

XXVIII Meeting of COSIPLAN-IIRSA National Coordinators

December 1st, 2015
Montevideo, Uruguay

REPORT ON THE MEETING

On December 1st, 2015, the city of Montevideo hosted the XXVIII Meeting of COSIPLAN-IIRSA National Coordinators, which was attended by delegations from Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela, as well as by representatives of the UNASUR General Secretariat, IIRSA Technical Coordination Committee, and non-governmental organizations. The meeting agenda and the list of participants are attached as Annexes 1 and 2, respectively.

This meeting of National Coordinators had two objectives: (i) present and analyze the results of the activities carried out in 2015, for each objective and action set forth in the PAE, within the framework of IIRSA, the COSIPLAN Technical Forum, and (ii) agree upon the Work Plan 2016.

The meeting was opened by Mr. Pablo Genta, National Director of Planning and Logistics under the Ministry of Transport and Public Works of Uruguay, on behalf of the COSIPLAN Presidency Pro Tempore (PPT).

Next, the items on the agenda were addressed as summarized below.

Activity Report 2015 and Institutional Video

The delegations welcomed the drafting of the first COSIPLAN Activity Report, which consolidates in a single document the results and achievements of all the bodies of the Council. They also stressed the importance of disseminating the Report and the Institutional Video through the channels available in each country for this purpose in order to communicate the COSIPLAN objectives and actions in pursuit of the planning and implementation of the physical integration of South America. The Activity Report 2015 and the Institutional Video are attached as Annexes 3 and 4, respectively.

Integration Territorial Programs | PAE Objective 3

Argentina and Chile presented the Integration Territorial Program and the Action Plan designed for API Project Agua Negra Binational Tunnel. The development of the Work Plan, the results attained at each stage, and the lessons learned during the design process were outlined. Finally, the PTI Action Plan was presented, containing the PTI plans, programs and projects, organized by Strategic Axes and Crosscutting Factors, to be implemented during the first phase, in parallel with the works. As an additional result, emphasis was placed on the setting up of the Binational Work Team, which had gained experience in the PTI design as well as knowledge of the territory, and which would be

responsible for carrying out its implementation. The presentation and the document are attached as Annexes 5 and 6, respectively.

COSIPLAN Project Portfolio and API | PAE Objective 4

The CCT Secretariat presented the COSIPLAN Project Portfolio Report 2015, the API Progress Report 2015, and the project files by Integration and Development Hub and by country. In addition, the new section about the Integration and Development Hubs on IIRSA website was shown, and the participants were informed that the countries' comments regarding the reports on the socioeconomic and environmental characterization of the Guianese Shield, Southern, Central Interoceanic, and Peru-Brazil-Bolivia Hubs would be submitted during January 2016. The delegations welcomed these documents, and reiterated the importance of disseminating them in each country. The presentations and documents are attached as Annexes 7 to 11.

Furthermore, a presentation was delivered on the results of the second stage of review of the status of the API projects, including both the structured and the individual ones, with the purpose of identifying problems or difficulties obstructing their progress or completion, and benefitting from the efforts offered by the Secretary General of UNASUR to facilitate overcoming the obstacles identified. This presentation is attached as Annex 12.

Planning Methodologies and Sectoral Processes | PAE Objective 6

Disaster Risk Management

Chile presented the pilot application of this methodology to Project Group 5 of the Central Interoceanic Hub. An overview was provided of the development of the activities, which were conducted in two phases —(i) identification of integration infrastructure in the exposed area, and (ii) disaster risk analysis— and of the selection of two infrastructures per country (Chile's Arica Airport and Arica Port, and Peru's Tacna Airport and Matarani Port) as a result of this work. Mention was made of the fact that a consortium made up of consulting firms Evaluación de Riesgos Naturales (ERN – México) and Ruben Boroschek (RBA – Chile) was conducting a probabilistic risk assessment to evaluate vulnerability to seismic and tsunami hazards and to identify possible risk reduction measures associated with such infrastructure. This study was expected to be completed in February 2016. The presentation is attached as Annex 13.

Freight Transport and Logistics

Peru presented the virtual course entitled "Training Program in the Design and Management of Freight Transport and Logistics Policies," targeted for public officials, which was developed and implemented with the support of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). The purpose of the program was to train officials from the different public sector agencies of the UNASUR Member States concerned with public policies, plans, programs and projects in the area of freight logistics. In the first edition of the course, given between October 12 and December 6, 42 officials from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay participated in the program with a high degree of commitment and excellent results. The presentation is attached as Annex 14.

Integration through Ports and Waterways

Brazil presented the results of the Workshop on South American Integration through Ports and Waterways, which was held on October 14 and 15 in the city of Brasilia, Brazil, at which the potential of waterways was stressed, as they were regarded as part of a logistics system considered jointly with other transportation modes, and the importance of working on different aspects to promote social and economic development was highlighted. It was stated that, as the main result of the workshop, agreement was reached to work on the API projects that fall in the river sector: (i) API 3: Northeastern Access to the Amazon River (Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru); (ii) API 17: Improvement of the Navigation Conditions on the Rivers of the Plata Basin (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay); and (iii) API 27: Multimodal Transportation in the Laguna Merín and Lagoa Dos Patos System (Brazil and Uruguay). The presentation is attached as Annex 15.

Air Integration

Brazil presented the results of the study on air connectivity in the Guianese Shield Hub, involving Brazil, Guyana, Suriname and Venezuela, which was conducted at the initiative of Guyana with the support of the IDB. The study explored the main causes of the restrictions to air connectivity between the countries of the Hub and the other South American countries. According to the findings of the study, Brazil and Venezuela had appropriate air connectivity levels, which was not the case of Guyana and Suriname. Therefore, the emphasis of the study was placed on the analysis of alternatives that would promote an increase in the connections between these two countries.

Furthermore, it was informed that the Case Studies on Air Cargo Terminals in Airports of the UNASUR Member States, which analyzed air freight trends internationally and in such countries, were completed.

The presentation and the documents are attached as Annexes 16 to 18.

Border Integration and Facilitation

Argentina and Chile presented the guidelines for the design of a work plan for cross-border territorial integration planning. The purpose was to begin, in 2016, developing actions to include cross-border integration in the COSIPLAN indicative territorial planning process, by identifying and promoting plans, programs and projects that would contribute to the integration and sustainable development of the shared border territories and to the facilitation of the movement of goods and people between the UNASUR countries. The presentation and the document are attached as Annexes 19 and 20, respectively.

Trade Integration through Postal Services for MSMEs

The CCT Secretariat presented the mail results of the activities carried out under the coordination of Brazil and Peru. Some of these activities included the following: (i) the definition of a group of indicators to measure the impact of the project; (ii) the creation of the “MIPyME Exporta Fácil”¹ community within the IDB ConnectAmericas portal; (iii) a pre-diagnostic visit to Paraguay to analyze the conditions for the development of a service for the simplification of imports and exports using the logistics platform of the postal operator; (iv) the preparation of material for disseminating Exporta Fácil at the regional level, which included a simulation tool and successful cases in the region; (v) the development of a Connectivity Pilot Project between Brazil and Peru with the aim of

¹ MySME Exports Easily.

connecting both countries' systems facilitating imports and exports for a group of MSMEs; and (vi) a GTE meeting held in Lima in September, which provided an opportunity to review the developments and share best practices and included, for the first time, the participation of some final users of the Exporta Fácil system. The presentation is attached as Annex 21.

Participation of South American Social Organizations

Next, two social organizations from the region delivered their presentations. The South American Confederation of Road Workers (COSUTRAVI), made up of members of FUTRAVI (Uruguay), FASDEBRA (Brazil), and ANCHOMOP (Chile), welcomed the participation of civil society and particularly of unionized workers in the meeting. They regarded COSIPLAN as the appropriate forum for their work and for South American roads. They also stressed that the unity of the continent depends on the infrastructure network, especially the road connectivity network. Furthermore, they expressed their willingness to cooperate with the South American integration process on the basis of the participation of civil society.

Next, the Regional Coalition for Transparency and Participation, made up of IBASE (Brazil), CEDLA (Bolivia), CEDES (Ecuador), DAR (Peru), and the Federal University of São Paulo, delivered a presentation. They stated that the region's academia and non-governmental organizations are monitoring the evolution of the activities carried out by IIRSA and COSIPLAN. Also, they considered that the COSIPLAN is the natural work forum of the Coalition, and stressed the importance of taking into account the ecosystems, protected areas and natural spaces when planning infrastructure works. Moreover, they highlighted the work conducted in the design of the Agua Negra Binational Tunnel PTI. Lastly, they proposed working with COSIPLAN on an ongoing basis and offered the Council the information produced by such NGOs to be used as input for sustainable planning. The presentation is attached as Annex 22.

COSIPLAN Work Plan and Calendar of Activities 2016

Finally, the Presidency Pro Tempore, held by Uruguay, presented the proposed Work Plan and Calendar of Activities 2016. After a session of dialogue and debate, the activities for the next year were agreed upon. The Work Plan and Calendar of Activities 2016, as agreed upon at the meeting, are attached as Annex 23.

The Activity Report 2015, the Work Plan and Calendar of Activities 2016, and all outputs of the activities carried out during the year will be submitted to the VI Ordinary Meeting of COSIPLAN Ministers, to be held on December 3 in Montevideo, Uruguay, for approval.

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