Establishing Effective Conflict Resolution Systems Globally

Is your government in need of a customized program to help build capacity to manage and resolve conflicts?

What Is the International Technical Assistance Program?

The Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS) International Technical Assistance Program responds to a growing number of requests from agencies and institutions of friendly foreign governments for services in labor and non-labor relations conflict prevention and resolution. Our approaches are designed to prevent or minimize costly alternatives such as strikes, expensive litigation, disruptions of services, etc. FMCS utilizes a variety of neutral third-party functions to help prevent, resolve and/or manage conflict. FMCS services have been used widely in the United States in labor-management, enforcement, environmental, regulatory, intergovernmental, judicial, school and workplace environments.

What Are FMCS International Services and Role?

FMCS plays an important role in promoting collective bargaining and supporting the establishment of effective conflict prevention and resolution systems in other nations. Emerging democracies often struggle to compete effectively in an integrated global marketplace. Establishing a competitive economy often depends on the role and structure of a country’s labor relations, judicial and enforcement systems. FMCS assists other countries in developing sound infrastructure through consulting, assessments, training and education, dispute systems design, collective bargaining and mediation, facilitation and other third-party mechanisms. The programs include, but are not limited to:

- Dispute Systems Design: Designing systems that resolve and prevent industrial or governmental conflict where a formal system has not been developed to manage it.

- Education and Mentoring: Training representatives of labor, management and government in industrial relations practices, mediation, facilitation and conflict coaching techniques, negotiation skills, and conflict resolution processes.

- Mediation and Facilitation Services: Assisting in a consensus-building dialogue that promotes economic growth and legal or institutional reform.

FMCS has provided conflict resolution services to the governments and or organizations in Peru, Argentina, Bangladesh, Bahrain, Brazil, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Colombia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Bulgaria, Mexico, Ireland, Kashmir, India, Russia, Bahamas, US Virgin Islands, Panama, Guatemala, Kenya, Serbia, Tanzania, Uganda, Mozambique, Jordan, Indonesia, Croatia, Lithuania, Latvia, Romania, South Africa, South Korea, Tajikistan, Thailand, China, Cambodia, Australia, Morocco, Burma, Hungary, Vietnam, Lesotho, Honduras, Bangladesh, Philippines, Haiti, and others.
In addition to promoting sound and stable labor relations, FMCS helps emerging democracies in a variety of ways through our technical assistance program to prevent and manage conflict.

What Do These Services Cost?

Since FMCS does not receive appropriated funds for these services, we are required to offer them on a cost-reimbursement basis, in which we charge for the overhead and labor hours involved. In accordance with Federal requirements, either an inter-agency agreement or another mechanism may be developed in order to provide service. There is no charge for initial consultations.

For More Information

For more information, visit our website at www.fmcs.gov or contact the Office of International and Dispute Resolution Services at 202-606-8104.