

EXECUTIVE TECHNICAL GROUP ON BORDER INTEGRATION AND FACILITATION

October 16 and 17, 2014

NH City & Tower Hotel – Plaza Mayor Conference Room

Bolívar 160 - Buenos Aires, Argentina

1. BACKGROUND

Some of the objectives of the COSIPLAN Strategic Action Plan (PAE) 2012-2022 are to promote the development of the region by identifying and executing infrastructure projects that should strengthen physical integration, following sustainable socioeconomic development criteria, and preserving the environment and the ecosystem balance. Furthermore, the Plan promotes the enhancement of the indicative territorial planning process, through the application of methodologies and the development of sectoral processes and complementary actions that should enable the execution and operation of the initiatives undertaken and the attainment of the objectives pursued.

The increase in societies' demand for integration in different dimensions and the substantial increase in intraregional flows resulting from these processes require borders to fulfill a new role, i.e. contribute to integrate the peoples involved and facilitate their social and production links.

Cooperation and border integration constitute strategies undertaken by the countries with a view to attaining the comprehensive and sustainable development of border territories and the creation of alternatives for the dynamic incorporation of such spaces into national development, bilateral cooperation and sub-regional socioeconomic integration processes.

While seeking solutions to facilitate cross-border flows, without prejudice to compliance of migration, customs and phytosanitary regulations and policies nor transport safety and security standards, the countries in the region have chosen to enhance the border control model, moving toward the concept of border facilitation and, more recently, toward coordinated border management.

Assuming that each border is different and, within the same border, there are specific conditions peculiar to each border crossing, it is deemed necessary to further undertake, within the framework of COSIPLAN initiatives, a more thorough indicative territorial planning process, focusing on these spaces and considering border crossings as a component within them, the development of which will need to be contextualized.

2. OBJECTIVES

- ❑ Exchange experiences and share the progress made and the initiatives undertaken by the UNASUR countries in terms of the integration of common border territories.
- ❑ Identify joint lines of work within the scope of COSIPLAN to address border integration issues by using the methodologies developed or to be developed to meet pending challenges.
- ❑ Make headway in the development of border centers viewed as projects within the border integration process and immersed in such context.
- ❑ Identify programs, within the South American context, designed to make progress in coordinated border management.

- Move towards the design of baselines and indicators meant to indicate the progress attained in border management.

3. METHODOLOGY

In Block 1, presentations will be made to introduce the reconceptualization of the border as an integrating space, the border integration processes undertaken in South America, and their main features and challenges.

Block 2 will be devoted, through the presentation of different experiences, to lecture on the efforts being made by South American countries to strengthen the integrated border control model.

Block 3 will be concerned with the programs implemented or to be implemented by the multilateral banks with the purpose of providing technical assistance to the execution of projects identified in the field of border facilitation and integration.

In Block 4, all the actions proposed to be implemented within the scope of COSIPLAN will be presented for discussion and exchange, after which recommendations are expected to be issued in a teamwork atmosphere.

Recognizing that the issues to be addressed form part of a dynamic process subject to permanent new challenges in a context of diversity, participants are expected and welcomed to enrich the workshop with their viewpoints by contributing their own experiences.

4. PARTICIPANTS

In addition to the National Coordinators, the GTE meeting calls for the participation of representatives from government agencies and entities concerned with the planning and implementation of investment programs for border integration as well as of those concerned with border controls with regard to physical implementation and to border facilitation and coordinated management processes in order to contribute their countries' experiences and promote a dialogue aimed at attaining the meeting objectives.

5. AGENDA

October 16

- 9.00–9.20 **OPENING SESSION**
Arch. Graciela Oporto, Under-Secretary of Territorial Planning of Public Investment, Ministry of Federal Planning, Public Investment and Services, and COSIPLAN National Coordinator, Argentina
Ambassador Diego Tettamanti, Under-Secretary of Latin American Policy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship, and UNASUR National Coordinator, Argentina
Eng. Sergio Galilea, Under-Secretary of Public Works, Ministry of Public Works, COSIPLAN Presidency Pro Tempore, Chile
- 9.20–9.40 *MEETING OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED RESULTS*
National Coordination Argentina
National Coordination Chile

BLOCK 1 BORDER INTEGRATION

Panel 1 An Approach to the Knowledge on and Consideration of Borders

Moderator: National Coordination Argentina

- 9.40– 10.10 *BORDER REGIONAL SPACES: INTEGRATION PLATFORMS*
Lecturer: Nilo Meza Monge
Consultant in border integration and development issues, Peru
- 10.10–10.40 *CROSS-BORDER INTEGRATION: Challenges in Multiple Dimensions*
Lecturer: Hugo Varsky
Special Advisor in Regional Integration Issues, Under-Secretariat of Latin American Policies, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship, Argentina
- 10.40–11.00 Q&A and Comments
- 11.00–11.20 Coffee Break

Panel 2 Border Integration in South America

Moderation and Comments: National Coordination Paraguay

- 11.20-11.50 *THE BRAZILIAN EXPERIENCE: The Border Strip*
Lecturer: Alexandre Bastos Peixoto
General Coordinator of Macroregional Programs, Regional Development Secretariat, Ministry of National Integration, Brazil
- 11.50-12.20 *THE EXPERIENCE OF BINATIONAL PLANNING: The Colombia-Ecuador Case*
Lecturer: Santiago Vázquez
Under-Secretary of National Planning, National Planning and Development Secretariat (SENPLADES), Ecuador
- 12.20–12.40 *THE IIRSA AND COSIPLAN EXPERIENCE IN BORDER FACILITATION*
Lecturer: Gustavo Beliz

Director of the Institute for the Integration of Latin America and the Caribbean (INTAL), in charge of IIRSA Technical Coordination Committee (CCT) Technical Secretariat

12.40–13.00 Comments

13.00–14.30 Lunch

BLOCK 2 BORDER FACILITATION

Panel 1 Modalities and Implementation of Border Controls

Moderator: National Coordination Brazil

14.30–14.50 *BORDER CONTROL EVOLUTION: TOWARD INTEGRATED BORDER MANAGEMENT*

Lecturer: Ms. María Luisa Carbonell, Public Accountant

Director of International Affairs, Federal Administration of Public Revenue, and Coordinator of Technical Committee 2 "Customs Issues," MERCOSUR, Argentina

14.50–15.10 *PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF THE INTEGRATED BORDER CONTROL MODEL: Some Critical Issues and Elements for Discussion*

Lecturer: Marcela Espinoza

Director of Borders and Boundaries, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Chile

Lecturer: Paola Valenzuela

Border Crossing Unit, Chilean Interior Ministry.

15.10–15.30 *THE IMPLEMENTATION OF BORDER CONTROLS IN PERU*

Lecturer: Minister Luís Rodomiro Hernández Ortiz

Director of Border Integration and Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Peru

15.30–15.50 Comments

15.50–16.10 Coffee Break

Panel 2 Border Control Experiences from the Control Institutions' Perspective

Moderator: National Coordination Chile

16.10-16.30 *THE EXPERIENCE FROM THE CUSTOMS' PERSPECTIVE*

Lecturer: Laura Dighiero

Advisor on Technical and Institutional Relations, International Affairs, National Customs Directorate, and Coordinator of the Technical Committee 2 "Customs Issues," MERCOSUR, Uruguay

16.30–16.50 *THE EXPERIENCE FROM THE MIGRATION AGENCIES' PERSPECTIVE*

Lecturer: Luciana Litterio

Head of Department, International and Social Affairs Department, National Migrations Directorate., Argentina

16.50–17.10 *THE EXPERIENCE FROM THE PHYTOSANITARY CONTROL AGENCIES' PERSPECTIVE*

Lecturer: Oscar Camacho

Agricultural Service. Chile

17.10–17.30 Comments

October 17

BLOCK 3 ASSISTANCE TO BORDER INTEGRATION AND MANAGEMENT

Moderator: National Coordination Peru

9.00–9.20 *IMPORTANCE OF AND CHALLENGES TO COORDINATED BORDER MANAGEMENT*

Lecturer: Mr. Manuel Márquez Fariña

Leading Expert in Customs, Integration and Trade, Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)

9.20–9.40 *CAF ACTIONS IN THE FIELD OF BORDER INTEGRATION*

Lecturer: Juan Pablo Rodríguez

Senior Advisor to CAF, Development Bank of Latin America

9.40–10.00 Comments

BLOCK 4 INTEGRATION AND BORDER FACILITATION WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF COSIPLAN

10.00-10.20 *CROSS-BORDER INTEGRATION AND COOPERATION: A REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE*

Lecturer: Sebastián González

Under-Secretary of Planning and Action for Development, COPADE Province of Neuquén, Argentina

10.20-10.40 *BORDER INTEGRATION IN THE COSIPLAN TERRITORIAL PLANNING PROCESS: A Preliminary Proposal*

Lecturer: Ángela Guariglia

National Director of International Territorial Integration Planning, Territorial Planning Under-Secretariat, Argentina

10.40-11.00 *MANAGEMENT STANDARDS AND INDICATORS FOR BORDER CROSSINGS: Presentation of a Simplified Proposal on Indicators*

Lecturer: Hilda Gómez

Consultant in Transport and Border Crossings, CAF, Development Bank of Latin America

11.00-11.15 Coffee Break

Team Work

11.15-12.45 *Team Work to evaluate lines of action to be included in the COSIPLAN Work Plan*

12.45-13.30 Conclusions and Next Steps

Closing Session