**INITIATIVE FOR THE INTEGRATION OF REGIONAL
INFRASTRUCTURE IN SOUTH AMERICA (IIRSA)**

Eighth Meeting of the Executive Steering Committee

December 13th and 14th, 2006
Quito, Republic of Ecuador

ANNEX 9

**Minutes of the IX Meeting of National Coordinators
Quito, Ecuador, November 8th and 9th, 2006.**

In the meeting, attended by delegations from all IIRSA member countries except Colombia, Paraguay and Suriname, opinions were exchanged with regard to the organization, objectives, strategic vision and other issues related to this Forum. Delegates agreed to submit the following proposals for consideration before the VIII Meeting of the CDE.

1. Establish a more fluid and stable relationship between IIRSA and the South American Community of Nations.

2. Strengthen National Coordinations and institutionalize their role in each country with a view to enhancing their hierarchy and capacity to fulfill their specific tasks.

3. Create a Secretariat of National Coordinations responsible for coordinating the work conducted by National Coordinations and with the CCT. The Secretariat will be presided over by the same country holding the Presidency of the CDE.

4. Accelerate the works of the GTEs in each Integration and Development Hub.

5. Revise, at the level of GTEs in each EID, the Projects within the Portfolio that are deemed necessary, taking into account both the development plans of each individual country as well as the shared goal of integration and development for South America.

6. Foster the implementation of mechanisms to support physical integration in order to minimize regional asymmetries and promote balanced territorial development.

7. Propose the CDE that it should request from Ministries of Foreign Affairs the appointment and participation of a permanent official engaged in physical integration issues, border relations or neighboring issues or else an official from the Embassy in the host country. In the case of Guyana and Suriname, this role can be played by an authorized official residing in any country of the region.