuit Courts maintain contradictory theses in the actions for relief coming within their competence, the Justices of the Supreme Court of Justice, the Attorney General for the Republic, the Courts mentioned or the parties intervening in the actions in which said theories were maintained, can denounce the contradiction before the Supreme Court of Justice, in order for the Full Court or respective Chamber, as applicable, to resolve on the thesis to prevail as jurisprudence.

When the Chambers of the Supreme Court of Justice maintain contradictory theses in the actions for relief coming within their competence, any of these Chambers, the Attorney General for the Republic or the parties intervening in the actions on which these theses have been based, can denounce the contradiction before the Supreme Court of Justice which, in full session, will decide which thesis should prevail;

The resolution returned by the Chambers or Full Court in the cases to which the two preceding paragraphs refer, will only have the effect of fixing the jurisprudence and will not affect the specific legal situations deriving from the sentences returned in the actions in which the contradiction has occurred, and

XIV.- Except as provided in section II, final paragraph of this article, dismissal of the action for relief or the lapsing of the instance will be decreed due to the inactivity of the complainant or of the appellant, respectively, when the act reclaimed is of a civil or administrative nature, in the cases and terms indicated by the regulatory law. The lapsing of the instance will leave the sentence appealed against, confirmed.

XV.- The Attorney General for the Republic or the Agent of the Federal Police Department he appoints for such purpose, will be a party to all actions for relief; but can refrain from intervening in said actions when, in their judgment, the case lacks public interest;

XVI.- If, when relief is granted, the responsible authority insists on repeating the act reclaimed or endeavors to elude the sentence of the federal authority, and the Supreme Court of Justice considers said default inexcusable, said authority will be immediately relieved from office and consigned to the corresponding District Judge. If excusable, following a declaration of default or repetition, the Supreme Court will summon the party responsible and grant him a prudent term to execute the sentence. Should the authority fail to execute the sentence in the term granted, the Supreme Court of Justice will proceed in the terms first indicated above.

When the nature of the act so permits, the Supreme Court of Justice, once the default or repetition of the act reclaimed has been determined, can officially cancel substitute compliance of the actions for relief, when their implementation seriously

affects Society or third parties to a degree greater than the economic benefits which could be obtained by the complainant. Equally, the complainant can request substitute compliance of the action for relief before the corresponding entity, always providing that the nature of the act so permits.

A lack of procedural activity or absence of promotion by the interested party, in sentences aimed toward compliance with the sentences of actions for relief, will result in their caducity in the terms of the regulatory law.

XVII.- The responsible authority will be consigned to the corresponding authority when it has failed to suspend the act reclaimed although called upon to do so, and when it provides a bond which is illusory or insufficient, in these two last cases the civil responsibility of the authority offering the bond and that providing same being solidary.

XVIII.- (repealed)

FOURTH TITLE

The Responsibilities of Public Servants

On the responsibilities of public servants and net worth of the State

NOTE:

IN FORCE AS FROM JANUARY 1, 2004

Article 108

For the effects of the responsibilities to which this Title refers, public servants will be considered to signify the representatives of popular election, the members of Judicial Federal Power and of the Judicial Power for the Federal District, officials and employees and, in general, everyone holding employment, a charge or commission of any nature in Federal Public Administration or in the Federal District, together with the servants of the Federal Electoral Institute, who will be responsible for the acts or omissions incurred in the performance of their respective duties.

The President of the Republic, during his term in office, can only be accused of treason to the country and for serious common equity offenses.

The Governors of the States, the Deputies to the Local Legislatures, the Magistrates of Local Superior Courts of Justice and, as applicable, the members of the Councils of the Local Judiciatures, will be responsible for violations of this Constitution and to federal law, and for the misuse of federal funds and resources.

The Constitutions of the States of the Republic will specify, in the same terms as the first paragraph of this article and for the purpose of their responsibilities, the

nature as public servants of those holding an employment, charge or commission in the States and in the Municipalities.

Article 109

The Congress of the Union and the State Legislatures, within their respective spheres of competence, will issue laws on the responsibilities of public servants and other rules aimed toward the penalization of those who, having this status, incur in responsibility, in accordance with the following precautions:

I.- The penalties listed in article 110 will be imposed, under a political action, on the public servants mentioned in the same precept when, in the course of their duties, they incur in acts or omissions affecting basic public interests or their good dispatch.

A political action will not apply for a simple expression of ideas.

II.- The commission of offences on the part of any public servant will be persecuted and penalized in the terms of criminal legislation; and

III.- Administrative penalties will be applied to public servants for acts or omissions which affect the legality, honesty, loyalty, impartiality and efficiency they should observe in the course of their employment, charges or commissions.

The procedures for application of the penalties mentioned will be implemented autonomously. Penalties of the same nature cannot be imposed twice for the same offense.

The cases and circumstances in which criminal penalties apply to public servants who, either directly or for a third party, during their period in office or by reason of same, substantially increase their net worth, acquire assets the lawful origin of which they are unable to justify, or behave as the owners of such. Criminal law will apply the seizure and loss of ownership of said assets, in addition to other corresponding penalties.

Any citizen can, under his strictest responsibility and by presenting elements of proof, file an accusation before the Chamber of Deputies of the Congress of the Union with respect to the conduct to which the present article refers.

Article 110

The following can be subject to political trial: the senators and deputies of the Congress of the Union, the Justices of the Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation, the Members of the Federal Judicature, the Ministers in Office, the Heads of the Administrative Departments, Deputies to the Assembly of the Federal District, the Head of Government for the Federal District, the Attorney General for the Republic, the Attorney General for Justice for the Federal District, Circuit

Magistrates and District Judges, the Magistrates and Judges for the Courts of Equity of the Federal District, the Members of the Judicature for the Federal District, the member President, the Electoral Members and the Executive Secretary of the Federal Electoral Institute, the Magistrates of the Electoral Tribunal, the Directors General and their equivalents of the semi-state agencies, companies with a majority state participation, the corporations and associations assimilated in these, and public trusts.

The State Governors, Local Deputies, Magistrates of the Local Superior Courts of Justice and, as applicable, the members of the Boards of Local Judicatures can only be subject to political action in the terms of this title for serious violations of this Constitution and the federal laws emanating therefrom, and for the illicit handling of federal funds and resources, but in this case the resolution will be solely declaratory and will be notified to the Local Legislatures, in order for the latter to take the corresponding action in the exercise of their attributes.

Penalties will consist of the removal of the public servant and his disqualification from holding office, employment, charges or commissions on an nature in the public service.

For application of the penalties to which this precept refers, the Chamber of Deputies will make the respective accusation before the Chamber of Senators, following a declaration by an absolute majority of the members present in session at said Chamber, after having verified the respective procedure and after hearing the accused.

The accusation being heard by the Chamber of Senators, set up as a Jury for returning judgment, this will apply the corresponding penalty by resolution of two third of the members present, once the corresponding formalities have been completed and after hearing the accused.

The declarations and resolutions of the Chambers of Deputies and Senators are inviolable.

Article III

In order to take criminal action against the Deputies and Senators of the Congress of the Union, the Justices of the Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation, the Magistrates of the Superior Chamber of the Electoral Tribunal, the members of the Federal Judicature, the Ministers in Office, the Heads of the Administrative Department, the Deputies to the Assembly of the Federal District, the Head of Government for the Federal District, the Attorney General for the Republic and the Attorney General of Justice for the Federal District , together with the Member President and Electoral Members of the General Board of the Federal Electoral Institute, for the commissioning of offenses during their period in office, the

Chamber of Deputies will declare by an absolute majority of its members present in session , whether action should or not be taken against the accused.

Should the resolution of the Chamber be negative, all subsequent proceedings will be suspended, but this will not represent an obstacle for the accusation of commissioning the offense continuing its course when the accused has terminated his term in office, since it does not prejudice the bases of the accusation.

Should the Chamber declare that action be taken, the accused will be placed at the disposition of the corresponding authorities in order for them to take action in accordance with law.

With regard to the President of the Republic, he can only be accused before the Chamber of Senators in the terms of article 110. In this case, the Chamber of Senators will resolve based on applicable criminal legislation.

In order to be able to take criminal action for federal offenses against the Governors of the States, Local Deputies, Magistrates of the Superior Courts of Justice of the States and, as applicable, the members of the Councils of Local Judicatures, the same procedure established in this article will be followed but, in this case, the declaration of legal basis will be for the purpose of notifying the Local Legislatures, in order for them to take the corresponding action in accordance with their attributes.

The declarations and resolutions of the Chambers of Deputies and Senators are inviolable.

The of the declaration that there are grounds for action against the accused will be to remove him from office while he is subject to criminal proceedings. Should the latter conclude with an absolutory sentence, the accused can resume office. Should the sentence be condemnatory and refer to an offense committed his exercise of office, the accused will not be granted the grace of pardon.

In accusations of a civil nature filed against any public servant, no declaration of legal basis will be required.

Criminal penalties will be applied in accordance with the provisions of criminal legislation and, in the case of offenses from the commissioning of which the author obtains an economic benefit or causes capital damages or losses, these should be classified in accordance with the benefit obtained and the need to meet the damages and losses caused by his illicit conduct.

Economic sanctions cannot exceed three times the benefits obtained or the damages and losses caused.

Article 112

No declaration of legal basis from the Chamber of Deputies will be required when any of the public servants to which article 111, first paragraph refers, commits an offense during the time he is separated from office.

If the public servant has again taken up his duties or been named or elected to hold another, different office, but of those listed in article 111, action will be taken in accordance with the provisions of said precept.

Article 113

The laws on the administrative responsibilities of public servants will determine their obligations for the purpose of safeguarding the legality, honesty, loyalty, impartiality and efficiency in the performance of their duties, employments, charges and commissions; the penalties applicable for the acts or omissions in which they incur, and the procedures and authorities to apply same. These penalties, in addition to those indicated by law, will consist of suspension, destitution and debarment, as well as in economic sanctions, and should be established in accordance with the economic benefits obtained by the suspect and with the damages and losses occasioned by his acts or omissions, to which article 109, section III refers, but these cannot exceed three times the benefits obtained or the damages and losses caused.

The responsibility of the State for any damages caused to the goods or rights of individuals, due to its irregular administrative activity, will be objective and direct. Individuals will be entitled to indemnity according to the bases, limitations and procedures established by law.

NOTE:

IN FORCE AS FROM JANUARY 1, 2004

Article 114

Political trial proceedings can only be filed during the public servant's period in office and within one year afterwards. The corresponding sanctions will be applied in a period not to exceed one year as from commencement of the proceedings.

The responsibility for offenses committed during the term in office of any public servant will be required in accordance with the terms with the terms for prescription contained in the Criminal Law, which will never be less than three years. The terms of prescription will be interrupted while the public servant performs any of the duties to which article 111 refers.

The law will indicate the cases for prescription of administrative responsibility, taking into account the nature and consequences of the acts and omissions to which article 109, section III refers. When said acts or omissions are serious, the terms of prescription will not be less than three years.

FIFTH TITLE

The States of the Federation and the Federal District

Article 115

The States will adopt, for their internal regulation, the Republican form of government, representative, popular, having the Free Municipality as the base of their territorial division and their political and administrative organization, in accordance with the following bases:

1.- Each Municipality will be governed by a Town Council directly elected by popular vote, consisting of a Municipal President and the number of councilors and syndics prescribed by law. The competence granted under this Constitution to the municipal government will be exclusively exercised by the Town Council, and no intermediate authority will intervene directly between the latter and the State government.

The municipal presidents, councilors and syndics of the town councils, popularly elected by direct vote, cannot be reelected for the immediate period. Persons who, by indirect election or by the naming or appointment of some authority, perform the duties corresponding to these offices, whatever name they are given, cannot be elected for the immediate period. All the foregoing officials, when of a proprietary nature, cannot be elected for the immediate period as alternates, but those serving as alternates can be elected for the immediate period as proprietors unless they have exercised this office.

Local Legislatures, by the resolution of two thirds of their members, can suspend town councils, declare that these have disappeared and suspend or revoke the mandate of any of their members, for any of the serious matters provided for in local law, always providing that their members have had sufficient opportunity to present proofs and make such allegations as convene their interests.

Should any of the members cease to exercise office, he will be replaced by his alternate, or action will be taken as provided by law.

In the event a Town Council is declared to have disappeared either by abandonment or an absolute lack of the majority of its members, if according to law it is not in order for the alternates to take office or for new elections to be held, the State legislatures will appoint Municipal Councils from among the residents to conclude the respective periods; these Councils will consist of the number of members determined by law, and must comply with the requirements for eligibility established for the councilors;

II.- The Municipalities will possess juridical capacity and manage their capital in accordance with law.

The town councils will be empowered to approve, in accordance with the laws on municipal matters to be issued by the State legislatures, the police and government proclamations, the regulations, circulars and administrative provisions for general observance within their respective jurisdictions which organize public municipal administration, govern the subject matter, procedures, duties and public services coming within their sphere of competence and ensure participation by citizens and residents.

The purpose of the laws to which the preceding paragraph refers is to establish:

a).- The general bases for public municipal administration and for administrative procedures, including impugnation media and the agencies to resolve controversies between said administration and private individuals, subject to the principles of equality, publicity, hearing and legality;

b).- The cases in which the agreement of two thirds of the members of the town councils is needed to dictate resolutions affecting municipal property or to formalize acts or agreements which compromise the Municipality for a period in excess of that of the Town Council;

c).- The rules of general application to formalize the agreements to which both sections III and IV of this article and article 116, section VII, second paragraph of this Constitution refer;

d).- The procedure and conditions for the State Government to assume a municipal service or function when, due to the non-existence of the corresponding agreement, the state legislature considers that the municipality in question is unable to exercise or render same; in this case, a previous request by the respective town council will be necessary, approved by at least two third of its members; and

e).- The applicable provisions in those municipalities not possessing the corresponding proclamations or regulations.

The State legislatures will issue rules establishing the procedures by means of which conflicts arising between the municipalities and the State Government are resolved, or between the former, due to the acts deriving from inserts c) and d) above;

III.- The Municipalities will be responsible for the following public services and functions:

a).- Potable water, drainage, sewage, and the treatment and disposal of waste waters;

- b).- Public lighting.
- c).- Cleaning, collecting, transferring, treating and final disposal of waste;
- d).- Supply centers and markets.
- e). Graveyards.
- f).- Slaughterhouse.
- g).- Streets, parks and gardens and their accessories;
- h).- Public safety, in the terms of article 21 of this Constitution, the preventive municipal and transit police; and
- i).- Such others as the local legislatures determine, according to the territorial and socio-economic conditions of the Municipalities, together with their administrative and financial capacity.

Without prejudice to their constitutional competence, in the performance of their duties or rendering of the services for which they are responsible, the municipalities will abide by the provisions of Federal and State laws.

The Municipalities, following agreement between their town councils, can coordinate and associate between themselves for a more efficient rendering of public services or a better exercise of the functions corresponding thereto. In this case and in the event of an association between municipalities of two or more States, they must have the approval of the respective State legislatures. The same also applies when it is necessary, in the judgment of the respective town council, to formalize agreements with the State in order that the latter, either directly or through the corresponding agency, takes temporary charge of any of same, or these are provided or exercised jointly by the State and the municipality itself;

Indigenous communities, within the municipal environment, can coordinate themselves and associate between them in the terms and for the purposes provided by law.

IV.- Municipalities will freely manage their finances, which will consist of the proceeds from the assets they possess ,, and from the contributions and other revenue established by the legislatures in their favor, and, in any case:

- a).- Will receive the contributions, including additional rates, established by the States on property, on its splitting, division, consolidation, transfer and improvement, together with those based on a change in value of the properties.

Municipalities can formalize agreements with the State in order for the latter to take charge of some of the functions related to the administration of these contributions.

b).- Federal participations, to be paid by the Federation to the Municipalities in accordance with the bases, amounts and terms determined annually by the State Legislatures;

c).- Revenue obtained from supplying the public services for which they are responsible.

Federal Laws will not limit the faculty of the States to establish the contributions to which inserts a) and c) refer, nor will they grant exemptions in connection with same. State laws will not provide for exemptions or subsidies in favor of any person or institution whatsoever in connection with these contributions. Only the assets of public dominion of the Federation, States or Municipalities will be exempt, unless said assets are utilized by semi-state entities or by private individuals, under any title, for administrative purposes or others differing from their public purpose.

The town councils, within their sphere of competence, will propose to the State legislatures the quotas and rates applicable to taxes, duties, the contribution of improvements and the tables of unit values of soil and constructions serving as a base for the charging of contributions on real property.

The State legislatures will approve the revenue laws of the municipalities, and will review and inspect their public accounts. Budgets for expenditure will be approved by the town councils, based on their available income.

The resources contained in the municipal treasury will be used directly by the town councils, or by those authorizing same, in accordance with law;

V.- The Municipalities, in the terms of relative Federal and State laws, are empowered to:

a).- Prepare, approve and administer municipal zoning and plans for urban development;

b).- Participate in the creation and administration of their territorial reserves;

c).- Participate in preparing plans for regional development, which should be in agreement with general plans on the matter. When the Federation or States prepare regional development projects, they should ensure the participation of the municipalities.

- d).- To authorize, control and supervise utilization of the soil within their field of competence, in their territorial jurisdictions;
- e).- To intervene in regulating the holding of urban land;
- f). To grant licenses and permits for construction;
- g).- To take part in the creation and administration of ecological reserve areas and in the preparation and application of programs for arrangement in this field;
- h).- To intervene in the preparation and application of public transport programs when these affect their territorial environment; and
- i).- To formalize agreements for the administration and custody of the federal areas;

Where applicable and in accordance with the purposes given in article 27, paragraph 3 of this Constitution to issue such regulations and administrative provisions as may be necessary;

VI.- When two or more urban centers located in municipal territories of two or more federal entities form or plan to form a demographic continuity, the Federation, the federative entities and the respective Municipalities, within their spheres of competence, will plan and regulate in a joint and coordinated manner the development of said centers, in accordance with the corresponding federal law.

VII.- The preventive municipal police will be under the orders of the Municipal President, in the terms of the corresponding regulations. The latter will follow the orders given to him by the Governor of the State in cases considered by the latter as of force majeure or a serious disturbance of public order.

The Federal Executive will command the public forces in the places where he habitually or temporarily resides;

VIII.- The laws of the states will introduce the principle of proportional representation in electing the town councils of all the Municipalities.

Working relations between the municipalities and their workers will be governed by the laws issued by the state legislatures, based on the provisions of Article 123 of this Constitution and the regulatory provisions thereto.

Article 116

The public power of the states will be divided, for their exercise, into Executive, Legislative and Judicial, and two or more of these powers cannot reside in a single person or corporation, nor can the Legislative be deposited in a single individual.

The Powers of the States will be organized in accordance with the Constitution of each, subject to the following rules:

I.- The State Governors cannot remain in office for more than six years.

The election of the State Governors and Local Legislatures will be direct and in the terms of the respective electoral laws.

The governors of the States elected by popular, ordinary or special vote, can in no case and under no circumstances occupy that office again, not even as interim, provisional, substitute governors or those in charge of the office.

The following can never be elected for the immediate period:

a) The constitutional substitute governor, or the one named to terminate the period in the case of the permanent absence of the constitutional governor, even under a different denomination;

b) The interim or provisional governor or the citizen who, under any denomination, covers the temporary absences of the governor, always providing that he takes offices during the last two years of the period;

Only a Mexican citizen by birth and a native of same can be the constitutional governor of a State, or with an effective residence of not less than five years immediately prior to the date of the election.

II.- The number of representatives in the State legislatures will be proportional to the inhabitants of each; but, in any case, cannot be less than seven deputies in the States whose population is less than 400 thousand inhabitants; nine, in those where the population exceeds this number and does not reach 800 thousand inhabitants, and 11 in the States whose population is higher than this latter figure.

The deputies to the State legislatures cannot be reelected for the immediate period. Alternate deputies can be elected for the immediate period as proprietary deputies, always providing that they have not exercised, but proprietary deputies cannot be elected for the immediate period as alternates.

The State legislatures will be made up of deputies elected on the relative majority and proportional representation principle, in the terms indicated by law.

III.- The Judicial Power of the States will be exercised by the courts established under their respective Constitutions.

The independence of the magistrates and judges in the exercise of their functions should be guaranteed by the Constitutions and the Organic Laws of the States, which will establish the conditions for the entry, formation and permanence of those serving the Judicial Powers of the States.

The Magistrates comprising local Judicial Powers must meet the requirements of article 95, sections I to V, of this Constitution. Persons who have occupied the position of Secretary or its equivalent, Attorney for Justice or Local Deputy, in their respective States, during the prior to the day of the appointment, cannot be Magistrates.

Appointments of the magistrates and judges making up the Local Judicial Powers will be made preferably among those persons who have rendered their services with efficiency and probity in the administration of justice, or who so merit due to their honesty, competence and antecedents in other branches of the juridical profession.

Magistrates will remain in office for the time indicated by the Local Constitutions, can be reelected and, if they are, can only be deprived of their positions in the terms of the Constitutions and the Laws on Responsibility of the Public Servants of the States.

Magistrates and judges will receive an adequate remuneration which cannot be waived, nor reduced during their term in office.

IV.- The Constitutions and laws of the States on electoral matters will guarantee that:

a).- The elections of the State governors, of the members of the local legislatures and of those comprising the town councils will take place by universal, free, secret and direct suffrage.

b).- The governing principles in exercise of the electoral function entrusted to the electoral authorities will be legality, impartiality, objectivity, certainty and independence.

c).- The authorities in charge of organizing the elections, and the jurisdictional authorities who resolve related controversies, will enjoy autonomy in their working and independence in their decisions.

d).- A system of means of impugnation is established in order for all electoral acts and resolutions to be invariably subject to the principle of legality.

e).- Convenient terms are fixed for the hearing of all objections, taking into account the definitive principle of the stages of the electoral process;

f).- According to budget availability, political parties will receive equitably-distributed public financing for their maintenance, together with support during the electoral process aimed toward obtaining universal suffrage;

g).- Equitable conditions will be promoted for the political parties to have access to the social communication media;

h).- Criteria are established to limit the spending of the political parties in their electoral campaigns, and the maximum monetary contributions of their supporters, together with procedures to control and supervise the origin and use of all the resources of the political parties; penalties will also be laid down for default on the provisions issued in these matters; and

i).- Offenses will be typified and misdemeanors on electoral matters determined, together with the corresponding penalties;

V.- The Constitutions and laws of the States can institute Tribunals under Administrative Law having full autonomy to return sentence, in charge of settling any controversies arising between the Federal Public Administration and individuals, establishing the rules for their organization, their working, the procedure and appeals against their resolutions.

VI.- The working relationship between the States and their employees will be governed by the laws issued by the state legislatures, based on the provisions of Article 123 of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States and its regulatory provisions.

VII.- The Federation and the States can, in the terms of law, agree on the latter's assumption of the exercise of their duties, the implementation and operation of works and the rendering of public services, when this is called for by economic and social development.

The States are empowered to formalize these agreements with their Municipalities, in order for the latter to assume the rendering of the services or attention to the duties to which the preceding paragraph refers.

Article 117

The States cannot, under any circumstances:

I.- Formalize an alliance, treaty or coalition with another State or with foreign Powers,

II.- (repealed)

- III.- Coin money, issue paper money, stamps or stamped paper.
- IV.- Encumber the transit of persons or things crossing their territory.
- V.- Forbid or encumber, directly or indirectly, the entry into their territory or departure therefrom of any national or foreign goods.
- VI.- Encumber the circulation or consumption of national or foreign effects by taxes or duties the exemption from which is effected by local customs, calls for the inspection or registration of bundles or demands documentation to accompany the goods.
- VII.- Issue or maintain in force tax laws or provisions representing tax differences or requirements by reason of the origin of national or foreign merchandise, whether this difference is established with respect to a similar product of the locality, or between similar products of different origin.
- VIII.- Directly or indirectly enter into obligations or loans with governments of other nations, with foreign companies or individuals, or when they should be paid in foreign currency or outside national territory.

The States and Municipalities cannot enter into obligations or loans except when these are intended for productive public investment, including those entered into by semi-state agencies and public companies, in accordance with the bases established by the legislatures in a law and for the reasons and up to the amounts fixed by these annually in the respective budgets. Executives will report on their exercise when rendering the public accounts.

- IX.- To encumber the production, gathering or sale of leaf tobacco, in a different form or with higher contributions than those authorized by the Congress of the Union.

The Congress of the Union and the State Legislatures will naturally dictate laws aimed to combat alcoholism.

Article 118

Nor can they, without the consent of the Congress of the Union:

- I.- Establish tonnage rights, nor any other on ports, nor impose taxes or duties on imports or exports.
- II.- To have, at any time, permanent troops or ships of war.

III.- To make war directly against any foreign power, except in cases of invasion and of danger so imminent it brooks no delay. In these cases an immediate report should be rendered to the President of the Republic.

Article 119

The Powers of the Union have the obligation to protect the States against any outside violence or invasion. In each case of an uprising or internal disturbance, they will provide equal protection, always providing this is requested by the Legislature of the State or by its Executive, if the former is not in session.

Each State and the Federal District are obliged to hand over the accused, defendants or prisoners without delay, and to assure and deliver objects, instruments or the proceeds of crime, in accordance with the authority of any other federative entity requiring same. These formalities will be practiced with the intervention of the respective attorney generals' offices, in the terms of collaboration agreements formalized for such purpose by the federative entities. For the same purpose, the States and the Federal District can formalize collaboration agreements with the Federal Government, which will act through the office of the Attorney General for the Republic.

Extraditions at the request of a foreign State will be processed by the Federal Executive, with the intervention of the judicial authorities in the terms of this Constitution, the International Treaties signed for such purpose and the regulatory laws. In these cases, the ruling by the judge who orders compliance with the requisition will be sufficient to order detention for up to sixty calendar days.

Article 120

The Governors of the States are obliged to publish and ensure compliance with the federal laws.

Article 121

In each State of the Union full faith and credit will be given to the public acts, records and judicial procedures of all the others. The Congress of the Union, through general laws, will prescribe the manner of verifying said acts, records and procedures and their effect, subjecting themselves to the following:

I.- The laws of a State will only have effect within its own territory and, therefore, cannot be binding outside its boundaries.

II.- Movable property and real estate will be governed by the law of the place they are located.

III.- Sentences pronounced by the courts of a State on real rights or real estate located in another State, will only be enforceable in the latter when this is provided in its own laws.

Sentences on personal rights will only be implemented in another State when the person sentenced has submitted himself expressly or by reason of domicile to the judgment thus pronounced, and always providing that he has been personally summoned to attend the trial.

IV.- Civil status certificates adjusted to the laws of a State, will be valid in the others.

V.- The professional titles issued by the authorities of one State and subject to its laws, will be respected in the others.

Article 122

The juridical nature of the Federal District having been defined in article 44 of the present instrument, its government is entrusted to the Federal Powers and to the Executive, Legislative and Judicial agencies of a local character, in the terms of this article.

The local authorities of the Federal District are the Legislative Assembly, the Head of Government for the Federal District and the Superior Court of Justice.

The Legislative Assembly for the Federal District consists of the number of deputies elected according to the principle of relative majority and proportional representation, through the system of lists voted in a plurinominal circumscription, in the terms established by this Constitution and the Statute of Government.

The Head of the Government for the Federal District will be in charge of the Executive and public administration in the entity, and will be held by a single person elected by universal, free, direct and secret vote.

The Superior Court of Justice and the Council of the Judicature, together with the other agencies established by the Statute of Government, will exercise judicial civil equity functions in the Federal District.

The distribution of competences between the Powers of the Union and the local authorities of the Federal District will be subject to the following provisions:

A. The Congress of the Union is responsible for:

I.- Legislating in matters to do with the Federal District, excepting the matters expressly attributed to the Legislative Assembly;

II.- Issuing the Statute of Government for the Federal District;

III.- Legislating in matters of the public debt for the Federal District;

IV.- Returning the general provisions which ensure the due, opportune and efficient working of the Powers of the Union, and

V.- The other attributes indicated by this Constitution.

B. The President of the United Mexican States is responsible for:

I.- Filing laws before the Congress of the Union with respect to the Federal District;

II.- Proposing to the Senate who, in the event of his removal, is to replace the Head of Government for the Federal District;

III.- Forwarding a proposal for the amounts of indebtedness necessary to finance the expenditure budget for the Federal District, annually to the Congress of the Union. For this purpose, the Head of Government for the Federal District will submit the corresponding proposal to the consideration of the President of the Republic, in the terms laid down by Law;

IV.- To ensure exact observance in the administrative sphere of the laws issued by the Congress of the Union with respect to the Federal District; and

V.- The other attributes indicated by this Constitution, the Statute of Government and the laws,

C.- The Statute of Government for the Federal District will be subject to the following bases:

FIRST BASIS.- With respect to the Legislative Assembly:

I.- Deputies to the Legislative Assembly will be elected every three years by universal, direct, free and secret vote, in the terms disposed by Law which should, in organizing the election, take into account the issuing of vouchers and respective means of impugnation, as provided in articles 41, 60 and 99 of this Constitution;

II.- The requirements for being a deputy to the Assembly cannot be less than those needed to be a Federal deputy. Applicable to the Legislative Assembly and to its members wherein compatible, are the provisions contained in articles 51, 59, 61, 62, 64 and 77, section IV, of this Constitution;

III.- The political party obtaining the greater number of majority vouchers and at least thirty percent of the votes in the Federal District, will be assigned a number of proportional representation Deputies sufficient to have an absolute majority in the Assembly;

IV.- It will establish the dates for holding at least two periods of regular sessions during the year, and the composition and attributes of the internal government entity to act during the recesses. Said internal government entity will be empowered to issue summons to special sessions, at the request of a majority of its members or of the Head of Government for the Federal District.

V.- The Legislative Assembly will have the following faculties, in the terms of the Statute of Government:

a).- To issue its Organic Law, which will be forwarded to the Head of Government for the Federal District for the sole purpose of ordering its publication;

b).- To annually examine, discuss and approve the expenditure budget and law on revenue for the Federal District, first approving the contributions necessary for covering the budget;

No amounts of indebtedness above those previously authorized by the Congress of the Union for financing the expenditure budget for the Federal District, can be incorporated into the revenues law.

The proposed law on revenue and expenditure budget correspond exclusively to the Head of Government of the Federal District. The term for their presentation expires on November 30, except for those years in which the regular election of the Head of Government for the Federal District takes place, in which case the final date will be December 20.

The Legislative Assembly will prepare its draft budget annually and forward this in good time to the Head of Government for the Federal District for inclusion in its proposed law..

The provisions contained in article 115, section IV, insert c), second paragraph, of this Constitution, will apply to the public treasury for the Federal District in everything not incompatible with its nature and basic system of government.

c).- To review the public accounts for the previous year, through the Chief Treasury Comptroller of the Legislative Assembly, in accordance with the applicable criteria of article 74, section IV.

The public accounts for the previous year should be forwarded to the Legislative Assembly within the first ten days of the month of June. This term, together with those established for presenting the draft revenue law and draft expenditure budget, can only be extended when so requested and sufficiently justified, in the judgment of the Assembly, by the Executive for the Federal District;

d).- To appoint whomsoever is to replace the Head of Government for the Federal District, in the event of his permanent absence;

e).- To issue the legal provisions to organize the public treasury, the chief comptroller's office and the budget, accounting and public expenditure for the Federal District;

f).- To issue the provisions governing local elections in the Federal District, subjecting these to the bases established by the Statute of Government, which will take into consideration the principles contained in article 116, section IV, inserts b to i) of this Constitution. Only nationally-registered political parties can take part in this election;

g).- To legislate on the matter of local Public Administration, its internal system and administrative procedures;

h).- To legislate on civil and criminal matters; to regulate the entity protecting human rights, the participation of the citizens, defense counsel appointed by the courts, notaries public and the national register for property and commerce;

i).- To govern civil protection; civic justice on police misdemeanors and good government; the security services provided by private companies; social rehabilitation and prevention; health and social assistance; and social welfare;

j).- To legislate on development planning; on urban development, especially as concerns the use of the soil; preservation of the environment and ecological protection; housing; constructions and buildings; public thoroughfares, transit and parking; acquisitions and public works; and on the exploitation, use and utilization of the capital assets of the Federal District;

k).- To regulate the rendering and concession of public services; to legislate on urban transport, cleaning, tourism and lodging services, markets, slaughterhouses and supply, and graveyards;

l).- To issue rules on economic development and the protection of employment; agricultural development; mercantile establishments; the protection of animals; public spectacles; the promotion of civic and sports culture; and social educational matters; and social education matters in the terms of article 3, section VIII of this Constitution;

m). To issue the Organic Law for courts in charge of civil equity matters in the Federal District, including the responsibilities of said entities public servants;

n).- To issue the Organic Law of the Administrative Law courts for the Federal District;

ñ).- To present draft laws or decrees on matters connected with the Federal District, to the Congress of the Union; and

o).- Any others expressly conferred thereon under this Constitution.

SECOND BASE.- Concerning the Head of Government for the Federal District:

I.- Will exercise office, which will last six years, as from December 5 of the year of the election, which will be carried out in accordance with electoral legislation.

To be Head of Government for the Federal District, the requirements established in the Statute of Government must be met, including: to be a Mexican citizen by birth in full enjoyment of his rights, with an effective residence of three years immediately prior to the election if a native of the Federal District, or of five years without interruption for those born elsewhere; to be at least thirty years of age on the date of the election, and not to have previously occupied the position of Head of Government of the Federal District with any nature. The residence is not interrupted by the holding of other public offices of the Federation in another territorial environment.

In the event of removal of the Head of Government for the Federal District, the Senate will appoint a substitute at the proposal of the President of the Republic. In the event of a temporary absence, the public servant named in the State of Government will remain in charge of the office. In the event of a permanent absence, by resignation or for any other reason, the Legislative Assembly will appoint a replacement to complete the period of office. The resignation of a Head of Government for the Federal District can only be accepted for serious reasons. The licenses of office will be regulated in the Statute itself.

II.- The Head of Government for the Federal District will have the following faculties and obligations;

a).- To comply with and carry out the laws on the Federal District issued by the Congress of the Union, within the sphere of competence of the executive agency under his charge or that of its dependencies;

b).- To promulgate, publish and implement the laws issued by the Legislative Assembly, ensuring its exact obedience in the administrative sphere by the issue of regulations, decrees and resolutions. He may likewise comment on the laws forwarded to him for promulgation by the Legislative Assembly, within a term not to exceed ten working days. If the draft proposed is confirmed by a qualified majority of two thirds of the deputies present, it should be promulgated by the Head of Government for the Federal District;

- c).- To present draft laws or decrees before the Legislative Assembly;
- d).- To freely appoint and remove the public servants of the local executive entity, whose appointment or dismissal is not otherwise provided for b this Constitution or the corresponding laws;
- e).- To manage the public security services in accordance with the Statute of government; and
- f).- The others conferred thereon under this Constitution, the Statute of Government and the laws;

THIRD BASE.- With respect to organization of the local Public Administration in the Federal District;

I.- General guidelines will be determined for the distribution of attributes between the central, semi-state and decentralized agencies;

II.- To establish the political-administrative agencies in each of the territorial areas into which the Federal District is divided;

Likewise, to fix the criteria for effecting the territorial division of the Federal District, the

The competence of the corresponding political-administrative agencies, the manner in which these should be integrated, their working, and the relationship of said agencies with the Head of Government for the Federal District.

The heads of the political-administrative agencies of territorial areas will be elected in universal, free, secret and direct form, as determined by law.

FOURTH BASE:- With respect to the Superior Court of Justice and other judicial entities of civil jurisdiction:

I.- To be a magistrate of the Superior Court, the same requirements must be met as those required under this Constitution for the justices of the Supreme Court of Justice; it is also necessary to have distinguished himself in the exercise of the profession or in the judicial field, preferably in the Federal District. The Superior Court of Justice will be made up of the number of magistrates indicated by the respective law.

To cover the vacancies of magistrates of the Superior Court of Justice, the Head of Government for the Federal District will submit the respective proposal to the decision of the Legislative Assembly. Magistrates will remain in office for six years and can be ratified by the Assembly; and, in this case, can only be deprived on their positions in the terms of the Fourth Title of this Constitution.

II.- The administration, surveillance and discipline of the Superior Court of Justice, of the courts and other judicial entities, will be entrusted to the Council of the Judicature for the Federal District. The Council of the Judicature will have seven members, one of whom will be the President of the Superior Court of Justice, who will also preside over the Council. The remaining members will be: a Magistrate, a Judge of the First Instance and a Judge for Peace, elected by ballot; one appointed by the Head of Government for the Federal District, and another two named by the Legislative Assembly. All Members must meet the conditions required to be a Magistrate and will remain in office for five years; they will be replaced by stages and cannot be appointed for a new period.

The Council will name the Judges of the First Instance and those of another denomination created in the Federal District, in the terms of provisions on the judicial career;

III.- The attributes and rules of working of the Council of the Judicature will be determined , taking into consideration the provisions of article 100 of this Constitution;

IV.- The criteria will be fixed by means of which the organic law establishes rules for the training and updating of officials, together with development of the judicial career;

V.- The impediments and penalties laid down in article 11 of this Constitution will be applicable to the members of the Council of the Judicature, as well as to the magistrates and judges;

VI.- The Council of the Judicature will prepare the budget for the courts of justice within the entity, and will forward this to the Head of Government for the Federal District for inclusion in the draft expenditure budget presented for the approval of the Legislative Assembly.

FIFTH BASE.- A court will be established for Administrative Matters, which will have full autonomy to settle controversies between private individuals and the local Public Administration authorities for the Federal District.

The rules for the court's integration and attributes will be decided, and developed by its Organic Law.

D.- The Police Department in the Federal District will be presided by an Attorney General for Justice, who will be appointed in the terms indicated by the Statute of Government; this ordinance and the respective organic law will determine its organization, competence and working rules.

E.- The provisions of article 115, section VII of this Constitution will apply with respect to the President of the United Mexican States. The appointment and removal of the public servant directly responsible for the police force will take place in the terms indicated by the Statute of Government.

F.- The Chamber of Senators of the Congress of the Union or, during the recesses of same, the Permanent Commission, can remove the Head of Government for the Federal District for serious motives affecting relations with the Powers of the Union or public order in the Federal District. The petition for removal should be presented by half the members of the Chamber of Senators or of the Permanent Commission, as applicable.

G.- For an efficient organization of the different local jurisdictions and municipalities between themselves, and of these with the Federation and the Federal District in the planning and implementation of action in the semi-urban areas bordering the Federal District, in accordance with article 115, section VI of this Constitution, on the matter of human settlements; protection of the environment; the preservation and restoration of the ecological balance; transport, drinking water and drainage; the collection, treatment and disposal of solid wastes and public security, their respective governments can sign agreements for the creation of metropolitan commissions in which they will meet and participate in accordance with their laws.

The commissions will be established by joint agreement of the participants. The form of integration, structure and functions will be determined in the instrument of creation.

The establishment will take place through the commissions:

a).- The bases for formalizing agreements, within the commissions, in accordance with which territorial and functional environments are resolved with respect to the implementation and operation of works, the rendering of public services or taking of action on the matters mentioned in the first paragraph of this section;

b).- The bases for establishing between the parties forming the commissions, the specific functions in these matters, and for a common contribution of the material, human and financial resources necessary for their operation; and

c).- Other rules for a joint and coordinated regulation of the development of semi-urban areas, the rendering of services and taking of action resolved by the members of the commissions.

H.- The prohibitions and limitations established for the States under this Constitution will be applied for the authorities of the Federal District.

SIXTH TITLE

Work and Social Welfare

Article 123

Everyone is entitled to honorable and socially useful work: for this purpose, the creation of employment will be promoted and the social organization for work, in accordance with the Law.

The Congress of the Union, without contravening the following bases should issue laws on work, which will govern:

A.- Everything between workmen, day workers, domestic employees, craftsmen and, in general, all work contracts:

I.- The duration of the maximum working day will be eight hours;

II.- The maximum length of night work will be 7 hours.

The following are forbidden; unhealthy or dangerous work, industrial night work and any other work after ten p.m. for minors under sixteen.

III.- The working of minors under fourteen years of age is forbidden. Persons between fourteen and sixteen years of age will have a maximum working day of six hours.

IV.- For every six days of work the worker should enjoy at least one day of rest.

V.- During pregnancy, women will not engage in work which requires considerable effort and signifies a danger to their health in connection with the gestation; they will have an obligatory rest period of six weeks prior to the approximate date of birth, and six weeks following same, receiving their full salary and retaining their employment and the rights they have acquired under the working relationship. During the nursing period they will have two special rest periods per day of half an hour each, in order to feed their children;

VI.- The minimum salaries to be enjoyed by workers will be general or professional. The first will govern in the geographic areas determined; the second will be applied to certain fields of economic activity or in professions, trades or special work.

Minimum general salaries should be sufficient to satisfy the normal needs of the head of a family in the material, social and cultural sense, and to ensure the obligatory education of the children. Minimum professional salaries will be fixed taking also into consideration the conditions of the different economic activities.

Minimum salaries will be fixed by a national commission formed by representatives of the workers, of the employers and of the government, which can refer to such special commissions of an advisory nature as they consider essential for a better performance of their duties.

VII.- Equal salary should correspond to equal work, without taking into account sex or nationality.

VIII.- The minimum salary is excepted from seizure, compensation or discount.

IX.- Workers will be entitled to a participation in company profits, regulated in accordance with the following rules:

a).- A National Commission, formed by representatives of the workers, of the employers and of the Government, will fix the percentage of profits to be distributed among the workers;

b).- The National Commission will carry out the investigations and make the studies necessary to be familiar with the general conditions of the national economy. It will also take into consideration the need for promoting the industrial development of the country, the reasonable interest to be received on the capital and the necessary reinvestment of capital;

c).- The same Commission can review the fixed percentage when new studies and investigations exist which justify same.

d).- The Law can exempt newly-created companies from the obligation of distributing profits during a specified and limited number of years, and exploration work and other activities when this is justified by their special nature and conditions;

e).- For determining each company's amount of profits, the taxable income will be taken in accordance with the provisions of the Income Tax Law. Workers can file such objections as they consider convenient before the corresponding office of the Ministry of Finance and Public Credit, in accordance with the procedure established by law.

f).- The right of workers to participate in the profits will not imply the faculty of intervening in the management or administration of the companies.

X.- Salaries should be paid precisely in money of legal tender, it not being permissible to do so with goods, nor with vouchers, cards or any other representative sign intended to replace money.

XI.- When due to special circumstances, working hours have to be increased, the salary payable for the excess period will amount to 100% more than that fixed for normal hours. In no case can overtime exceed three hours daily, nor three consecutive occasions. Minors under sixteen years of age will not be admitted in this kind of work.

XII.- Every agricultural, industrial or mining company or that for any other kind of work, will be obliged under regulatory law to provide workers with comfortable and hygienic dwellings. This obligation will be complied with by company contributions to a national housing fund in order to establish deposits in favor of their workers, and arrange a financing system allowing the latter to be granted cheap and sufficient credit to acquire said dwellings in ownership.

The issuance of a law for the creation of an entity formed by representatives of the Federal Government, of the workers and of the employers, for the purpose of managing the resources of the national housing fund, is considered of social utility. This law will regulate the forms and procedures by means of which workers can acquire the ownership of the above-mentioned dwellings.

The businesses to which the first paragraph of this fraction refers, located outside the towns, are obliged to establish schools, infirmaries and other services necessary for the community.

Moreover, in these same work centers, when the population exceeds two hundred inhabitants, a plot of land should be reserved which should not be less than five thousand square meters, for the establishment of public markets, the installation of buildings intended for municipal services and recreational centers.

The establishment of retail shops selling intoxicating liquor and houses for games of chance is forbidden in all work centers;

XIII.- Companies of whatever activity are obliged to provide training or specialization in the work to their employees. The regulatory law will determine the systems, methods and procedures by which employers should comply with this obligation;

XIV.- Employers will be responsible for work accidents and the professional illnesses of the workers, suffered by reason of or in exercise of the profession or work they do; employers should therefore pay the corresponding indemnity, according to whether this has resulted in the death or simply a temporary or permanent incapacity to work, as provided by law. This responsibility will continue to exist even should the employer contract the work through an intermediary;

XV.- The employer will be obliged to observe, in accordance with the nature of his business, the legal precepts on hygiene and safety at the installations of his

establishment, and to adopt suitable measures to prevent accidents in the use of the machines, instruments and work materials, and to organize this in such a way as to represent the best guaranty for the health and the life of the workers, and the product of conception, in the case of pregnant women. For this purpose the laws will establish the penalties applicable to each case.

XVI.- Both the workers and the employers will be entitled to join together in defense of their respective interests, forming syndicates, professional organizations, etc.

XVII.- The laws recognize strikes and stoppages as a right of the workers and of the employers;

XVIII.- Strikes will be lawful when their purpose is to achieve a balance between the different factors of production, harmonizing work and capital rights. In public services it will be obligatory for the workers to notify the Conciliation and Arbitration Board, with ten days' advance notice, of the date indicated for suspension of the work. Strikes will only be considered illegal when the majority of the strikers engage in acts of violence against persons or properties, or in the case of war, when the former belong to establishments and services depending from the Government;

XIX.- Stoppages will only be lawful when excess production makes it necessary to suspend work in order to keep prices within a cost/expenses limit, following approval by the Conciliation and Arbitration Board;

XX.- The differences or conflicts between capital and work, will be subjected to resolution by a Conciliation and Arbitration Board, formed by an equal number of representatives of the workers and the employers, and one from the Government;

XXI.- Should the employer refuse to submit his differences to arbitration or to accept the decision returned by the Board, the work contract will be terminated and he will be obliged to indemnify the worker with the amount of three months' salary, in addition to the responsibility resulting from the conflict. This provision will not be applicable in the case of the actions listed in the following section. Should the refusal be on the part of the workers, the work contract will be terminated;

XXII.- An employer who dismisses a worker without justified cause or due to entering an association or syndicate, or due to taking part in a lawful strike, will be obliged, at the election of the worker, to comply with the contract or to indemnify him with the amount of three months' salary. The Law will determine the cases in which the employer can be exempted from the obligation to comply with the contract by the payment of an indemnity. He will also be obliged to indemnify the worker with the amount of three months' salary, when he retires from service due to a lack of probity of , or mistreatment by, the employer, either in his person or in

that of his spouse, parents, children or siblings. The employer cannot excuse himself from this responsibility when the mistreatment is by his dependents or relatives who act with his tolerance and consent;

XXIII.- Credits in favor of the workers from salary or wages earned during the past year, and from indemnities, will have preference over any others in the cases of failure or bankruptcy;

XXIV.- Only the worker will be responsible for the debts contracted by workers in favor of their employers, of their associates, relatives or dependents, and in no case and under no circumstances can these be claimed from the members of his family, nor can said debts be claimed in an amount exceeding the worker's monthly salary;

XXV.- The service for placing workers will be gratis for the latter, whether effected by municipal offices, employment agencies or any other official or private institution.

In rendering this service, the demand for work will be taken into consideration and, under equal conditions, those representing the sole source of income for their families will have precedence;

XXVI.- All work contracts formalized between a Mexican and a foreign employer must be legalized by the competent municipal authority and provided with a visa by the Consul of the Nation to which the worker must go, on the understanding that in addition to the ordinary clauses, it should be clearly specified that repatriation expenses will be paid by the contracting employer;

XXVII.- The following conditions will be null and void and will not bind the workers, even if contained in the contract:

a).- Those which provide for an inhumane workday as notoriously excessive, given the nature of the work.

b).- Those fixing a salary which is insufficient, in the judgment of the Conciliation and Arbitration Boards;

c).- Those specifying a period in excess of one week for receiving the daily wage.

d).- Those indicating a place of recreation, inn, café, tavern, canteen or store to make payment of the salary, when not concerning the employees of these establishments.

e).- Those involving a direct or indirect obligation to obtain consumer goods in certain stores or places.

f).- Those which allow the salary to be retained as a fine.

g).- Those which represent a waiver by the worker with respect to the indemnities to which he is entitled due to a work accident and professional illnesses, losses occasioned by default on the contract or due to dismissal from the work.

h).- All other provisions which imply a waiver to any right established in favor of the worker in the laws protecting and aiding the workers.

XXVIII.- The laws will determine the bases indicating the net worth of families, which assets cannot be transferred, subjected to real encumbrances nor seizures, and which will be transferable as an inheritance by simplifying the formalities for settling a decedent's estate.

XXIX.- The Social Security Law is of public utility, and will cover invalidity, old age, life, the involuntary termination of work, illness and accidents, custody services insurance and any other for the protection and well-being of the workers, peasants, those not receiving salaries and other social sectors and their families.

XXX.- Likewise, cooperative corporations for the construction of cheap and hygienic housing, for the purpose of being acquired by the workers in installments over a specific term, will be considered of social utility.

XXXI.- Application of the labor laws corresponds to the State authorities within their respective jurisdictions, but the federal authorities are exclusively competent in matters concerning:

a).- The industrial and service branches;

1.- Textiles;

2.- Electricity;

3.- Cinematography;

4.- Rubber;

5.- Sugar;

6.- Mining;

7.- Metallurgical and iron and steel, covering the exploitation of basic minerals, the smelting and processing of same, together with the obtaining of metallic iron and steel in all their forms and alloys and the laminated products of same;

8.- Hydrocarbons;

9.- Petrochemicals;

10.- Cement;

11.- Limestone;

12.- Automotive, including mechanical or electrical autoparts;

13.- Chemistry, including pharmaceutical chemistry and medicines;

14.- Cellulose and paper;

15.- Vegetable greases and oils;

16.- Food production, covering exclusively the manufacture of those packed, canned or bottled or intended for this purpose;

17.- The preparation of beverages to be bottled or canned or which are intended for this purpose;

18.- Railroad;

19.- Basic wood, covering the production of sawmills and the manufacture of triply or wooden agglutinates;

20.- Glass, exclusively as regards the manufacture of plate glass, plain or worked, or glass bottles; and

21.- Tobacco, covering the processing or manufacture of tobacco products;

22.- Banking and credit services.

b).- Companies

1.- Those managed directly or indirectly or decentralized by the Federal Government;

2.- Those acting under a federal contract or concession and their related industries; and

3.- Those implementing works in federal zones or which come under federal jurisdiction, in territorial waters or in those coming within the exclusive economic area of the Nation.

Also coming within the exclusive competence of the federal authorities are the application of work provisions in matters related to conflicts affecting two or more Federative Entities; bargaining agreements which have been declared obligatory in more than one federative entity; employers' obligations on educational matters, in the terms of Law; and with respect to the obligations of employers on the training and specializing of their workers, and of security and hygiene in the work centers, for which purpose the federal authorities will have the aid of the state authorities in the case of branches or activities coming under local jurisdiction, in the terms of the corresponding regulatory law;

B.- Between the Powers of the Union, the Government of the Federal District and their workers:

I.- The maximum day and night work shifts will be eight and seven hours, respectively. Those in excess will be overtime and will be paid one hundred percent more than the remuneration fixed for the ordinary service. In no case can the overtime work exceed three hours daily nor three consecutive occasions.

II.- For every six days of work, the worker will enjoy one day of rest, at least, with full salary;

III.- Workers will enjoy vacations which will never be less than twenty days a year;

IV.- Salaries will be fixed in the respective budgets, and their amounts cannot be decreased during the latter's period of effect.

In no case can salaries be lower than the general minimum for workers in the Federal District and in the States of the Republic;

V.- Equal work will merit equal salary, without taking the sex into account;

VI.- Withdrawals, discounts, deductions or seizures of salary can only take place in the cases provided by law;

VII.- The personnel will be appointed by systems which permit appreciation of the knowledge and aptitudes of the aspirants. The State will organize Public Administration schools.;

VIII.- Workers will enjoy seniority rights in order for promotions to be made based on knowhow, aptitudes and seniority. Under equal conditions, the person representing the sole source of income in his family will have preference;

IX.- Workers can only be suspended or dismissed for justified reasons, in the terms fixed by law;

In the event of an unjustified dismissal, the worker will be entitled to choose between reinstatement in his work or the corresponding indemnity, following legal proceedings. In the cases where jobs are eliminated, the affected workers will be entitled to being given work similar to that eliminated, or to the indemnity provided by law;

X.- Workers will be entitled to join together to defend their common interests. They can likewise make use of the right to strike upon complying with the requirements established by law, with respect to one or several dependencies of the Public Powers, when the rights listed in this article are generally and systematically violated;

XI.- Social security will be organized in accordance with the following minimum bases;

a).- It will cover professional accidents and illnesses; non-professional illnesses and maternity; and retirement, invalidity. Old and death;

b).- In the case of an accident or illness, the right to work will be retained for the period determined by law;

c).- During pregnancy, women will not engage in work which requires considerable effort and signifies a danger to their health in connection with the gestation; they will have an obligatory rest period of one month prior to the approximate date of birth, and two more following same, receiving their full salary and retaining their employment and the rights they have acquired under the working relationship. During the nursing period they will have two special rest periods per day of half an hour each, in order to feed their children. They will also enjoy medical and obstetrical assistance, aid for nursing and the service of child nurseries;

d).- Workers' families will be entitled to medical assistance and medicines, in the cases and in the proportion determined by law;

e).- Centers will be established for vacations and for recovery, together with economic stores for the benefit of workers and their families;

f).- Cheap housing will be provided to working, in lease or sale, in accordance with previously approved programs.

Likewise, the State through the contributions it makes, will establish a national housing fund in order to make deposits in favor of said workers and establish a financing system allowing cheap and sufficient credit to be granted to the latter so that they can acquire comfortable and hygienic housing in ownership, or to build, repair or improve same or pay liabilities incurred for these reasons.

The contributions made to said fund will be paid to the entity in charge of social security, regulating under its Law and corresponding laws the form and procedure by which said fund will be administered and the respective credits granted and awarded.

XII.- Individual, collective or inter-syndical conflicts will be submitted to a Federal Conciliation and Arbitration Tribunal, as provided in the regulatory law.

Conflicts between the Judicial Power of the Federation and its servants will be resolved by the Council of the Federal Judicature; those between the Supreme Court of Justice and its employees will be resolved by the latter.

XIII.- Soldiers, sailors, foreign service personnel, Police officers and members of the police associations, will be governed by their own laws.

The State will provide to the members of the Army, Navy and Air Force on service the benefits to which section XI, insert f) of this Part refers, in similar terms and through the agency in charge of the social security for the components of said institutions; and

The members of the police institutions of the municipalities, federative entities, of the Federal District and of the Federation, can be removed from office without reinstatement should they fail to comply with current law requirements at the moment of the removal, no matter what arguments are put forward, only indemnity being applicable. The removal of the other public servants to which this section refers will be governed by applicable law.

XIII. bis.- The labor relations of Federal Public Administration agencies forming part of the Mexican banking system with their workers, will be governed by the provisions of this section.

XIV.- The law will determine which positions are considered to be of trust. The persons holding same will enjoy salary protection measures and social security benefits.

SEVENTH TITLE
General

Article 124

Faculties not expressly granted to Federal officers under this Constitution, will be understood as reserved for the states.

Article 125

No individual can hold two popularly-elected Federal offices at the same time, nor one of the Federation and another of a State which is also elected; but the appointee can choose which of the two he wishes to occupy.

Article 126

No payment whatsoever can be made which is not included in the Budget or determined by a subsequent law.

Article 127

The President of the Republic the Justices of the Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation, the Deputies and Senators of the Congress of the Union, Representatives to the Assembly of the Federal District and other public servants will receive a suitable remuneration which cannot be waived for the performance of their duty, employment, charge or commission, to be annually and equitably determined in the Expenditure Budgets for the Federation and the Federal District, or in the budgets of semi-state agencies, as applicable.

Article 128

All public officials, without exception, must take the protest to abide by the Constitution and the laws emanating therefrom before taking office.

Article 129

In times of peace no military authority can exercise any action not strictly limited to military discipline. There will only be fixed and permanent Military Commands in the castles, fortresses and stores immediately dependent on the Government of the Union; or in the camps, barracks or deposits which are established, outside the cities, for stationing the troops.

Article 130

The historical principle of the separation between the State and the churches will orient the rules contained in the present article. The churches and other religious groups will be subject to the law.

The exclusive responsibility for legislating on matters of public worship and on churches and religious groups will belong to the Congress of the Union. The respective regulatory law, which will be of public order, will develop and specify the following provisions:

a).- The churches and religious groups will possess legal status as religious associations, once they obtain the corresponding registration. The law will regulate these associations and determine the conditions and requirements for their formal registration.

b).- The authorities will not intervene in the internal life of the religious associations.

c).- The Mexicans can exercise the ministry of any religion. Both Mexicans and foreigners should satisfy the requirements indicated by law for this purpose.

d).- In the terms of the regulatory law, the ministers of religion cannot hold public office. As citizens they are entitled to vote, but not receive votes. Those who have ceased to be ministers of religion with the anticipation and in the form required by law, can receive votes.

e).- Ministers cannot associate themselves for political purposes nor make statements in favor or against any political candidate, party or association whatsoever. Nor can they oppose the laws of the country or its institutions in public meetings for the purpose of services or religious propaganda, nor in publications of a religious nature, nor offend the symbols of the nation in any way.

It is strictly forbidden to form any kind of religious group the name of which contains any word or indication whatsoever that it is connected with any religious view. No meetings of a political nature can be held in church.

The simple promise to tell the truth and comply with the obligations contracted, subject to what is done will, if disobeyed, give rise to the penalties established for such purpose by law.

The ministers of religion, their ascendants, descendants, siblings and spouses, together with the religious associations to which these belong, will be disqualified from inheriting by testament from persons who said ministers have directed or aided spiritually and who have no relationship within the fourth degree.

The acts of civil status of individuals come within the exclusive competence of the administrative authorities, in the terms established by law, and will have the force and validity which the latter attribute to them.

The federal, state and municipal authorities will possess the faculties and responsibilities determined by law in this matter.

Article 131

The Federation is empowered to tax goods imported or exported, or passing in transit through national territory, and to regulate at all times and even forbid, for safety or police reasons, the circulation of all kinds of effects, or whatever origin, within the Republic; but without the Federation being able to establish or dictate the taxes and laws listed in article 117, sections VI and VII, within the Federal District.

The Executive can be authorized by the Congress of the Union to increase, decrease or suppress the rates of export or import duties issued by said Congress, and to create others; and also to restrict and forbid the imports, exports and transit of products, articles and effects, when he considers this urgent, for the purpose of regulating foreign trade, the economy of the country, the stability of national production, or for any other reason to the benefit of the country. The Executive himself, on forwarding the Fiscal Budget to Congress each year, will submit to its approval the use he has made of the power conferred.

Article 132

Forts, barracks, deposit warehouses and other property destined for public service or common use by the Government of the Union, will be subject to the jurisdiction of the Federal Powers in the terms of the law to be issued by the Congress of the Union; but in order for this to apply equally to properties subsequently acquired within the territory of a State, the consent of the respective legislature must be obtained.

Article 133

This Constitution, the laws of the Congress of the Union emanating therefrom and all Treaties in agreement with same, formalized and to be formalized by the Chairman of the Republic with the approval of the Senate, will be the Supreme Law of the entire Union. The Judges of each State will adjust themselves to said Constitution, laws and treaties, despite any provisions to the contrary which may be contained in the State Constitutions and laws.

Article 134

The economic resources of the Federal Government and the Government for the Federal District, together with their respective public semi-state administrations, will be managed with efficiency, efficacy and honesty to satisfy the purposes for which they are intended.

The acquisitions, leasing and transfers of all kinds of assets, the rendering of services of any nature and the contracting of works effected, will be awarded or carried out by public bidding through a public call issued in order for solvent bids to be freely presented in a sealed envelope, to be opened publicly, in order to ensure the best possible conditions for the State as regards price, quality, financing, opportunity and other pertinent characteristics.

When the bidding to which the preceding paragraph refers is not suitable to ensure the foregoing, the conditions, procedures, rules, requirements and other elements necessary to verify the economy, efficacy, efficiency, impartiality and honesty to ensure the best conditions for the State will be established by law..

The management of federal economic resources will be subject to the conditions of this article.

Public servants will be responsible for complying with these conditions in the terms of the Fourth Title of this Constitution.

EIGHTH TITLE

Amendments to the Constitution

Article 135

The present Constitution can be added to or amended. In order for the additions or amendments become part of same, it is necessary for the Congress of the Union resolve on said additions or amendments by the vote of two thirds of the individuals present, and that these be approved by the majority of the State Legislatures.

The Congress of the Union or, as applicable, the Permanent Commission, will count the votes of the Legislatures and the declaration that the additions or amendments have been approved.

NINTH TITLE

The Inviolability of the Constitution

Article 136

This Constitution will not lose its strength and vigor even when, due to some rebellion, its observance is interrupted. In the event that, due to any public upheaval, a government is established contrary to the principles approved therein, as soon as the people recover their freedom its observance will be reestablished and, in accordance with same and with the laws issued thereunder, both those forming part the government resulting from the rebellion, and those who have cooperated with same, will be judged.

TRANSITORY

First Article

This Constitution will be published immediately and a protest taken to observe and ensure that it is observed throughout the Republic, but with the exception of the provisions regarding election of the Supreme Federal and State Powers, which enter into force at once, will not come into effect until May 1, 1917, on which date the Constitutional Congress should be solemnly installed and the protest of law

given by the citizen elected in the next elections to take office as President of the Republic.

At the elections to be called in accordance with the following article, article 82, section V will not apply; nor will being on active service in the Army be an impediment to being a deputy or senator, always providing that he holds no high command in the respective electoral district; nor will State Ministers and Under Ministers be hindered from being elected to the next Congress of the Union, always providing that these formally resign from office on the day the respective call is published.

Second Article

The person currently in charge of the Executive Power of the Nation will, immediately this Constitution is published, convene the election of Federal Powers, ensuring that these take place in such a way that Congress is established on time, in order that once the votes cast in the president elections have been counted, the person named as President of the Republic can be announced, in order for the provisions of the preceding article to be complied with.

Third Article

The forthcoming constitutional period will be counted, for the Deputies and Senators, from the first of September last and, for the President of the Republic, from December 1, 1916.

Fourth Article

Senators who, in the forthcoming elections, have an even number, will only remain two years in their exercise of office, in order for the Chamber of Senators to be henceforth renewed, by halves, every two years.

Fifth Article

The Congress of the Union will elect the Magistrates of the Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation during the month of May next, in order for this Body to be solemnly installed on the first of June.

In these elections article 96 will not apply, as regards the proposals of candidates for the local Legislatures; but those appointed will be so only for the first period of two years established by article 94.

Sixth Article

The Congress of the Union will have a special period of sessions commencing April 15, 1917, to establish itself as an Electoral College, count the votes and classify the elections of President of the Republic, making the respective declaration; and, moreover, to issue the Organic law of the Circuit and District Courts, the Organic law for the Courts of the Federal District and Territories, in order for the Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation to immediately appoint the

Circuit Magistrates and District Judges, and the Congress of the Union itself the elections of Magistrates, Judges of the first Instance for the Federal District and Territories; it will also issue all the laws considered by the Executive Power of the Nation. The Circuit Magistrates and District Judges, and the Magistrates and Judges of the Federal District and Territories, should take possession of office before July 1, 1917, when those named by the person currently in charge of the Executive Power of the Nation will cease.

Seventh Article

On this occasion, the counting of the votes for Senators will be made by the Counting Board for the First Electoral District of each State or the Federal District, to be formed for counting the votes of deputies, the corresponding credentials for elected senators being issued by said Board.

Eighth Article

The Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation will resolve on any actions for relief ('amparos') pending, subjecting itself to the laws currently in force.

Ninth Article

The First Commander in Chief of the Constitutionalist Army, In Charge of the Executive Power of the Union, is empowered to issue the electoral law in accordance with which, on this occasion, the elections to form the Powers of the Union are to be held..

Tenth Article

Those forming part of the Government rebelling against the legitimate Government of the Republic, or cooperating with same, fighting afterwards with arms in hand or accepting employment or office in the fractions which attacked the Constitutionalist Government will, always provided they have not been pardoned by the latter, be judged by current law.

Eleventh Article

The Congress of the Union and those of the States will meanwhile legislate on agrarian and labor problems. The bases established by this Constitution for these laws will be placed in effect throughout the Republic.

Twelfth Article

Mexicans who have fought with the Constitutionalist Army, together with their children and widows, and any other persons who have rendered services to the cause of the Revolution or to Public Instruction, will have preference in accordance with article 27 for the acquisition of fractions, and be entitled to the discounts indicated by law.

Thirteenth Article

The debts incurred by workers with employers, their families or intermediaries, to the date of this Constitution, are hereby annulled in accordance with law.

Fourteenth Article

The Ministry of Justice is hereby extinguished.

Fifteenth Article

The Citizen In Charge of the Executive Power of the Union is hereby empowered to issue a civil liability law applicable to the authors, accomplices and harborers of offenses committed against constitutional order in the month of February, 1913, and against the Constitutionalist Government.

Sixteenth Article

The Constitutional Congress in its regular period of sessions, to begin on September 1 this year, will issue all the organic laws of the Constitution which have not already been issued in the special period to which transitory article 6 refers, and will give preference to the laws on Individual Guaranties and articles 30, 32, 33, 35, 36, 38, 107 and the final part of article 111 of this Constitution.

Seventeenth Article

The churches and other assets which, under article 27, section II of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States which is amended by this Decree, are the property of the nation, will retain their current legal status.

Eighteenth Article

(Repealed)

Nineteenth Article

(Repealed)

Given in the Assembly Hall of the Constituent Congress in Queretaro, on the thirty first of January one thousand nine hundred and seventeen.- President: Luis Manuel Rojas, Deputy for the State of Jalisco.- First Vice-President: Major-General Candido Aguilar, Deputy for the State of Veracruz.- Second Vice-President: Brigadier General Salvador Gonzalez Torres. Deputy for the State of Oaxaca.- Deputy for the State of Aguascalientes: Danied Cervantes.- Deputy for the Territory of Baja California: Ignacio Roel.- Deputies for the State of Coahuila: M. Aguirre Berlanga, Jose Ma. Rodriguez, Jorge E. Von Versen, Manuel Cepeda Medrano, Jose Rodriguez Gonzalez (Alternate).- Deputy for the State of Colima: Francisco Ramirez Villareal.- Deputies for the State of Chiapas: Enrique Suarez, Lisandro Lopez, Daniel A. Cepeda, Cristobal Ll. y Castillo, J. Amilcar Vidal.- Deputy for the State of Chihuahua: Manuel M. Prieto.- Deputies for the Federal District: Gen. Ignacio L. Pesqueira, Lauro Lopez Guerra, Gerzayn Ugarte, Amador Lozano, Felix F. Palavicini, Carlos Duplan, Rafael L. de los Rios, Arnulfo Silva, Antonio

Norzagaray, Ciro B. Ceballos, Alfonso Herrera, Roman Rosas y Reyes (Alternate), Lic. Francisoc Espinosa (Alternate).- Deputies for the State of Durango: Silvestre Dorador, Lic. Rafael Espeleta, Antonio Gutierrez, Dr. Fernando Gomez palacio, Alberto Terrones B., Jesus de la Torre.- Deputies for the State of Guanajuato: Gen. Lic. Ramon Frausto, Ing. Vicente M. Valtierra, Jose N. Macias, David Pena Flor, Jose Villasenor, Santiago Manrique, Lic. Hilario Medina, Manuel G. Aranda, Enrique Colunga, Ing. Ignacio Lopez, Dr. Francisco Diaz Barriga, Nicolas Cano, Lt. Col. Gilberto N. Navarro, Luis Fernandez Martinez, Luis M. Alcoser (Alternate), Ing. Carlos Ramiez Llaca.- Deputies for the State of Guerrero: Fidel Jimenez, Fidel Guillen, Francisco Figueroa.- Deputies for the State of Hidalgo: Antonio Guerrero, Leopoldo Ruiz, Lic. Alberto M. Gonzalez, Rafael Vega Sanchez, Alfonso Cravioto, Matias Rodriguez, Ismael Pintado Sanchez, Lic. Refugio M. Mercado, Alfonso Mayorg.- Deputies for the State of Jalisco: Marcelino Davalos, Federico E. Ibara, Manuel Davalos Ornelas, Francisco Martin del Campo, Bruno Moreno, Gaspa Bolanos B., Juan de Dios Rbledo, Ramon Castaneda y Castaneda, Jorge Villasenor, Gen. Amado Aguirre, Jose I. Solorzano, Francisco Labastida Izquierdo, Ignacio Ramos Praslow, Jose Manzano, Joaquin Aguirre Berlanga, Brigadier General Esteban B. Calderon, Paulino Machorro y Navaez, Col. Sebastian Allende, Jr.- Deputies for the State of Mexico: Aldegundo Villasenor, Fernando Moreno, Enrique O'Farril, Guillermo Ordorica, Jose J. Reynoso, Antonio Aguilar, Juan Manuel Giffard, Manuel A. Hernandez, Enrique A. Enriquez, Donato Bravo Izquierdo, Ruben Marti.- Deputies for the State of Michoacan: Jose P. Ruiz, Alberto Peralta, Cayetano Andrade, Uriel Aviles, Gabriel R. Cervera, Onecimo Lopez Couto, Salvador Alcaraz Romero, Manuel Martinez Solorzano, Martin Castejon, Lic. Alberto Alvarado, Jose Alvarez, Rafael Marquez, Jose Silva Herrera, Amadeo Betancourt, Francisco J. Mugica, Jesus Romero Flores.- Deputies for the State of Morelos: Antonio Garza Zambrano, Alvaro L. Alcazar, Jose L. Gomez.- Deputies for the State of Nuevo Leon: Manuel Amaya, Niceforo Zambrano, Luis Ilizalturri, Col. Ramon Gamez, Reynaldo Garza, Plutarco Gonzalez, Lorenzo Sepulveda (Alternate).- Deputies for the State of Oaxaca: Juan Sanchez, Lopoldo Payan, Lic. Manuel Herrera, Lic. Porfirio Sosa, Lic. Selestino Perez Jr., Crisoforo Rivera Cabrera, Col. Jose F. Gamez, Major Luis Espinosa.- Delegates for the State of Puebla: Dr. Salvador R. Guzman, Lic. Rafael B. Canete, Miguel Rosales, Gabriel Rojana, Lic. David Pastrana Jaimas, Floylan C. Manjarez, Lt. Col. Antonio de la Barrera, Major Jose Rivera, Col.Epigmenio A. Martinez, Pastor Rouaix, Col. of Eng. Luis T. Navarro, Lt. Col. Federico Dinorin, Gen. Gabino Bandera Mata, Col. Porfirio del Castillo, Col. Dr. Gilberto de la Fuente, Alfonso Cabrera, Jose Verastegui.- Deputies for the State of Queretaro: Juan N. Frias, Ernesto Perrusquia.- Deputies for the State of San Luis Potosi: Samuel M. Santos, Dr. Arturo Mendez, Rafael Martinez Mendoza, Rafael Nieto, Dionisio Zavala, Gregorio A. Tello, Rafael Curiel, Cosme Davila (Alternate).- Deputies for the State of Sinaloa: Pedro R. Zavala, Andres Magallon, Carlos M. Ezquerro, Candido Aviles, Emiliano C. Garcia.- Deputies for the State of Sonora: Luis G. Monzon, Ramon Ross.- Deputies for the State of Tabasco: Lic. Rafael Martinez de Escobar, Santiago Ocampo, Carmen Sanchez Magallanes.- Deputies

for the State of Tamaulipas: Col. Pedro M. Chapa, Cerefino Fajardo, Fortunato de la Hija, Emiliano Prospero Nafarrate.- Deputies for the Territory of Tepic: Lt. Col. Cristobal Limon, Major Matcelino Sedao, Juan Espinosa Bavara.- Deputies for the State of Tlaxcala: Antonio Hidalgo, Ascension Tepal, Modesto Gonzalez y Galindo.- Deputies for the State of Veracruz: Saul Rodiles, Enrique Meza, Benito Ramirez G., Eliseo L. Cespedes, Adolfo G. Garcia, Josafat F. Marquez, Alfredo Solares, Albert Roman, Silvestre Aguilar, Agel S. Juarico, Heriberto Jara, Victorio N. Gongora, Carlos L. Gracidas (Alternate), Marcelo Torres, Juan de Dios Palma, Galindo H. Casados, Fernando A. Pereyra.- Deputies for the State of Yucatan: Enrique Recio, Miguel Alonso Romero, Hector Victoria A.- Deputies for the State of Zacatecas: Adolfo Villasenor, Julian Adame, Jairo R. Dyer, Samuel Castanon, Andres L. Arteaga, Antonio Cervantes, Col. Juan Aguirre Escobar.- Secretary: Fernando Lizardi, Deputy for the State of Guanajuato.- Secretary: Ernesto Meade Fierro, Deputy for the State of Coahuila.- Secretary: Jose M. Truchuelo, Deputy for the State of Queretaro.- Secretary: Antonio Ancona Albertos, Deputy for the State of Yucatan.- Assistant Secretary: Dr. Jesus Lopez Lira, Deputy for the State of Guanajuato.- Assistant Secretary: Fernando Castanos, Deputy for the State of Durango.- Assistant Secretary: Juan de Dios Bojorquez, Deputy for the State of Sonora.- Assistant Secretary: Flavio A. Borquez, Deputy for the State of Sonora.

I therefore order that this be printed, published by solemn proclamation and announced throughout the Republic for its due compliance.

Given in the National Palace of the City of Queretaro on February 5, 1917.- V. CARRANZA.- Paraph.

To the Citizen Lic. Manuel Aguirre Berlanga, Assistant Secretary in Charge of the Office of the Interior.- Mexico.

Which I have the honor to communicate to you for its publication and other effects.

Constitution and Reform.- Mexico, fifth of February one thousand nine hundred and seventeen.- AGUIRRE BERLANGA.

T R A N S I T O R Y

Amendment Published in the Official Gazette of the Federation on September 3, 193

First Article

The present Decree will come into force on the day of its publication in the Official Gazette of the Federation.

Second Article

The present Magistrates of the Federal Electoral Tribunal elected by the Chamber of Deputies of the Congress of the Union, according to a Decree published in the Official Gazette of the Federation on October 3, 1990, will remain in office.

Third Article

At the 1994 Federal election, two senators of relative majority and one of first minority will be elected for each State and the Federal District to the LVI and LVII Legislatures of the Congress of the Union, and will remain in office from November 1, 1994 to the termination date of the last legislature mentioned. For this election, political parties should register a list with two formulas of candidates for each federative entity.

Fourth Article

The Federal deputies to the LVI Legislature will remain in office from November 1, 1994 to the concluding date of said legislature.

Fifth Article

The federal election to form the LVI Legislature of the Chamber of Deputies of the H. Congress of the Union, will take place based on the distribution of the uninominal districts and the five plurinominal circumscriptions into which the country was divided for the 1991 electoral process. For the 1997 federal election, by which the LVII Legislature will be formed, a new distribution of uninominal districts will be made based on the formal results of the 1990 general population census.

Sixth Article

All provisions opposing the amendments established in the present Decree are repealed.

ASSEMBLY HALL OF THE PERMANENT COMMISSION OF THE H, CONGRESS OF THE UNION.- Mexico, Federal District, September 2, 1993.- Sen. Emilio M. Gonzalez, President.- Sen. Antonio Melgar Aranda, Secretary.- Deputy Juan Campos Vega, Secretary.- Paraphs.”

In compliance with the provisions of Article 89, section I of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States and for its due publication and observance, I issue the present Decree at the residence of Federal Executive Power, in the City of Mexico, Federal District, on the second day of the month of September one thousand nine hundred and ninety three.- The Minister of the Interior, Jose Patrocinio Gonzalez Blanco Garrido.- Paraph.

TRANSITORY

Amendment published in the Official Gazette of the Federation on October 25, 1993.

First Article

The present Decree will come into force thirty days following its publication in the Official Gazette of the Federation, except as provided in the following transitory articles.

Second Article

The Assembly of Representative for the Federal District elected for the November 1991 to November 1994 period, will continue to have the faculties established in article 73, section VI of this Constitution, in force at the moment the present Decree comes into force.

Third Article

The III Assembly of Representatives for the Federal District will have the faculties conferred hereon by the present Decree, and will be that formed for the period beginning November 15, 1994 and concluding September 16, 1997.

Fourth Article

As from March 15, 1995, the period of regular sessions of the Assembly of Representatives for the Federal District will be formalized in accordance with the dates established by the present Decree.

Fifth Article

The first appointment for the office of Head of the Federal District in the terms of the present Decree, will take place in the month of December 1997, and the respective constitutional period will conclude on December 2 in the year 2000. Until said Head assumes office, the government for the Federal District will continue to be managed by the President of the Republic, in accordance with article 73, section VI, first base of this Constitution, in force at the moment the present Decree takes effect.

Sixth Article

The boards of citizens by territorial limitations will be elected and installed in 1995, in accordance with the provisions of the Statute of Government and the respective laws.

Seventh Article

Public servants who re-enter the public administration for the Federal District and its dependencies will retain all their labor rights.

Eighth Article

The proposed laws on revenue and decrees for budget expenditure for the Federal District for the 1995, 1996 and 1997 periods, together with the public accounts for

1995 and 1996, will be sent to the Assembly of Representatives by the President of the Republic. The public accounts corresponding to 1994 will be reviewed by the Chamber of Deputies of the Congress of the Union.

Ninth Article

While the provisions coordinating the tax system between the Federation and the Federal District are amended and issued, the rules in force at the entry into force of the present Decree will continue to apply.

Tenth Article

Until the new rules applicable to the Federal District are issued, the current legal and regulatory provisions will continue in force.

Eleventh Article

The Congress of the Union will retain the faculty of legislating, within the local environment, on matters of common law, civil and criminal, for the Federal District, until the corresponding federal resolutions are issued, upon whose entry into effect the Assembly of Representatives will be responsible for legislating on this matter, in the terms of the present Decree.

TRANSITORY

Amendment published in the Official Gazette of the Federation on August 22, 1996

First Article

The present Decree will come into force on the day following its publication in the Official Gazette of the Federation, except as provided in the following articles.

Second Article.

The additions contained in article 105, section II of this Decree, solely as concerns State electoral legislations where, under current calendars, elections should be held prior to April 1997, will come into force as from January 1, 1997.

In the case of federal and local electoral legislations issued prior to April 1, 1997, by reason of the amendments contained herein, for solely one occasion the term given in article 105, section II, fourth paragraph, will not apply.

Acts contrary to the Constitution for the purpose of raising a possible contradiction between a general electoral rule and said Constitution, exercised in the terms of Article 105, section II thereof and this Decree prior to April 1, 1997, will be subject to the following special provisions:

a).- The term to which section II, second paragraph of the above article refers for exercise of the action, will be fifteen calendar days; and

b).- The Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation should resolve on the action taken within a term not to exceed fifteen working days, counted as from the filing of the initial instrument.

The amendments to article 116 contained in the present Decree will not apply to the constitutional and legal provisions of the States wishing to hold electoral processes, which have or will commence prior to January 1, 1997. In these cases, they will have a period of one year counted as from termination of the respective electoral processes, to adjust their constitutional and legal framework to said precept.

All other States not coming within the exception mentioned in the preceding paragraph, should adjust their constitutional and legal framework to the provisions of article 116 as amended by the present Decree, within a term not to exceed six months as from its entry into force.

Third Article

By, at latest, October 31, 1996, the member President and Executive Secretary of the General Council of the Federal Electoral Institute should have been named, together with the eight new electoral members and their alternates to replace the present Citizen Members, who cannot be reelected. Until the appoints are made or the respective law is amended, the General Council of the Federal Electoral Institute will continue to exercise the competences and functions currently indicated by the Federal Code on Electoral Institutions and Procedures.

Fourth Article

The election of thirty two senators on the proportional representation principle, will take place at the 1997 elections for the Fifty Seventh Legislature by the system of lists voted under a single national plurinominal circumscription. These senators will remain in office from November 1, 1997 to the concluding date of said Legislature. The appointment will be made by means of a formula which considers the natural quotient and the larger remainder, and will be effected in decreasing order of the respective lists. The second paragraph to the Third of the Transitory Articles of September 2, 1993, published in the Official Gazette of the Federation on the 3 of said month and year and amending Articles 41, 54, 56, 60, 63, 74 and 100 of this Constitution, is hereby revoked.

Fifth Article

The new Electoral Magistrates should be appointed by, at latest, October 31, 1996 and, on this occasion, will require the vote of three-fourths of the members present in the Chamber of Senators for their election.

Sixth Article

Until the corresponding laws are issued or amended, the Federal Electoral Tribunal will continue to exercise the competences and functions currently indicated by the Federal Code on Electoral Institutions and Procedures.

Seventh Article

The Head of Government for the Federal District will be elected in the year 1997, and will exercise his mandate on this occasion only, until December 4 in the year 2000.

Eighth Article

The rule under which provisions are issued to govern local elections in the Federal District, as given in article 22, part C, Section V, insert f) of this Decree, will come into force on January 1, 1998. The Federal Code on Electoral Institutions and Procedures will be applied for the 1997 election of the Head of government and deputies to the assembly of the Federal District.

Ninth Article

The requirement to which section I, second paragraph, of the SECOND BASE to Part C of article 122, which forbids election as Head of Government if this office has previously been held under any title, should be understood to apply to any citizen who has headed this entity, even if under a different denomination.

Tenth Article

The provisions of section II of the THIRD BASE, to Part C of article 122, referring to the election of those in charge of political-administrative agencies in the territorial areas of the Federal District, will come into force on January 1, 2000; in 1997, indirect elections will take place in the terms determined by law.

Eleventh Article

The rule establishing the faculty of the Legislative Assembly for the Federal District to legislate on civil and criminal matters therein, will come into force on January 1, 1999.

Twelfth Article

Real estate located in the Federal District and used for the service rendered by the Federal Powers, together with any other property utilized for this purpose, will continue under federal jurisdiction.

Thirteenth Article

All edicts regulating local agencies in the Federal District to date, will remain in force until replaced by others, issued by the competent entities in accordance with the provisions and conditions indicated in this Decree.

ASSEMBLY HALL OF THE PERMANENT COMMISSION OF THE HONORABLE CONGRESS OF THE UNION.- Mexico, Federal District, August 21, 1996.- Sen. Fernando Ortiz Arana, President.- Dep. Martina Montenegro Espinoza, Secretary.- Sen. Francisco Xavier Salazar Saenz, Secretary.- Paraphs.” In compliance with the provisions of Article 9, section I of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States, and for its due publication and observance, I issue the present Decree at the residence of the Federal Executive Power, in the City of Mexico, Federal District, on the twenty-first day of the month of August one thousand nine hundred and ninety six.- Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de Leon.- Paraph.- The Minister of the Interior, Emilio Chuayffet Chemor.- Paraph.

T R A N S I T O R Y March 20, 1997

DECREE AMENDING TRANSITORY ARTICLE 2 OF THE DECREE MODIFYING ARTICLES 30, 32 AND 37 OF THE POLITICAL CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES, PUBLISHED ON MARCH 20, 1997.

First Article

The present Decree will come into force the year following its publication in the Official Gazette of the Federation.

Second Article

Those who have lost their Mexican nationality by birth due to having voluntarily acquired a foreign nationality and who are in full enjoyment of their rights, can benefit from the provisions of article 37, part A) of the Constitution, amended under the present Decree, on petition to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, within the five years following said entry into force of the present instrument.

Third Article

Provisions in force prior to the entry into effect of this Decree, will continue to apply to those born or conceived during its period of effect solely to everything in their favor, without prejudice to the benefits granted by the amendment contained in the present Decree.

Fourth Article

Until the Congress of the Union issues the corresponding provisions on the matter of nationality, the current Law on Nationality will continue in force in that which does not conflict with the present Decree.

Fifth Article

Article 37, part C), last paragraph, will come into force on the day following its publication in the Official Gazette of the Federation.

ASSEMBLY HALL OF THE PERMANENT COMMISSION OF THE H. CONGRESS OF THE UNION.- Mexico, Federal District, March 5, 1997.- Dep.

Juan Jose Osorio Palacios, President.- Sen. Melquiades Morales Flores, Secretary.- Dep. Armando Ballinas Mayes, Secretary.- Paraphs.” In compliance with the provisions of Article 89, section I of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States, and for its due publication and observance, I issue the present Decree at the residence of Federal Executive Power, in the City of Mexico, Federal District, on the seventh day of the month of March one thousand nine hundred and ninety seven.- Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de Leon.- Paraph.- The Minister of the Interior, Emilio Chuayffet Chemor.- Paraph.

TRANSITORY JUNE 11, 1999

First Article

The present Decree will come into force on the day following its publication in the Official Gazette of the Federation.

Second Article

The present Members of the Federal Judicature, excepting the President of the Council, will terminate their functions on the entry into force of the present Decree.

The members of the Federal Judicature should be appointed by a Full Session of the Supreme Court of Justice, the Senate and the Federal Executive, in accordance with Article 10 of the Constitution as amended by, at latest, thirty calendar days following the entry into force of the present Decree.

On one occasion only, the period of the Members appointed by the Supreme Court of Justice will expire on the last day of November 2002, 2004 and 2006; that of those appointed by the Senate on the last day of November 2003 and 2007; and the one appointed by the Federal Executive on the last day of November 2005. On appointing Members, it should be indicated which of the periods will correspond to each.

Third Article

Until the Council of the Federal Judicature is installed in the terms of the preceding transitory article, a temporary commission will operate consisting of the President of the Council and by the officials who depend directly from said Council. Said commission will handle the processes and resolve the administrative matters of obvious urgency which present themselves, except for those in connection with the appointment, adscription, ratification and removal of judges and magistrates, Once the Council is installed, it will report to the full session on the measures adopted, in order for the latter to resolve as applicable.

Fourth Article

The processes to which the amended articles refer, commenced prior to the entry into force of the present Decree, will continue their formalization in accordance with the provisions in force at the moment they commenced.

ASSEMBLY HALL OF THE PERMANENT COMMISSION OF THE HONORABLE CONGRESS OF THE UNION. Mexico, Federal District, June 9, 1999.- Sen. Maria de los Angeles Moreno Uriegas, President.- Sen. Francisco Xavier Salazar Saenz, Secretary.- Dep. A. Monica Garca Velazquez, Secretary.- Paraphs.”

In compliance with the provisions of Article 89, section I of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States, and for its due publication and observance, I issue the present Decree at the residence of Federal Executive Power, in the City of Mexico, Federal District, on the tenth day of the month of June one thousand nine hundred and ninety nine.- Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de Leon.- Paraph.- The Minister of the Interior, Diodoro Carrasco Altamirano.- Paraph.

TRANSITORY June 28, 1999

First Article

The present Decree will come into force on the day following its publication in the Official Gazette of the Federation.

Second Article

The period of one year is established as the maximum term for issuance of the regulatory law on the attributes of the Federation on sporting matters.

ASSEMBLY HALL OF THE PERMANENT COMMISSION OF THE HONORABLE CONGRESS OF THE UNION. Mexico, Federal District, June 9, 1999.- Sen. Maria de los Angeles Moreno Uriegas, President.- Sen. Francisco Xavier Salazar Saenz, Secretary.- Dep. A. Monica Garca Velazquez, Secretary.- Paraphs.”

In compliance with the provisions of Article 89, section I of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States, and for its due publication and observance, I issue the present Decree at the residence of Federal Executive Power, in the City of Mexico, Federal District, on the twenty-third day of the month of June one thousand nine hundred and ninety nine.- Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de Leon.- Paraph.- The Minister of the Interior, Diodoro Carrasco Altamirano.- Paraph.

TRANSITORY July 29, 1999

Sole Article

The present Decree will come into force on the day following its publication in the Official Gazette of the Federation.

ASSEMBLY HALL OF THE PERMANENT COMMISSION OF THE HONORABLE CONGRESS OF THE UNION. Mexico, Federal District, July 14, 1999.- Sen. Maria de los Angeles Moreno Uriegas, President.- Sen. Porfirio Camarena Castro, Secretary.- Sen. Francisco Xavier Salazar Saenz, Secretary.- Paraphs.”

In compliance with the provisions of Article 89, section I of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States, and for its due publication and observance, I issue the present Decree at the residence of Federal Executive Power, in the City of Mexico, Federal District, on the twenty-seventh day of the month of July one thousand nine hundred and ninety nine.- Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de Leon.- Paraph.- The Minister of the Interior, Diodoro Carrasco Altamirano.- Paraph.

TRANSITORY July 30, 1999

First Article

The present Decree will come into force on the day following its publication in the Official Gazette of the Federation, except as provided in the following transitory articles.

Second Article

The superior inspection agency of the Federation will commence operation on January 1 in the year 2000. The review of Public Accounts and the inspection functions to which article 79, sections I to IV, amended by this Decree, will be implemented in the terms of said Decree as from the review of the Public Accounts corresponding to the year 2001.

The superior inspection agency of the Federation will review the Public Accounts for the years 1998, 1999 and 2000 in accordance with the provisions in force prior to the entry into effect of this Decree.

The references made in said provisions to the Treasury Surveillance Agency of the Chamber of Deputies, will be understood to refer to the superior inspection agency of the Federation.

Third Article

Until the superior inspection agency of the Federation commences exercise of the attributes to which this Decree refers, the Treasury Surveillance Agency will continue to exercise its present powers in accordance with article 74, section IV, of the Constitution, its Organic Law and other legal provisions applicable prior to the entry into force of the present Decree.

The public servants of the Treasury Surveillance Agency of the Federation will not be affected in any way as regards their labor rights, due to the entry into force of this Decree and of the laws issued in consequence thereof.

Once the superior inspection agency of the Federation has been established, all the human, material and capital resources in general of the Treasury Surveillance Agency, will pass to become part of said entity.

Fourth Article

The Chief Comptroller of the Treasury will be in charge of the superior inspection agency of the Federation until December 31, 201; he can be ratified to continue in said office up to completion of the eight year period to which article 79 of this Constitution refers.”

ASSEMBLY HALL OF THE PERMANENT COMMISSION OF THE HONORABLE CONGRESS OF THE UNION. Mexico, Federal District, July14, 1999.- Sen. Maria de los Angeles Moreno Uriegas, President.- Sen. Porfirio Camarena Castro, Secretary.- Sen. Francisco Xavier Salazar Saenz, Secretary.- Paraphs.”

In compliance with the provisions of Article 89, section I of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States, and for its due publication and observance, I issue the present Decree at the residence of Federal Executive Power, in the City of Mexico, Federal District, on the twenty-seventh day of the month of July one thousand nine hundred and ninety nine.- Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de Leon.- Paraph.- The Minister of the Interior, Diodoro Carrasco Altamirano.- Paraph.

TRANSITORY September 13, 1999

First Article

The present Decree will come into force on the day following its publication in the Official Gazette of the Federation.

Second Article

The present members of the Advisory Board of the National Human Rights Commission will continue in office until conclusion of the period for which they were appointed and can, in any case, be proposed and elected for a second period in the terms of the provisions of Article 102, part B, fifth paragraph, which is amended by this Decree.

Third Article

The Chamber of Senators or, as applicable, the Permanent Commission of the Congress of the Union must, within a maximum period of sixty days, elect the resident of the National Human Rights Commission, in accordance with the procedure provided in Article 102, part B, which is amended by this Decree. For this purpose the following rules will be followed:

A.- The corresponding Commission of the Chamber of Senators will carry out a broad examination between the social organizations representing the different sectors of Society, and between the public and private agencies promoting Human Rights.

B.- Based on the foregoing examination, the Commission can propose ratification of the current Head of the National Human Rights Commission or, as applicable, prepare a list of candidates.

Fourth Article

Until the Congress of the Union issues the amendments to the National Human Rights Commission Law, the Commission will continue to exercise its rights and attributes in accordance with the provisions of the present Decree and the regulatory law in force until such issue takes place.

Fifth Article

All provisions opposing the present Decree are hereby repealed.

CONGRESS OF THE UNION. Mexico, Federal District, August 18, 1999.- Sen. Maria de los Angeles Moreno Uriegas, President.- Dep. A. Monica Garcia Velazquez, Secretary.- Sen. Porfirio Camarena Castro, Secretary.- Paraphs.”

In compliance with the provisions of Article 89, section I of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States, and for its due publication and observance, I issue the present Decree at the residence of Federal Executive Power, in the City of Mexico, Federal District, on the seventh day of the month of September one thousand nine hundred and ninety nine.- Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de Leon.- Paraph.- The Minister of the Interior, Diodoro Carrasco Altamirano.- Paraph.

TRANSITORY December 23, 1999

First Article

The present Decree will come into force on the day following its publication in the Official Gazette of the Federation, except as provided in the following articles.

Second Article

The States should adjust their constitutions and laws as provided in this Decree by, at latest one year after its entry into force. Where applicable, the Congress of the union should adjust Federal laws by, at latest, April 30 in the year 2001.

Until the adjustments to which the preceding paragraph refers are made, current provisions will continue to apply.

Third Article

In the case of functions and services which, under the present Decree, come within the competence of the municipalities and, upon the entry into force of the amendments to which the preceding transitory article refers, will be provided either directly by State governments, or in cooperation with the municipalities, these can be assumed upon approval by the Town Council. State Governments will possess everything necessary in order for the function or public service in question to be

transferred in an orderly manner to the municipality, according to the transfer program presented by the State government, within a maximum term of 90 days counted as from the receipt of the corresponding request.

In the case of article 115, section III, insert a), State governments can, within the term indicated in the preceding paragraph, ask the corresponding legislature to retain the services in question within its sphere of competence, when transfer from the state to the municipality affects the rendering of same to the prejudice of the municipality. The State legislature will resolve as applicable.

Until the transfer referred to in the first paragraph takes place, the public services and functions will continue to be exercised or rendered under current terms and conditions.

Fourth Article

States and municipalities will take the necessary action in order that any previous agreements adjust to the provisions of this Decree and to State constitutions and laws.

Fifth Article

Prior to commencement of the 2002 fiscal year, state legislatures, in coordination with the respective municipalities, will adopt the necessary measures in order for the unit soil values serving as a base for the payment of property taxes to equal the market values of said property, and will make the corresponding adjustments to applicable rates for the payment of said taxes in order to guarantee their adjustment to the principles of proportionality and equity.

Sixth Article

In implementing compliance with the present Decree, the rights and obligations previously contracted with third parties will be respected, together with the rights of state and municipal workers.

Mexico, Federal District, October 28, 1999.- Sen. Cristobal Arias Solis, President.- Dep. Francisco Jose Paoli Bolio, President.- Sen. Alejandro Garcia Acevedo, Secretary.- Dep. Francisco J. Loyo Ramos, Secretary.- Paraphs. “

In compliance with the provisions of Article 89, section I of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States, and for its due publication and observance, I issue the present Decree at the residence of Federal Executive Power, in the City of Mexico, Federal District, on the twenty-second day of the month of December in the year one thousand nine hundred and ninety nine.- Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de Leon.- Paraph.- The Minister of the Interior, Diodoro Carrasco Altamirano.- Paraph.

TRANSITORY April 7, 2000

First Article

The present Decree will come into force six months following the date of its publication in the Official Gazette of the Federation.

ASSEMBLY HALL FOR THE PERMANENT COMMISSION OF THE HONORABLE CONGRESS OF THE UNION.- Mexico, Federal District, March 8, 2000.- Dep. Francisco Jose Paoli Bolio, President.- Dep. Sergio Valdes Arias, Secretary.- Dep. Miguel A. Quiroz Perez, Secretary.- Paraphs.”

In compliance with the provisions of Article 89, section I of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States, and for its due publication and observance, I issue the present Decree at the residence of Federal Executive Power, in the City of Mexico, Federal District, on the sixth day of the month of April in the year two thousand.- Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de Leon.- Paraph.- The Minister of the Interior, Diodoro Carrasco Altamirano.- Paraph.

TRANSITORY September 21, 2000

First Article

The present Decree will come into force six months following the date of its publication in the Official Gazette of the Federation.

Second Article

Current legal provisions will continue to apply in everything not opposing the present Decree, while the corresponding regulatory rules are issued.

ASSEMBLY HALL FOR THE PERMANENT COMMISSION OF THE HONORABLE CONGRESS OF THE UNION.- Mexico, Federal District, August 23, 2000.- Sen. Maria de los Angeles Moreno Uriegas, President.- Sen. Jose de Jesus Padilla Padilla, Secretary.- Dep. Angelina Munoz Fernandez, Secretary.- Paraphs.”

In compliance with the provisions of Article 89, section I of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States, and for its due publication and observance, I issue the present Decree at the residence of Federal Executive Power, in the City of Mexico, Federal District, on the nineteenth day of the month of September in the year two thousand.- Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de Leon.- Paraph.- The Minister of the Interior, Diodoro Carrasco Altamirano.- Paraph

TRANSITORY September 21, 2000

Sole Article

The present Decree will come into force on the day following its publication in the Official Gazette of the Federation.

ASSEMBLY HALL OF THE PERMANENT COMMISSION OF THE HONORABLE CONGRESS OF THE UNION. Mexico, Federal District, August 23, 2000.- Sen. Maria de los Angeles Moreno Uriegas, President.- Sen. Porfirio Camarena Castro, Secretary.- Sen. Francisco Xavier Salazar Saenz, Secretary.- Paraphs.”

In compliance with the provisions of Article 89, section I of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States, and for its due publication and observance, I issue the present Decree at the residence of Federal Executive Power, in the City of Mexico, Federal District, on the nineteenth day of the month of September two thousand.- Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de Leon.- Paraph.- The Minister of the Interior, Diodoro Carrasco Altamirano.- Paraph.

TRANSITORY August 14, 2001

First Article

The present Decree will come into force on the day following its publication in the Official Gazette of the Federation.

Second Article

Upon these amendments coming into force, the Congress of the Union and the Legislatures of the federative entities should make the necessary adjustment of the present provisions to federal laws and local constitutions.

Third Article

The location of indigenous peoples and communities should be taken into consideration, where feasible, in establishing the territorial limitations of the uninominal electoral districts, for the purpose of promoting their political participation.

Fourth Article

The holder of Federal Executive Power will provide for the full text of the exposition of motives and normative content of the present Decree to be translated into the tongues of the indigenous peoples of the country, and will order that it be distributed in their communities.

ASSEMBLY HALL OF THE PERMANENT COMMISSION OF THE HONORABLE CONGRESS OF THE UNION. Mexico, Federal District, July 18, 2001.- Sen. Fidel Herrera Beltran, Vice President and Acting President.- Sen. Susana Sthepenson Perez, Secretary..- Paraphs.”

In compliance with the provisions of Article 89, section I of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States, and for its due publication and observance, I issue the present Decree at the residence of Federal Executive Power, in the City of

Mexico, Federal District, on the third day of the month of August, two thousand and one.- Vicente Fox Quesada.- Paraph.- The Minister of the Interior, Santiago Creel Miranda.- Paraph.

TRANSITORY June 14, 2002

Sole Article

The present Decree will come into force on the first of January of the second year following its publication in the Official Gazette of the Federation.

The Federation, the federative entities and the municipalities will have the period counted from the publication of the present Decree and its entry into force, to issue the laws or make the necessary modifications, as applicable, for the purpose of ensuring due compliance with same, and to include an item for ensuring compliance with their patrimonial responsibility in their respective budgets.

Approval of the constitutional amendment will of necessity imply adjustment to secondary legal provisions in both the federal and local environments, in accordance with the following criteria:

- a).- Payment of the indemnity will take place after investigating that it effectively corresponds to said individual, and
- b).- Payment of the indemnity will be subject to budget availability for the fiscal period in question.

The period between publication of the decree and its entry into force will serve for issuing the laws or making the modifications necessary for its due compliance. Depending on the date of approval of the Decree and its resulting publication, said period will not be less than one year or more than two.

ASSEMBLY HALL OF THE PERMANENT COMMISSION OF THE HONORABLE CONGRESS OF THE UNION. Mexico, Federal District, May 15, 2002.- Sen. Diego Fernandez de Cevallos Ramos, President.- Dep. Manuel Anorve Banos, Secretary.- Paraphs.”

In compliance with the provisions of Article 89, section I of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States, and for its due publication and observance, I issue the present Decree at the residence of Federal Executive Power, in the City of Mexico, Federal District, on the thirteenth day of the month of June, two thousand and two.- Vicente Fox Quesada.- Paraph.- The Minister of the Interior, Santiago Creel Miranda.- Paraph.

TRANSITORY November 12, 2002

First Article

The present Decree will come into force on the day following its publication in the Official Gazette of the Federation.

Second Article

The Federal educational authorities should, on the entry into force of the present Decree, install technical and advisory commissions with other educational authorities of the country, as pertinent, to initiate a process for the structural, curricular and labor unification of the three obligatory constitutional levels, at a single integrated basic education level.

Third Article

The Federal educational authorities should, at the entry into force of the present Decree, install technical and advisory commissions with other educational authorities of the country, as pertinent, to initiate a process for the purpose of reviewing the plans, programs and materials for study, for the purpose of establishing, in the exercise of their functions, new study programs for obligatory pre-school education throughout the country, and to prepare the teaching and directive staff necessary at this level, in accordance with the new educational reality resulting from this Decree.

Fourth Article

For the purpose of promoting equity in the quality of pre-school education facilities throughout the country, the educational authorities should take the necessary action to comply with the provisions of article 2 of the Regulatory Law on article 5 of the Constitution on the matter of professions, in the sense that the giving of pre-school education is a profession for which a title is required, without prejudice to the acquired rights of those teaching this educational level to date.

Fifth Article

Pre-school education will be obligatory for everyone in the following terms: in the third year of pre-school education as from the 2004-2005 cycle; the second year of pre-school education as from the 2005-2006 cycle; the first year of pre-school education, as from the 2008-2009 cycle. Within the periods indicated, the Mexican State must make the offer of this education service available throughout the country.

Sixth Article

The Federal, state, Federal District and municipal budgets will include the necessary resources for: the construction, expansion and outfitting of sufficient infrastructure for the progressive coverage of pre-school education services; with their corresponding programs for the professional formation of the teaching staff, and the donation of free study materials for teachers and students. In the case of the rural communities located at a distance from the urban centers and areas

where it has not been possible to establish an infrastructure for providing pre-school education services, the federal education authorities in conjunction with their local counterparts, will establish the special programs required and adopt the pertinent decisions to ensure access of the students to the primary education services.

Seventh Article

The State and Federal District governments will formalize collaboration agreements with the Federal Government, which allow them to comply with pre-school education obligations in the terms of the preceding articles.

Eighth Article

On the entry into force of the present Decree, the amendments and additions to the General Education Law and other applicable legal provisions should be motivated.

ASSEMBLY HALL OF THE PERMANENT COMMISSION OF THE HONORABLE CONGRESS OF THE UNION. Mexico, Federal District, May 15, 2002.- Sen. Diego Fernandez de Cevallos Ramos, President.- Dep. Manuel Anorve Banos, Secretary.- Paraphs.”

In compliance with the provisions of Article 89, section I of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States, and for its due publication and observance, I issue the present Decree at the residence of Federal Executive Power, in the City of Mexico, Federal District, on the eighth day of the month of November, two thousand and two.- Vicente Fox Quesada.- Paraph.- The Minister of the Interior, Santiago Creel Miranda.- Paraph.