

## **Meeting of the Executive Technical Group to Update the COSIPLAN Project Portfolio and the Integration Priority Project Agenda (API)**

April 15, 2015

Radisson Montevideo Victoria Plaza Hotel  
Montevideo, Uruguay

### **REPORT ON THE MEETING**

On April 15, 2015, the city of Montevideo, Uruguay, hosted the Meeting of the Executive Technical Group to Update the COSIPLAN Project Portfolio and the Integration Priority Project Agenda (API), which was attended by delegations from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay and Venezuela, as well as by representatives of the UNASUR General Secretariat and IIRSA Technical Coordination Committee. The meeting agenda and the list of participants are attached as Annexes 1 and 2, respectively.

The meeting was opened by the COSIPLAN Presidency Pro Tempore (PPT) held by Uruguay represented in the person of Mr. Pablo Genta, Director of National Planning and Logistics, under the Ministry of Transport and Public Works of Uruguay. The Director stressed the importance of this technical meeting intended to reinforce and update the Project Portfolio, which includes 579 projects for an amount estimated at US\$ 163,170 million as well as API, which is made up of 31 structured projects for an estimated investment amount of US\$ 21,161 million. Subsequently, Mr. Genta presented the meeting objectives and expected results:

- a) **Portfolio and API:** i) Present the current status of the Portfolio and API information reported in the Project Information System (PIS); ii) agree on objectives, tasks to be previously completed and the methodology for the meetings by Integration and Development Hub, and iii) present the results of the work done in relation to the Socio-economic and Environmental Characterization of the Hubs.
- b) **Completed Projects:** Present a diagnosis of the information reported in the PIS concerning the Portfolio projects, and discuss the next steps to be taken in order to disseminate the results and benefits attained with the implementation of these projects.
- c) **Border Integration:** Analyze the incorporation of border integration into the COSIPLAN indicative territorial planning, and decide on the next steps.

### COSIPLAN Project Portfolio and Integration Priority Project Agenda (API)

The current status of the COSIPLAN Project Portfolio and API was presented as of December 2014 (Annex 3). Subsequently, a diagnosis was made of the information included in the COSIPLAN Project Information System (PIS) with the purpose of resuming the task of updating the projects, as agreed upon in 2014 (Annex 4).

The Bolivian delegation requested the rescheduling of a meeting on the Central Bioceanic Railway Corridor subgroup (Bolivia-Brazil-Peru), as well as the incorporation of this project to the set of seven multinational API projects proposed by the UNASUR General Secretariat to be given priority attention. In this regard, the countries agreed to consider both topics at the XI Meeting of the COSIPLAN Coordinating Committee to be held on Friday, April 17.

The Brazilian delegation made reference to its difficulties in getting pre-investment and investment financing for the projects that have been at the profiling stage for years, showing no progress. The countries agreed to give this topic priority in the coming meetings organized to update the Portfolio and API by Integration and Development Hubs.

### Meetings by Integration and Development Hubs

The proposed objectives, tasks to be previously completed and methodology for the virtual meetings by Integration and Development Hub were presented (Annex 5). The countries agreed to the following:

1. The main objectives are: i) review the projects reported to be at the profiling stage since 2011; ii) review the projects not updated after 2013; iii) review the projects, the files of which are empty or incomplete; iv) review the projects located in border areas; and v) analyze the projects proposed to be added and removed as well as those requiring specific revision.
2. The tasks to be previously completed by the countries are: i) review and update all the project files related to the country concerned; ii) enter the information on the descriptors of the projects; iii) enter the information on the project life cycle in the Continuous Monitoring System (CMS); iv) enter the information on the projects already completed; v) review the projects located in border areas; and vi) identify the projects proposed to be added, removed and revised.
3. The features related to the organization of the meetings are: i) four meetings of approximately three hours each, grouping the Hubs as follows: Capricorn and Southern - Amazon, Andean and Guianese Shield - MERCOSUR-Chile and Paraguay-Paraná Waterway - Central Interoceanic and Peru-Brazil-Bolivia; ii) the dates for the meetings will be defined at the XI Meeting of the COSIPLAN Coordinating Committee; iii) the National Coordinators and their technical teams will attend the meetings; and iv) the Webex conferencing tool will be tested during the week of April 27. If it fails, the traditional conferencing method will be used.

### Socioeconomic and Environmental Characterization of the Integration and Development Hubs

The results of the characterization of the Amazon, Andean, Capricorn, Paraguay-Paraná Waterway and MERCOSUR-Chile Hubs were presented (Annex 6). The reports have already been finished and include the comments contributed by the countries involved in each one of them. The five documents will be sent to the countries before uploading them to the website.

It was stated that the works in the Central Interoceanic, Peru-Brazil-Bolivia, Guianese Shield and Southern Hubs were to be commenced during this year. In addition, the section in the website related to the Hubs will be updated in order to incorporate this information in a more attractive and dynamic way.

#### Completed Projects

A presentation was made of the tasks carried out by the consulting firm to analyze the completed projects: i) a general characterization of the completed projects; ii) a review and analysis of the project file information included in the PIS; iii) interaction with the National Coordinations to identify areas of improvements in order to enhance the information available as well as suggestions for the improvement of the PIS (Annex 7).

It was agreed to summon the National Coordinations to this initiative regarding the information available on the completed projects so that they may help identify any contents and actions bound to reinforce the dissemination on the contributions and benefits brought by the projects to the physical integration of South America.

In this context, the countries recognized the importance of increasing the activities to disseminate the work undertaken within the framework of COSIPLAN in general, beyond the issue of the projects already completed. They agreed to make headway in this regard by communicating the benefits of the physical integration process at the regional level to the populations of the UNASUR Member Countries.

The UNASUR General Secretariat valued the task performed by the Technical Coordination Committee and agreed in the importance attached to strengthening any outreach activity regarding the projects that make up the Portfolio.

#### Integration and Border Facilitation

The Argentine delegation presented an overview on the proposal to incorporate border integration into the COSIPLAN territorial planning, which will be enlarged at XXVI Meeting of National Coordinators (April 16). Considering the exercise of updating the Project Portfolio and API by Hub, the Argentine delegates asked the countries to review the projects located in border areas. It was informed that this work can be carried out in coordination with the actions being undertaken to develop the COSIPLAN Geographic Information System (GIS). This initiative focuses on projects that solve local issues leading to connectivity and a comprehensive border development plan. To implement these plans, a proposal is made to create a special fund at UNASUR level.

## **List of Annexes**

[Annex 1: Agenda of the GTE Meeting to Update the Portfolio and API](#)

[Annex 2: List of Participating Delegations at the GTE Meeting to Update the Portfolio and API](#)

[Annex 3: COSIPLAN Project Portfolio and API: Current Status as of 2014](#)

[Annex 4: COSIPLAN Project Portfolio and API: Diagnosis of the Project Information System \(PIS\) 2015](#)

[Annex 5: Meetings by Integration and Development Hub to Update the Portfolio and API: Objectives, Tasks to be Previously Completed and Work Methodology](#)

[Annex 6: Socioeconomic and Environmental Characterization of the Integration and Development Hubs](#)

[Annex 7: Completed Projects within the COSIPLAN Portfolio](#)