

DECLARATION OF COOPERATION

Entered into by the

**GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA
THROUGH THE
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

With the

**GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF SONORA
THROUGH THE
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SECRETARIAT**

To establish an

**ARIZONA-SONORA
Economic Opportunities Regional Partnership**

ARIZONA-SONORA ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP

A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT ENTERED INTO BY THE STATE OF ARIZONA, THROUGH ITS DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, AND THE STATE OF SONORA, THROUGH ITS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SECRETARIAT, TO ESTABLISH AN ARIZONA-SONORA ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP.

WHEREAS, the States of Arizona and Sonora form a single economic region that transcends an international boundary and presents exponential opportunity for mutual benefit; and

WHEREAS, the promotion of the region and attraction of businesses in high priority sectors poses a great opportunity for increased competitiveness in the global marketplace; and

WHEREAS, the States of Arizona and Sonora share an innovative and exemplary bilateral partnership facilitated by the Arizona-Mexico Commission and Comision Sonora-Arizona; and

WHEREAS, this partnership, made possible by a history of trust and achievement, empowers both states to develop and execute collaborative projects with the active involvement of public and private sector entities; and

WHEREAS, experience has proven that the exchange of information, methods and expertise, as well as the coordinated implementation of strategies for regional development strengthen both States; and

WHEREAS, Arizona and Sonora enter into this partnership to formalize existing efforts, to further promote our regional economy and to provide a mechanism for future collaboration;

**THEREFORE, THE STATES OF ARIZONA AND SONORA
PLEDGE THE FOLLOWING:**

- I. Cross Regional Marketing: the region will finalize joint marketing materials, such as brochures and customized regional information geared toward key identified sectors.
- II. Each State will participate at high profile international and domestic events to aggressively promote the region.
- III. Each State will identify companies from the high priority sectors that will be targeted for expansion into the Arizona-Sonora Region.
- IV. Best Practices: the States will promote sharing of information between public and private economic development entities in the region to further joint promotion efforts.
- V. The States commit to the on-going exchange of information between the Arizona Department of Commerce, Sonora Secretary of Economy, IMPULSOR, and COPRESON, to promote the area's advantages. Where feasible, the States will arrange for joint visits by the Governors of the Region to key companies that may be attracted to the Region.

This Cooperative Agreement signed this day of November 15, 2007, in the framework of the Plenary Session of the Arizona-Mexico Commission and the Comisión Sonora-Arizona, celebrated in Obregon, Sonora.

For the State of Arizona

For the State of Sonora

Jan Leshner
Department of Commerce Director

Francisco Diaz Brown
Economic Development Secretary

HONORARY WITNESSES

Janet Napolitano
Governor of Arizona

Eduardo Bours Castelo
Governor of Sonora