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## Meeting of the Executive Technical Group on the Amazon Hub

March 20-21, 2013  
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

### NOTES OF THE MEETING

On March 20-21, 2013, the city of Rio de Janeiro hosted the Meeting of the Executive Technical Group on the Amazon Hub, which was attended by delegates of Brazil, Ecuador and Peru, representatives of the UNASUR General Secretariat and members of the Technical Coordination Committee. The meeting agenda and the list of participating delegations are attached as Annexes 1 and 2, respectively.

The objectives of the GTE meeting were the following: (i) present and discuss the guidelines and structuring elements for the sustainable development of the territory of the Expanded Amazon Hub; (ii) apply the Indicative Territorial Planning Methodology (MPTI, in Spanish) to the Expanded Amazon Hub in order to identify and agree upon its project groups, including their strategic functions and anchor projects, and (iii) define the next steps in order to continue with the application of the planning methodology to the Hub.

After the opening of the GTE meeting by the Presidency Pro Tempore (PPT), the work sessions started. The first session was devoted to presenting the Indicative Territorial Planning Methodology and to updating the business vision of the Hub, including the Northeastern and Central-Western Territories of Brazil, a document entitled “Elements for the Sustainable Development of the Territory of the Amazon Hub,” prepared by the consultant team. The presentations are attached as Annex 3 and 4, respectively.

Then, the Indicative Territorial Planning Methodology was applied to the Expanded Amazon Hub, its outcomes being the following:

#### **1) Group 4: Access to the Ucayali Waterway**

It was agreed to remove the Vilhena – Porto Velho section of Project AMA68 INTEGRATION RAILWAY: VILHENA - PORTO VELHO - RIO BRANCO - CRUZEIRO DO SUL (BR), and to incorporate it into the new Project Group 8. The new project name is INTEGRATION RAILWAY: PORTO VELHO - RIO BRANCO - CRUZEIRO DO SUL (BR)

#### **2) Restructuring of Group 5: Access to the Solimoës – Amazon Waterway**

It was agreed to change the project name, its strategic function, and anchor project, and to incorporate new projects. Project Group 5 is set up as follows:

**Group 5: Connection between the Amazon Basin and Northern Northeastern Brazil**

**STRATEGIC FUNCTION**

- Enlarge the connection and transportation alternatives between Central-Western and Northern Northeastern Brazil, and the access to new ports and markets in the region.
- Reduce the logistics costs associated with the supply of raw materials and the distribution of products to facilitate the integration between Northern Northeastern Brazil and the Amazon basin.
- Provide an efficient transportation infrastructure to attract productive activities to the region.
- Incorporate Manaus to the Brazilian interconnected electric system, with positive impacts on the economy and environment.

<b>Code</b>	<b>Amazon Hub: Group 5</b>
NEW	<b>New Cross-Northeastern Railway Phase I (Suape - Salgueiro / Pecém - Eliseu Martins) (BR)</b> <b>(Anchor Project)</b>
NEW	<b>New Cross-Northeastern Railway Phase II (Eliseu Martins - Porto Franco) (BR)</b> <b>(Anchor Project)</b>
NEW	North-South Railway Phase I (Vila do Conde - Açailândia) (BR)
NEW	North-South Railway - Phase I (Açailândia - Figueirópolis) (BR)
NEW	Aguiarnópolis Multimodal Yard (North-South Railway) (BR)
NEW	Araguaína Multimodal Yard (North-South Railway) (BR)
NEW	Guaraí Multimodal Yard (North-South Railway) (BR)
NEW	Colinas do Tocantins Multimodal Yard (North-South Railway) (BR)
NEW	Porto Franco Multimodal Yard (North-South Railway) (BR)
NEW	Rehabilitation of road BR-222 Açailândia (MA) - Porto de Itaqui (MA) (BR)
NEW	Rehabilitation of road BR-230 Balsas (MA) - Marabá (PA) (BR)

NEW	Paving of road BR-230 Marabá (PA) - Itaituba (PA) (BR)
NEW	500-kV transmission line (Tucuruí - Manaus)
AMA33	Cuiabá - Santarém road (BR-163 / MT / PA) (BR)
AMA34	Environmental and territorial management program (Cuiabá - Santarém road) (BR-163 / MT / PA) (BR)
AMA35	Santarém port and Itaituba freight terminal (BR)

### 3) Creation of Group 8: Porto Velho - Southern Northeastern Brazil Rail Connection

Project Group 8 is set up as follows:

#### Grupo 8: Porto Velho - Southern Northeastern Brazil Rail Connection

#### STRATEGIC FUNCTION

- Reduce the logistics costs associated with the supply of raw materials and the distribution of products, and facilitate access to the regional markets and the ports on the Atlantic and Pacific.
- Encourage railway transportation to enhance environmental and energy efficiency benefits.
- Create better conditions for intra-regional trade.

<b>Code</b>	<b>Amazon Hub: Group 8</b>
NEW	<b>West-East Integration Railway - Phase I (Figueirópolis-Barreiras) (BR)</b> <b>(Anchor Project)</b>
NEW	<b>West-East Integration Railway - Phase II (Barreiras-Ilhéus) (BR)</b> <b>(Anchor Project)</b>
NEW	Center-West Integration Railway - Phase I (Uruaçu-Lucas do Rio Verde) (BR)
NEW	Center-West Integration Railway - Phase II (Lucas do Rio Verde-Porto Velho) (BR)
NEW	North-South Railway (Figueirópolis-Uruaçu) (BR)
NEW	Palmas Multimodal Yard (North-South Railway) (BR)

NEW	Figueirópolis Multimodal Yard (North-South Railway) (BR)
NEW	Uruaçu Multimodal Yard (North-South Railway) (BR)
NEW	Ouro Verde Multimodal Yard (North-South Railway) (BR)
NEW	Anápolis Multimodal Yard (North-South Railway) (BR)
NEW	Enlargement of road BR-242 São Roque do Paraguaçu (BA) - Sorriso (MT) (BR)
NEW	Improvement of road BR-158 Vila Rica (MT) - Ribeirão Cascalheira (MT) (BR)
NEW	Construction of road BR-020 Barreiras (BA) - São Raimundo Nonato (PI) (BR)
NEW	New port in the area of Ilhéus (BR)

#### **4) Application of the Indicative Territorial Planning Methodology to the Amazon Hub**

The delegations agreed that it was not necessary to apply the MPTI to phases 2 and 3 concerning the prioritization of project groups, as IIRSA can now rely on its new instruments designed to gain insight into the socioeconomic and environmental characteristics of the territory.

#### **5) Elements for the Sustainable Development of the Amazon Hub Territory**

Based on the discussions and outcomes of the meeting, the consultant team will draft an up-to-date version of the document entitled “Elements for the Sustainable Development of the Territory of the Amazon Hub” to be submitted to the countries for their approval at the GTE meeting to be held in May.

#### **6) Design of an Action Program to Facilitate Commercial Navigation in the Region**

Based on the discussions concerning the connection of Brazilian Northeastern to the Amazon basin and the navigation conditions of the rivers flowing into it, it was agreed to create a program aimed at identifying regulatory and legal actions in the field of river navigation and boosting the traffic of vessels and trade between Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru.

The Peruvian delegation will prepare and distribute among the countries a proposal on this topic to be discussed at the next GTE meeting scheduled for May.

#### **7) Multimodal Connection Hubs**

Based on the discussions about the characteristics of Porto Velho as a logistics multimodal hub articulating various projects in the Amazon Hub and others, it was suggested that the characterization of this concept should be encouraged and even extended to other South American cities.

The Technical Coordinating Committee will draft a preliminary proposal on this topic.

## **List of Annexes**

Annex 1: Meeting Agenda

Annex 2: List of Participating Delegations

Annex 3: Presentation on the Indicative Territorial Planning Methodology

Annex 4: Presentation of the study entitled “Elements for the Sustainable Development of the Territory of the Amazon Hub”

Annex 5: Project Portfolio in the Amazon Hub