
XXVI Meeting of COSIPLAN-IIRSA National Coordinators

April 16, 2015
Radisson Montevideo Victoria Plaza Hotel
Montevideo, Uruguay

REPORT ON THE MEETING

On April 16, 2015, the city of Montevideo, Uruguay, hosted the XXVI Meeting of IIRSA-COSIPLAN National Coordinators, which was attended by delegations from de 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. In his opening speech, Mr. Genta presented the objectives of the meeting:

- i) Assess the progress made in the activities that are being carried out in the context of the COSIPLAN-IIRSA Work Plan 2015.
- ii) Analyze the actions to be taken in the following specific topics: Course on Freight Transport and Logistics; GTE on Air Integration; Workshop on South American Integration through Ports and Waterways; and Incorporation of Border Integration into the COSIPLAN indicative territorial planning process.

Subsequently, the progress made in the activities set forth in the Work Plan 2015 was presented.

COSIPLAN Project Portfolio and Integration Priority Project Agenda (API)

The results of the GTE Meeting to Update the COSIPLAN Project Portfolio and API, held on April 15, 2015, in Montevideo, Uruguay, were presented (Annex 3). The topics discussed, the results of which are outlined in the relevant report, were the following: i) GTE Meetings to Update the COSIPLAN Project Portfolio and API by Integration and Development Hub; ii) The results of the works related to the projects already completed and the next steps; and iii) Introduction to the incorporation of border integration into the COSIPLAN indicative territorial planning process. The last topic was extensively developed in the meeting session, and its conclusions are presented below.

Design of the Agua Negra Binational Tunnel Integration Territorial Program (PTI)

Argentina and Chile presented the progress made regarding the design of the PTI for the Agua Negra Binational Tunnel API project. The actions underway or completed under the coordination of the National Teams of both countries and with the support of the Technical Coordination Committee were commented (Annex 4).

The next activities programmed are organizing focal group meetings and regional workshops in San Juan and Coquimbo, in order to encourage the participation of key local stakeholders in the design of the Program and its implementation plan.

It was reported that the Agua Negra Binational Entity (EBITAN) will issue an international tender for the construction of the tunnel in the second half of this year. The Argentine delegation explained that the tunnel will connect and integrate geographical areas of Argentina and Chile that are currently not incorporated in the integration process. Furthermore, this project is the result of an effort jointly made by the Coquimbo region and the San Juan province, inspired in a close sense of community. This project was born out of the demand from the two communities on both sides of the mountain range.

Finally, the COSIPLAN Presidency Pro Tempore attached great significance to the work that both countries are undertaking and expressed that it is considering the possibility of extending this application to other projects.

Pilot Application of the Methodology for the Incorporation of Disaster Risk Management to Project Group 5 of the Central Interoceanic Hub

Chile and Peru presented the progress made in the pilot application of the Methodology for the Incorporation of Disaster Risk Management (DRM) to Project Group 5 of the Central Interoceanic Hub (an area of seismic silence). In this context, comments were exchanged regarding the actions undertaken and underway under the coordination of the National Teams of both countries with the support of a Technical Cooperation from the Inter-American Development Bank (Annex 5).

The Peruvian delegation stated that their visits to selected infrastructure sites were very useful in order to identify work-specific issues that needed to be corrected in order to minimize any impact in case of a natural disaster (earthquakes). This exercise enables considering the measures required preventing and getting ready to assist the population in affected areas. The results of this pilot application will be very important for the rest of the countries exposed to natural phenomena of this kind.

Trade Integration through Postal Services

A presentation was made of the progress attained and the activities underway in relation to the work plan coordinated by Brazil and Peru with the support of a Technical Cooperation from the Inter-American Development Bank (Annex 6).

Subsequently, the activity program was reported. Concerning exports, the following activities were mentioned: i) a pre-diagnostic visit to Paraguay; ii) a final visit related to the implementation of the program in Ecuador; iii) a visit of Colombian and Peruvian representatives to Chile to exchange information on the Exporta Fácil program in these countries; iv) a pilot application of results indicators; and v) the incorporation of Exporta Fácil into the IDB ConnectAmericas Portal. Concerning imports, the following activities were mentioned: i) the design of National Work Plans to simplify import procedures through postal services; ii) the

establishment/renewal of the Inter-Institutional Work Committee devoted to the project in each country; iii) the establishment of a Customs – Postal Service Committee, and iv) the design of a connectivity pilot plan between the Exporta and Importa Fácil programs in Brazil and Peru. The objectives of the GTE meeting to be held on September 28 and 29 in Lima, Peru, were discussed. Finally, the activities scheduled to enhance the correlations between the GTE actions and the projects and activities undertaken by the Universal Postal Union (UPU) and the Postal Union of the Americas, Spain and Portugal (UPAEP) were mentioned.

Special Session on Freight Transport and Logistics

Peru presented a proposal for the implementation of a guided virtual course entitled “Training Program in the Design and Management of Freight Transport and Logistics Policies” developed within the framework of the COSIPLAN-IIRSA Work Plan in 2014 (Annex 7).

The countries recognized the importance of conducting a training course for South American government officials. With the purpose of making headway in its organization, the delegates agreed to analyze and validate the contents proposed for the course and its implementation until May 4.

The preliminary activity schedule, the people responsible for each activity, and the time frames agreed by the countries are the following:

SCHEDULE		
Submit the proposed contents and implementation to the National Coordinators	PPT held by Uruguay	April 17
Validate the proposals	National Coordinators	May 4
Adapt the program contents to the virtual platform	Director of the course	Until May 31
Validate the virtual course	National Coordinators	June 1/15
Develop the contents of the modules	Tutors	Until July 15
Technically validate the modules	Course director, technical expert, teaching expert and National Coordinators	July 15/31
Develop the modules layout on the virtual platform	CEDDET Foundation	August
Identify and select the participants	National Coordinators	June-July
Launch the first edition of the course		September-October
Evaluate and present the results to the COSIPLAN		December

Special Session on South American Integration through Ports and Waterways

Brazil submitted a proposal for the objectives and contents of the Workshop on South American Integration through Ports and Waterways to be held on October 14 y 15 in Brasilia, Brazil (Annex 8).

The objectives of the workshop are the following: identify the regulatory frameworks of the ports; conduct joint actions to increase the passenger and cargo potential in the countries' waterways; map the existing projects and studies for the exploitation of port facilities and inland connections; and evaluate potential financial sources for the modernization of the ports and integration through navigable waters.

Brazil undertook to distribute a preliminary agenda of the workshop among the countries so that they can make contributions and suggest topics, together with the Regional Development Program on South American Waterways, which is being prepared by CAF.

Special Session on Air Integration

Brazil presented a proposal for the contents and objectives of the Executive Technical Group meeting to be held on September 10 in Georgetown, Guyana (Annex 9).

The objectives of the meeting are the following: to analyze the results of the IDB study on Air Freight Transport in Latin America: analyze the advances made in the study on air integration in the Guianese Shield, and identify studies and activities for the GTE meeting on Air Integration.

Brazil undertook to distribute a preliminary agenda of the workshop among the countries so that they can make contributions and suggest topics, together with the studies to be analyzed during the activity.

Special Session on Integration and Border Facilitation

Argentina presented a proposal that consists in designing a work methodology taking into account the tools developed by COSIPLAN to identify the "bilateral border regions." The purpose is to characterize and analyze these regions and identify what interventions are needed at the infrastructure level to achieve an integral development of these territories. The countries agreed to make headway with this initiative (Annex 10).

Concerning the next steps, Argentina, with the support of the CCT, will draft a document describing the conceptual framework, methodology and instruments enabling the implementation of border integration as a course of action in the COSIPLAN planning process. Finally, it was agreed that the document will be distributed among the countries with sufficient time in advance so that they can be analyzed at the XXVII Meeting of National Coordinators to be held in August.

Lists of Annexes

[Annex 1: Agenda of the XXVI Meeting of National Coordinators](#)

[Annex 2: List of Participating Delegations at the XXVI Meeting of National Coordinators](#)

[Annex 3: Update of the Project Portfolio and Integration Priority Project Agenda \(API\)](#)

[Annex 4: Design of the Agua Negra Binational Tunnel Integration Territorial Program](#)

[Annex 5: Pilot Application of the Methodology for the Incorporation of Disaster Risk Management \(GRD\)](#)

[Annex 6: Trade Integration through Postal Services](#)

[Annex 7: Proposal Concerning the Implementation of the Course on Freight Transport and Logistics](#)

[Annex 8: South American Integration through Ports and Waterways: Proposed Objectives and Contents of the Workshop](#)

[Annex 9: Air Integration: Proposed GTE Objectives and Contents](#)

[Annex 10: Integration and Border Facilitation: A Proposal for Incorporating Border Integration in the COSIPLAN Territorial Planning](#)