

EE-96-UNASURSG-2015
Quito, February 18, 2015

Ing. Pablo Genta
Pro-Tempore President
Pro-Tempore Presidency Uruguay COSIPLAN
Montevideo, Uruguay

Ref.: 2015 Proposals of the Secretary General for the COSIPLAN

Dear Mr. Genta.:

According to what was discussed at our meeting in Montevideo, on the 10 of this month, I am pleased to formalize the proposals discussed at that time, so that through your channel they'll be circulated among the national coordinators of the COSIPLAN and to the Ministers of the Sectoral Council you preside, in order to adopt a decision, hopefully not beyond the COSIPLAN National Coordinators Meeting (Montevideo, April 16 to 17, 2015).

a) Creation of Sub-Working Groups for the 7 multinational projects

Notwithstanding the attention that countries continue giving to the Portfolio API of 31 structured priority projects, in the Presidential Summit last December, the General Secretariat made its proposal to give a boost to 7 projects API, which in addition to complying with the requirement of having a high impact on the regional integration process, involve two or more countries.

Bearing in mind the interesting experience of several years of operation of the Working Subgroup of the Bi-Oceanic Railway Corridor Paranaguá-Antofagasta (Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Paraguay) **-API 11-** and the recent creation of a Working Subgroup for the Bi-Oceanic Central Railway Corridor (Bolivia, Brazil and Peru) **-API 24-**, we propose COSIPLAN to consider the creation of similar Working Subgroups for the following API projects, which are presented graphically in the Annex to this letter:

- **API 03** – Northeastern Access to the Amazon River
- **API 04** -- Highway Corridor Caracas-Bogota-Buenaventura/Quito
- **API 12** – Highway Connection Foz-Ciudad del Este-Asunción-Clorinda

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- **API 16** – Connection Routes between Venezuela-Guyana-Suriname, including the construction of the Bridge over the Corentine River
- **API 17** – Navigability improvement of the Plata Basin Rivers
- **API 18** – Railway Interconnection Paraguay-Argentina-Uruguay

If we can encourage the commitment of the countries involved in each of these priority projects and resume the political will of contributing to the integration of infrastructure in these projects of high social impact, COSIPLAN may establish a dialogue with the regional funding agencies that will allow to take them to the stage of implementation or completion, for which the General Secretariat is committed to closely accompany this process, along with a Coordinator for each one of the new sub-working groups that have been proposed.

b) Conduction of COSIPLAN Meetings at the new UNASUR headquarters

Considering the recent inauguration of the new UNASUR headquarters and for the convenience of the institutionalization of UNASUR, that all Councils may carry out activities in it, the proposal for the Council of Ministers of COSIPLAN, through the Uruguay PPT is that the XXVII Meeting of IIRSA's National Coordinators and the XII Meeting of the COSIPLAN Coordinating Committee, fixed for August 19 and 20, be held in Quito.

Also, to optimize and complement the previous session, the General Secretariat has carried out consultations with IIRSA's CCT, to organize within the framework of the IIRSA and COSIPLAN coordinators meetings (if approved Quito as the venue), a couple of days before (August 17-18), a Seminar on the Multinational Projects from the API Portfolio and the Impact of Infrastructure in the value Chains and intraregional Trade. We are hoping for the participation of all COSIPLAN Coordinators, ministerial level representatives and UNASUR specialists in regional infrastructure and trade.

Once again, I thank you for your gracious welcome and participation in the meeting with your COSIPLAN colleagues in Montevideo and the accompaniment you gave us at the signing of the Non-refundable Technical Cooperation Agreement between CAF and UNASUR for the study for creation of a broadband for the South American integration.

I take this opportunity to renew the assurances of my highest esteem and consideration.

Ernesto Samper Pizano
Secretary General
GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF UNASUR