

JOINT DECLARATION BETWEEN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHILE ON COOPERATION IN EMERGENCY AND DISASTERS

The State of California, United States of America, and the Government of the Republic of Chile (hereinafter referred to as the Parties),

WHEREAS the Parties have established a continuous cooperation and assistance relationship and signed a Memorandum of Understanding entitled "*Chile-California: A XXI Century Partnership*";

RECOGNIZING that the Parties share common geographic characteristics which may result in natural disasters having adverse effects on the life and health of their population, damaging property and the environment; and having a negative impact on the economy and infrastructure of the affected territories;

AFFIRMING that, in order to prevent, mitigate and redress adverse effects from disasters, a strong international solidarity basis is required;

ADMITTING that cooperation between the Parties and governmental agencies plays a fundamental role in implementing solidarity between peoples and in joining efforts of the public and private sector in times of crisis;

VERIFYING that both Parties share a common interest in emergency matters, due to its natural disasters history and the duty of all to ensure population's welfare and protection;

EMPHASIZING the mutual benefits involved in the exchange of experience, knowledge and technology between both Parties, particularly, the promotion of emergency cooperation in the relevant areas;

THEREFORE, THE PARTIES PLEDGE THEIR INTENTION TO:

1. Design cooperation projects within their own sphere of influence aimed at studying, researching and providing technical training in risks and natural disasters so as to develop prevention and mitigation procedures and techniques and enhance response and recovery efforts in cooperation with the relevant authorities of each territory and in accordance with applicable domestic laws;

2. Design expeditious communication strategies to be applied in case of emergencies and disasters, in accordance with each territory's domestic law;

3. Share information and experience as to emergency management and civil protection;

4. Promote future activities on emergency and civil protection matters; and

5. Promote among the appropriate authorities the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between both territories that permits to adopt prevention policies and expedites response to all types of emergencies and natural disasters.

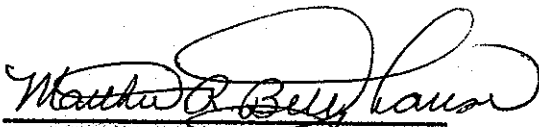
Cooperation referred to in this Joint Declaration shall be carried out by both parties in coordination with the appropriate authorities in each country, strictly adhering to their jurisdictions and in accordance with the provisions in the Treaties in force between the State of California, United States of America, and the Government of the Republic of Chile.

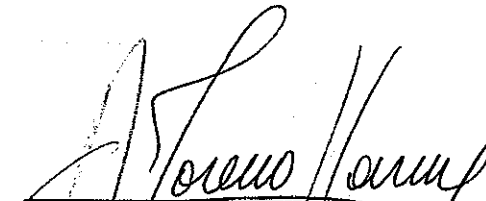
The Parties acknowledge that this Joint Declaration is not intended to create any legally binding rights or obligations, and will not be enforceable in any court of law in the State of California, United States of America, or in the Republic of Chile. The Parties commit themselves in good will to implement this Joint Declaration to the fullest extent practicable, subject to any changes in policy that they may adopt.

Signed in Santiago, Chile, on this 5th day of April, 2010, in four counterparts, two in the English and two in the Spanish languages, all versions being equally authentic.

FOR THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
REPUBLIC OF CHILE**


MATTHEW R. BETTENHAUSEN
Secretary of California
Emergency Management Agency


ALFREDO MORENO
Minister of Foreign Affairs