



# I . I . R . S . A

INITIATIVE FOR THE INTEGRATION OF REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE IN SOUTH AMERICA

T E C H N I C A L C O O R D I N A T I O N C O M M I T T E E



## **MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE TECHNICAL GROUP (GTE) ON THE PARAGUAY-PARANA WATERWAY HUB**

August 21 – 22, 2007

Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia

Los Tajibos Hotel & Convention Center  
Avenida San Martín 455 - Equipetrol

### **1. BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES**

Since its creation, the Initiative for the Integration of Regional Infrastructure in South America (IIRSA) has worked with concepts derived from territorial planning, such as the Integration and Development Hubs (EID), which are geo-economic elements of territorial planning and sustainable development management.

Since September 2003, the twelve South American countries have applied the Indicative Territorial Planning Methodology in eight of its ten EIDs, thus succeeding in sorting and streamlining the project portfolio in transport, energy and communications infrastructure deemed relevant by each country from the national standpoint as well as from the perspective of regional integration. The work undertaken —basically qualitative— received input from the Strategic and Business Visions of each EID and was based on the consensus reached by experts who are very much acquainted with the economic, social and environmental contexts of each Hub. This has enabled the South American countries concerned to agree on a common portfolio made up of 348 infrastructure projects grouped in 41 Project Groups with an estimated investment amount of US\$ 38 billion.

For the year 2007 IIRSA's member countries have undertaken to review –at the level of GTE in each EID- the IIRSA Portfolio's projects deemed necessary, and to initiate the indicative territorial planning process for the Paraguay-Paraná Waterway Hub, through a specific GTE for this Hub.

The main purpose of applying this planning methodology is to identify and sort the Paraguay-Paraná Waterway Hub's project portfolio and based on the technical, economic, social and environmental information on these groups, gain wider insight into the contribution that each project group can make to the sustainable development and physical integration of the Hub. The meeting is expected to produce a classification of the Hub's

project groups according to their contribution to the sustainable development of the region and to their technical, financial and political feasibility based on the indicative planning methodology.

By the GTE's meeting on this EID, the first stage of the planning process will be completed —i.e. the identification of transport, energy and communication projects; the project group for each EID as well as their strategic function and anchor project, and the sectoral processes relevant to each project group. In a subsequent GTE meeting, the planning process for this EID will be concluded so as to gain wider insight into the contribution that the project groups can make to the sustainable development and physical integration of the countries.

## 2. PARTICIPANTS

Participants to this meeting will be delegates representing the countries engaged in this Hub: National Coordinators (CN), governmental officials concerned with planning, transport, energy and communications infrastructure as well as CCT representatives, experts and consultants. CN members from other countries are expected to attend as observers.

## 3. AGENDA

Tuesday, August 21, 2007

09:00 – 09:15 Opening of the **GTE Meeting of the Paraguay-Paraná Waterway Hub** by IIRSA's National Coordination, the Bolivian Government.

09:15 – 09:30 Expected results and impact of the meeting

09:30 – 10:00 **Work Methodology** – Presentation of the Indicative Planning Methodology

10:00 – 10:15 Debate and comments

10:15 – 10:45 **Business Vision** – Presentation of the central aspects of the Business Vision of the Paraguay-Paraná Waterway Hub and its project groups (economic and socio-environmental aspects in the territory).

10:45 – 11:00 Debate and comments

11:00 – 11:15 Break

11:15 – 13:00 Presentation of Projects by the countries concerned

13:00 – 14:30 Lunch

14:30 – 16:00 Presentation of Projects by the countries concerned (cont'd.)

16:00 – 16:15 Break

16:15 – 18:00 Team Work – Definition of Project Groups, Strategic Functions, Anchor Projects and related Sectoral Processes.

Wednesday, August 22, 2007

09:00 – 11:00 Team Work – Definition of Project Groups, Strategic Functions, Anchor Projects and related Sectoral Processes.

11:00 – 11:15 Break

11:15 – 13:00 **Conclusions** - Presentation of the results of the GTE on the Paraguay-Paraná Waterway Hub as well as identification of Project Groups eligible for the application of new planning methodologies, based on the progress reached.

13:00 – 14:30 Lunch