



## 173 回 CICE OPEN SEMINAR

# THE FAILURE OF DECENTRALIZATION OF BASIC EDUCATION IN MEXICO

by **Dr. Carlos Ornelas**

Professor of Education and Communications  
Metropolitan Autonomous University  
Xochimilco, Mexico City  
CICE Visiting Professor

### Abstract

In May 18 1992, the secretary of Public Education, the general secretary of the National Teachers Union, and the 31 state governors signed the Agreement for the Modernization of Basic Education in Mexico. President Salinas de Gortari autographed the document as an honour witness. The President said that the Agreement signified an in-depth reform of basic and teachers' education in Mexico. The secretary of Public Education at that time, alleged that the decentralization move was not a revamp of old constitutional federalism but new federalism.

The Agreement had consequences on Mexican education as well as in the relationships between the Federal government and the states. It was a transfer of responsibilities and degrees of authority, but the central government retain the activities that entail power. However, because the President allowed the survival of the National Teachers Union as a strong centralist organization, its leadership became the main beneficiaries of such a move.

The Agreement goals were to elevate the quality of basic education, to make the administration of the system more efficient, and to improve the living conditions of teachers. Features of the global model of educational reform were part of the "federalization" of education.

**Date:** May 15th (Thu.) 16:30-18:00

**Venue:** CICE Seminar Room (IDEC 6F), Hiroshima University

Everyone is welcome!  
どなたでも聴講できます!

【Inquiries/問い合わせ先】

Center for the Study of International Cooperation in Education

(CICE: 教育開発国際協力研究センター)

Email:cice@hiroshima-u.ac.jp / TEL:082-424-6959