

PRESENTATION

The *Pro Tempore* Secretariat of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty is pleased to present the first English edition of the Legal Framework of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty. The purpose hereof is to facilitate the dissemination of the Treaty's official documents among those who use the English language, but mainly to assist the governments and institutions of Guyana and Suriname. This edition is a compilation of every document resulting from TCA meetings held since Peru took charge of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat in February 1994.

This volume comprises the Final Minutes of the VI and VII Ordinary Meetings of the Amazon Cooperation Council, the V Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, as well as the Lima Declaration and the eleven Resolutions adopted in December, 1995. It also contains the Final Minutes of the Meetings of the Special Commissions of the Amazon Region held during 1995. In addition, it includes the text of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty and the current Regulations of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat.

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Lima, January 1996

Jorge Voto Bernales

Pro Tempore Secretary

1. Text of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty

TREATY FOR AMAZONIAN COOPERATION

The Republics of Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname and Venezuela,

CONSCIOUS of the importance to each one of the Parties of their respective Amazonian regions as an integral part of their respective territories,

INSPIRED by the common aim of pooling the efforts being made, both within their respective | territories as well as among themselves, to promote the harmonious development of the Amazon region, to permit an equitable distribution of the benefits of said development among the Contracting Parties so as to raise the standard of living of their peoples and so as to achieve total incorporation of their Amazonian territories into their respective national economies,

CONSCIOUS of the usefulness of sharing national experiences in matters pertaining to the promotion of regional development,

CONSIDERING that, so as to achieve overall development of their respective Amazonian territories, it is necessary to maintain a balance between economic growth and conservation of the environment,

CONSCIOUS that both social-economical development as well as conservation of the environment are responsibilities inherent in the sovereignty of each State, and that cooperation among the Contracting Parties shall facilitate fulfillment of these responsibilities, by continuing and expanding the joint efforts being made for the ecological conservation of the Amazon region,

CONFIDENT that cooperation among the Latin American nations on specific matters which they have in common shall contribute to progress on the road towards the integration and solidarity of all Latin America,

CONVINCED that this Treaty represents the beginning of a process of cooperation which shall benefit their respective countries and the Amazon region as a whole,

RESOLVE to sign the following Treaty:

ARTICLE I

The Contracting Parties agree to undertake joint actions and efforts to promote the harmonious development of their respective Amazonian territories in such a way that these joint actions produce equitable and mutually beneficial results and achieve also the preservation of the environment, and the conservation and rational utilization of the natural resources of those territories.

PARAGRAPH: to this end, they would exchange information and prepare operational agreements and understandings as well as the pertinent legal instruments which will permit the aims of the present Treaty to be attained.

ARTICLE II

This Treaty shall be in force in the territories of the Contracting Parties in the Amazonian Basin as well as in any territory of a Contracting Party which, by virtue of its geographical, ecological or economic characteristics is considered closely connected with that Basin.

ARTICLE III

In accordance with and without prejudice to the rights granted by unilateral acts, to the provisions of bilateral treaties among the Parties and to the principles and rules of International Law, the Contracting parties mutually guarantee on a reciprocal basis that there shall be complete freedom of commercial navigation on the Amazon and other international Amazonian rivers, observing the fiscal and police regulations in force now or in the future within the territory of each. Such regulations should, insofar as possible, be uniform and favor said navigation and trade.

PARAGRAPH: This article shall not apply to cabotage.

ARTICLE IV

The Contracting Parties declare that the exclusive use and utilization of natural resources within their respective territories is a right inherent in the sovereignty of each state and that the exercise of this right shall not be subject to any restrictions other than those arising from International Law.

ARTICLE V

Taking account of the importance and multiplicity of the functions which the Amazonian rivers have in the process of economic and social development of the region, the Contracting Parties shall make efforts aimed at achieving rational utilization of the hydric resources.

ARTICLE VI

In order to enable the Amazonian rivers to become an effective communication link among the Contracting Parties and with the Atlantic Ocean, the riparian states interested in any specific problem affecting free and unimpeded navigation shall, as circumstances may warrant, undertake national, bilateral or multilateral measures aimed at improving and making the said rivers navigable.

PARAGRAPH: For this purpose, they shall carry out studies into the means for eliminating physical obstacles to the said navigation as well as the economic and financial implications so as to put into effect the most appropriate operational measures.

ARTICLE VII

Taking into account the need for the exploitation of the flora and fauna of the Amazon region to be rationally planned so as to maintain the ecological balance within the region and preserve the species, the Contracting Parties decide to:

- a. Promote scientific research and exchange information and technical personnel among the competent agencies within the respective countries so as to increase their knowledge of the flora and fauna of their Amazon territories and prevent and control diseases in said territories.
- b. Establish a regular system for the proper exchange of information on the conservationist measures adopted or to be adopted by each State in its Amazonian territories; these shall be the subject of an annual report to be presented by each country.

ARTICLE VIII

The Contracting Parties decide to promote coordination of the present health services in their respective Amazonian territories and to take other appropriate measures to improve the sanitary conditions in the region and perfect methods for preventing and combating epidemics.

ARTICLE IX

The Contracting Parties agree to establish close cooperation in the fields of scientific and technological research, for the purpose of creating more suitable conditions for the acceleration of the economic and social development of the region.

PARAGRAPH ONE: For purposes of this Treaty, the technical and scientific cooperation among the Contracting Parties may be as follows:

- a. Joint or coordinated implementation of research and development programs;
- b. Creation and operation of research institutions or centers for improvement and experimental production;
- c. Organization of seminars and conferences, exchange of information and documentation, and organization of means for their dissemination.

PARAGRAPH TWO: The Contracting Parties may, whensoever they deem it necessary and convenient, request the participation of international agencies in the execution of studies, programs and projects resulting from the forms of technical and scientific cooperation defined in Paragraph One of this Article.

ARTICLE X

The Contracting Parties agree on the advisability of creating a suitable physical infrastructure among their respective countries, especially in relation to transportation and communications. They therefore undertake to study the most harmonious ways of establishing or improving road, river, air and telecommunication links bearing in mind the plans and programs of each country aimed at attaining the priority goal of fully incorporating those respective Amazonian territories into their respective national economies,

ARTICLE XI

In order to increase the rational utilization of the human and natural resources of their respective Amazonian territories, the Contracting Parties agree to encourage joint studies and measures aimed at promoting the economic and social development of said territories and generating complementary methods for reinforcing the actions envisaged in the national plans of their respective territories.

ARTICLE XII

The Contracting Parties recognize the benefit to be derived by developing, under equitable and mutually beneficial conditions, retail trade of products for local consumption among the respective Amazonian border populations, by means of suitable bilateral or multilateral agreements.

ARTICLE XIII

The Contracting Parties shall cooperate to increase the flow of tourists, both national and from third countries, in their respective Amazonian territories, without prejudice to national regulations for the protection of indigenous cultures and natural resources.

ARTICLE XIV

The Contracting Parties shall cooperate in ensuring that measures adopted for the conservation of ethnological, and archeological wealth of the Amazon region are effective.

ARTICLE XV

The Contracting Parties shall seek to maintain a permanent exchange of information and cooperation among themselves and with the agencies for Latin American cooperation in the areas pertaining to matters covered by this Treaty.

ARTICLE XVI

The decisions and commitments adopted by the Contracting Parties under this Treaty shall not be to the detriment of projects and undertakings executed within their respective territories, according to International Law and fair practice between neighboring and friendly countries.

ARTICLE XVII

The Contracting Parties shall present initiatives for undertaking studies for the elaboration of programs of common interest for developing their Amazonian territories and in general terms provide for the fulfillment of the actions contemplated in the present Treaty.

PARAGRAPH: The Contracting Parties agree to give special attention to the consideration of initiatives presented by the least developed countries which require joint action and efforts by the Contracting Parties.

ARTICLE XVIII

Nothing contained in this Treaty shall in any way limit the rights of the Contracting Parties to conclude bilateral or multilateral agreements on specific or generic matters, provided that these are not contrary to the achievement of the common aims for cooperation in the Amazonian region stated in this instrument.

ARTICLE XIX

Neither the signing of this Treaty nor its execution shall have any effect on any other international treaties in force between the Parties nor on any differences with regard to limits or territorial rights which may exist between the Parties nor shall the signing or implementation of this Treaty be interpreted or invoked to imply acceptance or renunciation, affirmation or modification, direct or indirect, express or tacit, of the position or interpretation that each Contracting Party may hold on these matters.

ARTICLE XX

Notwithstanding the fact that more adequate frequency for meetings can be established at a later date, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Contracting Parties shall convene meetings when deemed opportune or advisable, in order to establish the basic guidelines for common policies, for assessing and evaluating the general development or the process of Amazonian cooperation and for taking decisions designed to carry out the aims set out in this document.

PARAGRAPH ONE: Meetings of Foreign Affairs Ministers shall be convened at the request of any of the Contracting Parties, provided that the request has the support of no fewer than four Member States.

PARAGRAPH TWO: The first Meeting of Foreign Affairs Ministers shall be held within a period of two years following the date of entry into force of this Treaty. The venue and date of the first meeting shall be established by agreement among the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the Contracting Parties.

PARAGRAPH THREE: Designation of the host country for the meetings shall be by rotation and in alphabetical order.

ARTICLE XXI

The Amazonian Cooperation Council comprising of top level diplomatic representatives shall meet once a year. Its duties shall be as follows:

1. To ensure that the aims and objectives of the Treaty are complied with.
2. To be responsible for carrying out the decisions taken at meetings of Foreign Affairs Ministers.
3. To recommend to the Parties the advisability and the appropriateness of convening meetings of Foreign Affairs Ministers and of drawingup the corresponding Agenda.
4. To take under consideration initiatives and plans present by the Parties as well as to adopt decisions for undertaking bilateral or multilateral studies and plans, the execution of which as the case may be, shall be the duty of the Permanent National Commissions. To evaluate the implementation of plans of bilateral or multilateral interest. To drawup the Rules and Regulations for its proper functioning.

PARAGRAPH ONE: The Council shall hold special meetings through the initiative of any of the Contracting Parties with the support of the majority of the rest.

PARAGRAPH TWO: The venue of regular meetings shall be rotated in alphabetical order among the Contracting Parties.

ARTICLE XXII

The functions of the Secretariat shall be performed *Pro Tempore* by the Contracting Party in whose territory the next regular meeting of the Amazonian Cooperation Council is scheduled to be held.

PARAGRAPH: The *Pro Tempore* Secretariat shall send the pertinent documentation to the Parties.

ARTICLE XXIII

The Contracting Parties shall create Permanent National Commissions charged with enforcing in their respective territories the provisions set out in this Treaty, as well as carrying out the decisions taken at meetings of Foreign Affairs Ministers Amazonian Cooperation Council, without jeopardizing other tasks assigned them by the State.

ARTICLE XXIV

Whenever necessary, the Contracting Parties may set up special Commissions to study specific problems or matters related to the aims of this Treaty.

ARTICLE XXV

Decisions at meetings held in accordance with Articles XX and XXI shall always require the unanimous vote of the Member Countries of this Treaty. Decisions made at meetings held in accordance with Article XXIV shall always require the unanimous vote of the participating countries.

ARTICLE XXVI

The Contracting Parties agree that the present Treaty shall not be susceptible to interpretative reservation or statements.

ARTICLE XXVII

This Treaty shall remain in force for an unlimited period of time, and shall not be open to adherence.

ARTICLE XXVIII

This Treaty shall be ratified by all the Contracting parties and the instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Government of the Federative Republic of Brazil.

PARAGRAPH ONE: This Treaty shall become effective thirty days after the last instrument of ratification has been deposited by the Contracting Parties.

PARAGRAPH TWO: The intention to denounce this Treaty shall be communicated by a Contracting Party to the remaining Contracting Parties at least ninety days prior to formal delivery of the instrument of denunciation to the Government of the Federative Republic of Brazil. This Treaty shall cease to have effect for the Contracting Party denouncing it one year after the denunciation has been formalized.

PARAGRAPH THREE: This Treaty shall be drawn up in English, Dutch, Portuguese and Spanish, all having equal validity.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned Ministers of Foreign Affairs have signed the present Treaty. EXECUTED in the city of Brasilia on July 3, 1978, to be deposited in the archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Brazil which shall provide the other signatory countries with true copies.

For the Government of the Republic of Bolivia
Oscar Adriazola Valda

For the Government of the Federative Republic of Brazil
Antonio F. Azeredo Da Silveira

For the Government of the Republic of Colombia
Indalecio Lievano Aguirre

For the Government of the Republic of Ecuador
Jose Ayala Lasso

For the Government of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana
Rashleigh Esmond Jackson

For the Government of the Republic of Peru
Jose de la Puente Radbill

For the Government of the Republic of Suriname
Henck Alfonsus Eugene Arron

For the Government of the Republic of Venezuela
Simon Alberto Consalvi

2.Final Reports and Declarations: Meetings of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty

FINAL REPORT: V MEETING OF MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

In response to the invitation extended by the Government of Peru, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty held their V Meeting in the City of Lima on December 4 and 5, 1995.

In this meeting participated Delegations of all Countries Party to the Amazon Cooperation Treaty, as well as representatives of international organizations attending as observers. The list of participants is enclosed as Annex I.

His Excellency Alberto Fujimori, President of the Republic of Peru, inaugurated the meeting.

The Initial Plenary Session was chaired by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bolivia, in his capacity as Foreign Minister of the country hosting the previous meeting. During this session the members of the Directing Board were elected as follows: Dr. Francisco Tudela, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Peru, as Chairman; Dr. Rodrigo Pardo, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Colombia, as Vice Chairman; and Ambassador Jorge VotoBernales, *Pro Tempore* Secretary of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty, as Secretary General-Rapporteur.

Immediately thereafter, the Honorable Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Peru, Bolivia, Suriname, Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana and the Special Envoy of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Brazil, took the floor and highlighted the importance of the joint activities being carried out within the framework of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty, and agreed upon the necessity to promote and strengthen this international instrument.

In his capacity as Head of the Delegation of the country hosting the VI and VII Ordinary Meetings of the Amazon Cooperation Council, held in the City of Lima on October 10 and 11, 1994, and on November 30 and December 2, 1995, respectively, Ambassador Harry Belevan informed on the results of both events.

Thereafter Ambassador Jorge VotoBernales, *Pro Tempore* Secretary of the Amazon Cooperation Council, presented the Work Plan and informed on the activities carried out by the Secretariat during the Peruvian mandate.

The Honorable Ministers of Foreign Affairs, after having expressed their recognition for the efficient work carried out by Peru during its mandate as *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, unanimously decided to approve the Work Plan and the Activities Report.

Then, a Commission made up of Representatives of the Parties held a meeting to analyze the following documents, which later on were approved by the Plenary Session:

Declaration of Lima

Final Minutes of the V Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty, and

The following Resolutions:

No. RES/V MRETCA/1, creating a permanent secretariat of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty whose seat will be the City of Brasilia;

No. RES/V MRETCA/2, establishing a financial mechanism of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty;

No. RES/V MRETCA/3, approving amendments and modifications to the Regulations of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat;

No. RES/V MRETCA/4, creating the Special Commission of the Amazon Region on Education (CEEDA);

No. RES/V MRETCA/5, expressing its recognition of the work done by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat and approving the administration, report and work plan;

No. RES/V MRETCA/6, impelling the adoption of a regional document on criteria and indicators for sustainability of the Amazon forest;

No. RES/V MRETCA/7, arranging for negotiations of an agreement on measures to prevent and control contamination of the Amazon water resources;

No. RES/V MRETCA/8, establishing an institute for research and protection of genetic resources;

No. RES/V MRETCA/9, arranging for the preparation of a joint program to promote education and environmental awareness at school level;

No. RES/V MRETCA/10, entrusting the Special Commission of the Amazon Region on Transport, Communications and Infrastructure (CETICAM) with the preparation of a study on the navigability of the Amazonian rivers, within the framework of the project Transportation Network for the Amazon Region.

No. RES/V MRETCA/11, congratulating the Ad Hoc Working Group created by RES/VI CCA/2 and recognizing the work of the Secretariat *Pro Tempore* in the preparation of a Final Report on the study of the implications resulting from the establishment of a Permanent Secretariat of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty.

The Honorable Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bolivia reiterated the offer made at the III and IV Meetings of Ministers of Foreign Affairs that the City of Santa Cruz de la Sierra be the seat of the financial mechanism of the Treaty.

The Honorable Minister of Foreign Affairs of Colombia offered the City of Leticia and the already existing Institute of Amazon Research (SINCHI), as seat for the institute of research and protection of genetic resources, which this meeting agreed to establish.

The Honorable Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ecuador, when referring to the technical and scientific capacity of the Center of Integrated Assessment of Natural Resources by Remote Sensors (CLIRSEN) of his country, offered to contribute with geographical information and natural resources of the Amazon Region by providing remote sensors.

Moreover, the Honorable Minister of Foreign Affairs of Guyana invited the Countries Party to the Amazon Cooperation Treaty to join the Iwokrama project on rain forests, which is being executed in his country and has the same sustainability objectives as the Treaty.

On behalf of the Parties, the Honorable Minister of Foreign Affairs of Venezuela thanked the Government of Peru for the attention received and expressed his gratitude to the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat for the efficient work carried out, which has enabled the institutional strengthening of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty.

Finally, the Honorable Minister of Foreign Affairs of Peru, Dr. Francisco Tudela, expressed his satisfaction for the important results achieved and closed this V Meeting.

In witness whereof, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs hereunto set their hands in the City of Lima, this fifth day of the month of December, 1995.

By the Government of Bolivia
Antonio Aranibar Quiroga

By the Government of Ecuador
Galo Leoro Franco

By the Government of Peru
Francisco Tudela

By the Government of Venezuela
Miguel Angel Burelli Rivas

By the Government of Colombia
Rodrigo Pardo Garcia Peña

By the Government of Guyana
Clement J. Rohee

By the Government of Suriname
Subhas Ch. Mungra

By the Government of Brazil
Ivan Cannabrava

RES/V MRETCA/1

RESOLUTION

THE V MEETING OF MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE AMAZON COOPERATION TREATY

Considering that the increasingly dynamic Amazon cooperation process and the consequent enhancement of its projection on the international scenery require the institutional strengthening of the Treaty and the perfection of its mechanisms;

DOES HEREBY RESOLVE:

To create a permanent secretariat of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty, the seat of which will be in the City of Brasilia;

To set up an *Ad Hoc* Working Group consisting of representatives of all the Parties, in order to elaborate and submit for consideration by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, before June 30, 1996, a proposal which defines the structure, objectives and opportune establishment of the Permanent Secretariat of the Treaty, taking into account the administrative, technical, legal and financial aspects involved;

To commission the VIII Ordinary Meeting of the Amazon Cooperation Council that, upon evaluating the process, it considers the issue of rotation of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat.

Signed in the City of Lima, on the 5th day of the month of December of 1995.

RES/V MRETCA/2

RESOLUTION

THE V MEETING OF MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF

THE AMAZON COOPERATION TREATY

Considering that the institutional strengthening of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty and perfection of its mechanisms need to be complemented with a financial instrument capable of meeting the increasing cooperation requirements of the Countries Party to the ACT in an agile and effective manner;

DOES HEREBY RESOLVE:

To establish a financial mechanism of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty.

The said mechanism shall be aimed at reinforcing the operating capacity of the Treaty to support the implementation of projects in the region and as counterpart of international cooperation in the execution of plurinational programs and projects suitable for contributing to the sustainable use of the Amazon Region.

To arrange that a technical meeting of the Parties prepare a project before June 30, 1996, containing the components and operating modalities of this financial mechanism, which shall be submitted for the consideration of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs who will determine the seat and date of entry into force of the same.

Signed in the City of Lima, on the 5th day of the month of December of 1995.

RES/V MRETCA/3

RESOLUTION

THE V MEETING OF MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE AMAZON COOPERATION TREATY

WHEREAS:

Through RESNI CCA/1 the VI Ordinary Meeting of the Amazon Cooperation Council approved amendments to the Regulations in force of *the Pro Tempore* Secretariat of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty (ACT), which were modified at the VII Ordinary Meeting of the Amazon Cooperation Council;

The Parties resolved to submit the said amendments for approval by the V Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty.

DOES HEREBY RESOLVE:

To approve the amendments and modifications of the Regulations of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat of | the Amazon Cooperation Treaty, adopted at the VI and VII Ordinary Meetings of the Amazon Cooperation Council, respectively.

Signed in the City of Lima, this 5th day of the month of December 1995.

RES/V MRETCA/4

RESOLUTION

THE V MEETING OF MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE AMAZON COOPERATION TREATY

WHEREAS:

In consideration of the fact that Article XXIV of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty (ACT) foresees the possibility to create Special Commissions which shall be engaged in the study of specific issues of interest to the Amazon countries;

In response to the recommendation made by six Ministers of Education of the Countries Party to the ACT at the meeting held in Santa Fe de Bogota from November 3 to 6, 1992, to create a Special Commission of the Amazon Region on Education;

Taking into account that the VI Ordinary Meeting of the Amazon Cooperation Council held on October 10 and 11, 1994, and the VII Ordinary Meeting held in Lima on November 30 and December 1, 1995, included the creation of a Special Commission of the Amazon Region on Education in the draft agenda of the V Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty.

Aware of the fact that the Countries Party to the ACT acknowledge the need to support the indigenous populations on their way towards development, respecting their cultural self-identity;

Recognizing the importance of education as a fundamental instrument for socioeconomic development and improvement of the standard of living of the populations inhabiting the Amazon Region;

DOES HEREBY RESOLVE:

RES/V MRETCA/4

To create the Special Commission of the Amazon Region on Education (CEEDA), as a technical coordination body of the Amazon Cooperation Council, with the following faculties to:

a. Promote education and training of human resources in the Amazon Region of the Countries Party to the ACT, in response to the challenge placed by the need of sustainable development promotion;

In order to achieve the purposes hereof, the Governments of the Countries Party to the Amazon Cooperation Treaty shall encourage their national institutions involved in the development of education programs for their respective Amazon territories, to participate in the Commission.

Signed in the City of Lima, on the fifth day of the month of December 5, 1995.

RES/V MRETCA/5

RESOLUTION

THE V MEETING OF MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE AMAZON COOPERATION TREATY

Considering the impulse attained in the regional cooperation process under the Peruvian mandate of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat;

Taking into account the consensus prevailing among the Delegates of the Parties to express explicit recognition of this performance as well as of the Report and Work Plan prepared by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat:

DOES HEREBY RESOLVE:

To express its recognition of the active and efficient work done by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Peru in its capacity as *Pro Tempore* Secretariat of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty and also to Ambassador Jorge VotoBernales, *Pro Tempore* Secretary.

To approve unanimously the Administration Report and the Work Plan of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat.

Signed in the City of Lima, on the 5th day of the month of December of 1995.

RES/V MRETCA/6

RESOLUTION

THE V MEETING OF MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE AMAZON COOPERATION TREATY

Considering the progress made within the framework of the Treaty through the development of the Proposal on Criteria and Indicators for Sustainability of the Amazon Forest, result of the Regional Workshop held in the City of Tarapoto in February 1995;

DOES HEREBY RESOLVE:

To impel, once the discussions at national level have concluded, the adoption of a document of a regional nature on Criteria and Indicators for Sustainability of the Amazon Forest, through technical, meetings appropriate for ensuring the continuity of the process initiated in Tarapoto.

Signed in the City of Lima, on the 5th day of the month of December of 1995.

RES/V MRETCA/7,

RESOLUTION

THE V MEETING OF MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE AMAZON COOPERATION TREATY

Considering the multiple functions performed by the Amazon rivers in the economic and social process of the Region, as well as the importance of the water resources on human health, natural habitat, and biodiversity as a whole;

Taking into account the need that water resources be used for environmentally adequate purposes and in accordance with criteria regarding their conservation, use and rational management;

DOES HEREBY RESOLVE:

To initiate negotiations of an agreement for the adoption of measures aimed at preventing and controlling the contamination of Amazon water resources.

To commission the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat to carry out consultations for the formulation of the text | for a Cooperation Framework Agreement to be examined at a regional meeting in 1996 and which shall be submitted for consideration by the pertinent instances of the Treaty.

Signed in the City of Lima, on the 5th day of the month of December of 1995.

RES/V MRETCA/8

RESOLUTION

THE V MEETING OF MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF

THE AMAZON COOPERATION TREATY

Considering the importance of the biological megadiversity existing in the Amazon Region; and Aware of the need to initiate efforts of research and protection for the same;

DOES HEREBY RESOLVE:

To establish an Amazon Institute for the research and protection of genetic resources. Entrust the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat to organize and summon, in coordination with the Parties, a Regional Workshop aimed at the elaboration of a project to be submitted to the VIII Ordinary Meeting of the Amazon Cooperation Council which shall determine the seat and starting date of its activities.

Signed in the City of Lima, on the 5th day of the month of December of 1995.

RES/V MRE-TCA/9

RESOLUTION

V ORDINARY MEETING OF MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE AMAZON COOPERATION TREATY

WHEREAS:

The Special Commission of the Amazon Region on Education is an essential mechanism to evaluate experiences and coordinate the design of educational plans appropriate to the reality existing in the Amazon Region.

It is convenient to promote environmental education and awareness at the school level,

DOES HEREBY RESOLVE:

TO PREPARE a joint program for promoting environmental education and awareness at the school level.

TO ENTRUST the Special Commission of the Amazon Region on Education (CEEDA) to organize and convene a regional seminar that proposes guidelines, as well as the contents and scope of manuals | therefor.

Signed in the City of Lima, on the fifth day of the month of December of 1995.

RES/V MRETCA/10

RESOLUTION

V MEETING OF MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE AMAZON COOPERATION TREATY

WHEREAS:

Considering the importance of the hydrographic system of the Amazon Region, as a means of | communication that promotes transport, trade, tourism and integration among the Parties.

Information and scattered studies are available on the navigation capacity of the various rivers making up the hydrographic system of the Amazon Region.

It is convenient to have an integrated study on this matter,

DOES HEREBY RESOLVE:

To entrust the Special Commission of the Amazon Region on Transport, Communications and Infrastructure CETICAM to carry out a study on the navigability of the Amazonian rivers, including the capacity thereof, within the framework of the project Transportation Network of the Amazon Region, currently in execution.

Signed in the City of Lima, on the 5th day of the month of December of 1995.

RES/V MRETCA/11

RESOLUTION

THE V MEETING OF MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF

THE AMAZON COOPERATION TREATY

Considering that by Resolution RES/VI CCA/2 the Final Report was submitted by the *Ad Hoc* Working Group for the study on the administrative, legal, technical and financial implications that would result from the establishment of a Permanent Secretary of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty.

Taking into account the consensus prevailing among the Delegates of the Parties to express their explicit recognition of the work done by the said Working Group;

DOES HEREBY RESOLVE:

To take due note of the Final Report prepared by the *Ad Hoc* Working Group for the study on the administrative, legal, technical and financial implications that would result from the establishment of a Permanent Secretariat of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty;

To express its congratulations to the said Working Group and its recognition to the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat for having elaborated this document which will serve, together with the contributions presented at the VII Ordinary Meeting of the Amazon Cooperation Council, as a precedent for the tasks of the *Ad Hoc* Working Group stipulated in the Declaration of Lima for the purpose of preparing, before June 30, 1996, a proposal on the structure, objectives and opportune establishment of the Permanent Secretariat of the Treaty.

Signed in the City of Lima, on the 5th day of the month of December of 1995.

Declaration of Lima

PREAMBLE

The Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname, and Venezuela, meeting in the City of Lima on occasion of the V Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Countries Parties to the Amazon Cooperation Treaty:

CONVINCED that, with the signing of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty on July 3, 1978, the Countries Party to the ACT started an important and unique process of negotiation and cooperation that contributes to the sustainable development of their respective Amazon territories and improvement of the living conditions of their populations;

AWARE of the importance of the vast Amazon natural forest for the preservation of global environmental processes; of the water resources and biological megadiversity existing in the Region; of the wealth of mineral reserves and power sources; and of the potential of the Amazon Region in the multiple areas which constitute valuable and inestimable assets both for local populations and for the economic and social development of the respective countries that share them with sovereignty;

CONSISTENT WITH the important accomplishments of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held at the City of Rio de Janeiro in June, 1992, and significant institutional and legislative advances on environmental aspects made in the Countries Parties to the Treaty;

CONVINCED that recent strides, based on the common interests established in the Treaty, need to be decidedly encouraged in order to intensify and give impetus to the regional cooperation process;

HEREBY AGREE upon the following DECLARATION:

ON THE AMAZON FOREST

TO HIGHLIGHT the progress made within the frame of the Treaty through the development of the Proposal on Criteria and Indicators for Sustainability of the Amazon Forest, prepared at the Regional I Workshop organized by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat in February 1995 in the Peruvian City of Tarapoto, which represents a valuable contribution for the concerted design of regional strategies.

TO IMPEL, once discussions at the national level have been concluded, the adoption of a regional document on Criteria and Indicators for Sustainability of the Amazon Forest, through technical meetings ensuring continuity of the process initiated in Tarapoto.

TO RECOGNIZE the inestimable repository for the food, chemical and pharmaceutical industries, existing in the Amazon rain forests, as well as the urgent need to develop sustainable production systems based on both timber and nontimber forest resources.

TO DESIGN soil conservation and improvement plans and forest strategies for the Region, in terms of adequate soil use and management by the production agents.

ON WATER RESOURCES

TO PROMOTE the use of water resources for environmentally sound purposes and in accordance with criteria on their conservation, use and rational management.

TO INITIATE the negotiation of an Agreement on the adoption of measures aimed at preventing and controlling contamination of the Amazon water resources and their noxious effects on human health, the natural habitat and biological diversity as a whole, and therefore to commission the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat to carry out consultations with the Parties for drawing up the text of a framework cooperation agreement which shall be examined at a regional meeting in 1996 and submitted to the pertinent bodies of the Treaty for consideration.

ON TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

TO CARRY OUT a study on the navigability of the Amazonian rivers, within the framework of the project "Transportation Network for the Amazon Region" currently in progress, through the Special Commission of the Amazon Region on Transport, Communications and Infrastructure (CETICAM).

ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

TO RATIFY the principles of the Convention on Biological Diversity, based on the exercise of sovereignty by the States over their biological resources and the fair and equitable distribution of their benefits, and to promote joint discussion within the framework of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty for the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

TO STRESS that resources related to biological diversity provide the potential for the development of new productive activities through the sustainable use of forests and water, particularly with respect to genetic resources; plants with nutritional and medicinal properties; colorings, pesticides, fibers, and other uses of importance to the Countries Parties to the Treaty.

TO AGREE ABOUT the need to adopt systems to register Amazon genetic resources; to encourage new productive activities based on species of Amazon flora, fauna, and microorganisms; to establish rules on protection of intellectual property and similar traditional knowledge, and to maximize the economic and social benefits therefrom for those communities.

TO ESTABLISH an institute for research and protection of Amazon genetic resources for the purpose of which the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat shall organize, a regional workshop, in coordination with the Parties, for the elaboration of a project to be submitted to the VIII Ordinary Meeting of the Amazon Cooperation Council which will determine the seat and starting date of its functions.

TO URGE multilateral and bilateral international cooperation agencies to continue their support to ongoing activities and projects for sustainable exploitation of biological diversity, and to strengthen technical and financial support for the inventory, conservation, monitoring, and development of new productive activities based thereon, especially with respect to Amazonian genetic resources, aquaculture of native species, animal breeding, research on and inventory of nutritional and medicinal plants, preparation of productive projects based on biodiversity and biotechnology.

ON HYDROBIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

TO HIGHLIGHT that Amazonian hydrobiological resources are of great economic and social importance for feeding the urban and rural populations of the Region, and may also give rise to new economic activities, of local, national, and regional scope.

TO POINT OUT the need to develop sustainable productive activities based on Amazon hydrobiological resources, for the supply of human populations and to increase the economic production of the Region.

TO REQUEST solid support from international financial and technical cooperation agencies and private firms for the development of projects dealing with aquaculture, fisheries' management, management and breeding of caymans, turtles, and other aquatic and semiaquatic fauna species in the Region.

ON INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS

TO REITERATE the importance and respect assigned by their governments to the rights of indigenous populations and local communities, and to preservation of their cultural identities;

TO RECOGNIZE the value of traditional knowledge and its role in promoting knowledge and sustainable development in the Region;

TO STRENGTHEN the national institutional mechanisms of development promotion for indigenous populations and communities, to protect and safeguard their "habitat", and improve their quality of life and living conditions;

ON CULTURAL, EDUCATIONAL, AND TOURISM AFFAIRS

TO RESCUE the immense and enriching cultural heritage of Amazonian people, who have established harmonious and balanced interrelations with their surrounding environment throughout the centuries;

TO CREATE the Special Commission of the Amazon Region on Education (CEEDA), as a basic mechanism for evaluating experiences and coordinating the design of educational plans adapted to Amazonian reality, and promoting the development and training of human resources in the Amazon Region, as well as respect for the cultural identity of local populations.

TO PREPARE a joint program for promoting environmental education and awareness at school level, and for this purpose to entrust CEEDA to organize and convene a regional seminar to propose guidelines as well as the contents and scope of manuals therefor.

TO ASSIGN the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, in consultation with the Parties, to prepare the Master Plan on Development of Sustainable Tourism and Ecotourism in the Amazon Region, as an instrument for the promotion of regional development and investments in tourism in the Amazon Region, with the support and active participation of government and private sectors of the Countries Party to the Treaty involved in tourism, environmental and indigenous affairs. The Plan will be formulated based on the proposal of the regional workshop held at Lima in June 1995.

TO ACKNOWLEDGE the work carried out by the Association of Amazon Universities in encouraging cooperation among higher education centers and research institutes of the Region, on behalf of training and scientific technological development in the Amazon Region, and fostering closer cooperation with the Amazon Cooperation Treaty in activities of common interest.

TO REQUEST international cooperation agencies and the private sector to allocate resources for the development of social cultural and educational activities and expansion of air traffic and tourist infrastructure in the Region.

ON INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

TO RESTATE the determination of the Countries to the Treaty to work together through the mechanisms established by the Amazon Cooperation Treaty;

TO STATE that the increasing dynamics of the Amazon cooperation process and its subsequent projection towards the international scenario demand institutional strengthening of the Treaty and permanent improvement of its mechanisms.

TO AGREE ON the establishment of a Permanent Secretariat of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty, with headquarters in the City of Brasilia.

TO ESTABLISH an ad hoc working group, consisting of representatives of all the Countries Party to the ACT, with the purpose of preparing a proposal to be submitted for consideration by the Ministries of Foreign Affairs before June 26, 1996, which defines the structure, objectives and opportune establishment of a Permanent Secretariat of the Treaty, taking into account the administrative, technical, legal and financial aspects involved. Commission the VIII Amazon Cooperation Council that upon evaluating this process, it considers the rotation of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat.

CONFIRM with satisfaction the role played by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Peru, in strengthening the cooperation process through renewed impulse given to regional dialogue and coordination, in consistency with the goals and objectives of the Treaty;

TO ESTABLISH a financial mechanism to reinforce the effectiveness of the Treaty for the implementation of projects in the region and as a counterpart of international cooperation in the implementation of multinational projects and programs which contribute to the sustainable use of the Amazon Region;

TO ARRANGE that a technical meeting of the Parties prepare a project before June 30, 1996 that contains the components and operating modalities of this financial mechanism, to be submitted to the consideration of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs who will determine the seat and date of entry into force of this mechanism.

ON DRUG TRAFFICKING

To express their concern about the degradation effects caused to the Amazon environment, and the social-economic deterioration caused by drug trafficking activities to the countries of the Region and the international community, especially through the processing and marketing of noxious substances and, therefore, to recommend the Countries Party to the Treaty to intensify their fight against this scourge of humanity.

COOPERATION BY DEVELOPED COUNTRIES AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR

TO MAKE a clear and vigorous call to the developed countries to comply with the commitments derived from the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held at Rio de Janeiro in June 1992, and to provide effective support by means of substantial financial resources and appropriate technologies, the execution of projects for sustainable development and conservation of Biological Diversity in the Amazon countries and, through the Treaty, programs and projects of a regional nature.

TO CORROBORATE the active role and part to be played by private enterprises and prominent regional nongovernmental organizations in the process of sustainable economic development.

FINANCIAL COOPERATION BY INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

TO RESTATE the importance of nonreimbursable technical and financial cooperation provided at national and regional levels by various friendly countries and international organizations, and to make an urgent call for a significant expansion of same in support of the efforts made by the Parties on behalf of sustainable development of their respective Amazon territories;

TO EXPRESS their appreciation to the Kingdom of the Netherlands; the Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nations (FAO); the United Nations Development Program (UNDP); the European Union (EU); the World Bank (WB); the InterAmerican Development Bank (IDB); and the Global Environment Facility (GEF) for their support in the identification and implementation of activities and projects of regional interest.

SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS

TO WELCOME the decision to hold the Summit of the Americas on Sustainable Development in the Republic of Bolivia in December 1996, the central topic of which coincides with the goals and objectives of the joint work carried out by the Countries Party to the Amazon Cooperation Treaty, therefore we decide to meet previously in order to concert positions.

VI MEETING OF MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

TO ACCEPT with unanimous satisfaction the cordial invitation extended by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Venezuela to hold the VI Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty in the City of Caracas in 1997.

Given in Lima, this fifth day of the month of December, 1995, in Spanish, English, and Portuguese.

For the Government of Bolivia
Dr. Antonio Aranibar Quiroga

For the Government of Ecuador
Amb. Galo Leoro Franco

For the Government of Guyana
Dr. Clement Rohee

For the Government of Venezuela
Dr. Miguel Angel Burelli Rivas

For the Government of Colombia
Dr. Rodrigo Pardo GarciaPeña

For the Government of Peru
Dr. Francisco Tudela

For the Government of Suriname
Dr. Subhas Ch. Mungra

For the Government of Brazil
Amb. Ivan Cannabrava

3. Final Reports: Meetings of the Amazon Cooperation Council

VI ORDINARY MEETING OF THE AMAZON COOPERATION COUNCIL AND RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

The VI Ordinary Meeting of the Amazon Cooperation Council was held in Lima on the 10th and 11th October, 1994. It was preceded by a Preparatory Meeting on the 6th and 7th of the same month, at the end of which a Final Report was signed with the draft Resolutions and recommendations for the institutional strengthening of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty, formulated by the participant delegations. The said Report is attached as Appendix I.

The VI Ordinary Meeting was convened by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Peru in its role as *Pro Tempore* Secretariat of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty and was attended by delegations from all the Contracting Parties of the Treaty, a complete list of which can be found in Appendix II.

I) Delegations

The Delegations were represented by the following persons: for Peru, Mr. Ambassador Eduardo Ponce Vivanco, UnderSecretary for International Politics and the General Secretary of Foreign Affairs; for Suriname, Mr. First Secretary Winston Guno Lackin of the Americas Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; for Venezuela, Mr. Ambassador Horacio Arteaga, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary before the Government of Peru; for Bolivia, Mr. Victor Rico Frontaura, UnderSecretary of Integration of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Culture; for Brazil, Minister Ronaldo de Campos Veras, Chief of the II Meridional America Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; for Ecuador, Minister Diego Ribadeneira Espinosa, General Director of Maritime, Air and Space Sovereignty of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; for Colombia, Ambassador Jesus Arturo Galvez, Director General of Territorial Sovereignty of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; for Guyana, Mr. Doorga Persaud, Head of the Natural Resources Planning Unit of the Natural Resources Agency of Guyana. The *Pro Tempore* Secretariat was represented by Mr. Ambassador Jorge VotoBernales, *Pro Tempore* Secretary.

II) Opening Ceremony

The Chairman of the Council of Ministers and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Peru, Efrain Goldenberg Schreiber, chaired the Opening Ceremony and gave an address welcoming the delegates in which he highlighted the importance of the Treaty for the joint work of the Amazon countries, and the need for the VI Council to improve the Pro Tempore Secretariat operational capacity as an instrument for attracting international cooperation. The Minister of Foreign Affairs for Peru, before declaring the VI Ordinary Meeting of the Amazon Cooperation Council open, expressed confidence that the results of this Meeting would contribute towards realizing the expectations of the Amazon peoples and institutions and towards strengthening the process of formulating sustainable development projects in the Amazon.

The schedule for this VI Ordinary Meeting may be found in Appendix III.

III) First Plenary Session

According to Article Nine of the Amazon Cooperation Council Regulations, the Representative of Ecuador, as the host country for the V Ordinary Meeting and I Extraordinary Meeting of the Council, commenced this First Plenary Session. The Head of the Ecuador Delegation, Mr. Diego Ribadeneira, expressed thanks for the hospitality received, gave special attention to the constructive spirit of the preparatory technical and diplomatic meeting and underlined the importance of the work carried out by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, which has enabled the Contracting Parties to be duly informed regarding progress in the cooperation initiated with the Treaty.

By general assent, the Contracting Parties accorded that the Head of the Peruvian Delegation, Ambassador Eduardo Ponce Vivanco, UnderSecretary of State for International Politics and General Secretary for Foreign Affairs, be elected Chairman of this VI Ordinary Meeting of the Amazon Cooperation Council. The Head of the delegation of Colombia, Mr. Jesus Arturo Galvez, was elected First ViceChairman of the Meeting. Mr. Winston Lackin, Head of the Delegation of Suriname, was elected Second ViceChairman and the Delegate of Venezuela, Mr. Alfredo HernandezRovati, was elected General Secretary and Rapporteur.

The UnderSecretary for International Politics and Secretary General of Foreign Affairs of Peru thanked the Head of the Ecuador Delegation for his words and noted the auspicious results achieved in the Preparatory Meeting of this VI Amazon Cooperation Council, emphasizing the promising prospects the Treaty offers the Contracting Parties in a variety of areas.

THE MEETING AGENDA

The following agenda, drafted and proposed by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, was approved by general assent:

1. Report of the *Pro Tempore* Secretary on the Secretariat activities from 1st February 1994;
2. Institutional strengthening of the Treaty;
3. Regional projects and international cooperation;
4. Political coordination in international fore;
5. Schedule of meetings of Treaty mechanisms;
 - 5.1. Special Commissions
 - 5.2. Date and agenda of the V Meeting of Ministers of Foreign affairs;
6. *Pro Tempore* Secretariat Work Plan;
7. Miscellaneous
 - 7.1. Request of the Board of PROCITROPICOS

ITEM 1 ON THE AGENDA

As per paragraph 14 of Article 5 of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat Regulations, the *Pro Tempore* Secretary reported the activities carried out by the said Secretariat from February 1st to October 1st 1994. The complete text of this report was distributed to the delegations, and received favorable comments from the participants. The *Pro Tempore* Secretary stressed the presentation, at this VI Ordinary Meeting of the Council, of the first four publications which provide information about studies and also appraise experiences, and the first issue of the Information Bulletin, since Peru assumed responsibility for the functions of the Secretariat.

ITEM 2 ON THE AGENDA

In the discussion of the institutional strengthening of the Treaty, the Contracting Parties approved by general assent the Resolutions VI ACC/1, VI ACC/2, VI ACC/3 and VI ACC/4, the texts of which are attached in Appendix IV. They respectively propose: modifications to three paragraphs of Article 5 of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat Regulations, aimed at commencing joint action for gradual institutional development; the formation of an Ad Hoc Working Group to conduct a study into the administrative, legal, technical and financial implications entailed in the establishment of a permanent Treaty Secretariat; the extension of the term of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat in Lima to three years to facilitate the effective performance of its functions; and to commission the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat to draft a new text of Standard Regulations for the Special Commissions in which, among other aspects, the term Technical or Executive Secretaries will be replaced by that of Coordinators.

The Contracting Parties agreed to put the Resolutions VI ACC/1 and VI ACC/3 into immediate practice. They particularly emphasized that the projects must be brought before all the Parties for their consideration.

With regard to Resolution VI ACC/3, the Head of the Venezuelan Delegation stated that his government considers, in the light of the experience of the Treaty, that the threeyear term for the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat will also apply in the future.

The Contracting Parties declared that, independent of the decisions on the term the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat should function in any given country, the Amazon Cooperation Council meetings must be held annually, in compliance with Treaty stipulations.

With regard to the Ad Hoc Consultative Committee, the Parties expressed satisfaction with the momentum of the meetings convened by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat and requested that in the next meeting a discussion of the criteria or guidelines which might strengthen its action as a rapid and flexible mechanism for coordination between the Parties should be discussed.

On the initiative of the Bolivian Delegation, all the Parties expressed their interest in conducting studies into the design of a financial organization for Amazonia in compliance with the provisions of the Declaration of Santa Cruz de la Sierra, signed at the IV Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, and indicated their willingness to provide the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat with initiatives and proposals to that effect, to be submitted to the Parties for their consideration.

The delegations suspended their activities at 12.30pm, and attended a cocktail party given in their honor by the President of the Council of Ministers and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Peru.

IV SECOND PLENARY SESSION

The Second Plenary Session of the VI Amazon Cooperation Council began at 3pm on the 10th October, and discussed the following points on the Agenda:

ITEM 3 ON THE AGENDA

The *Pro Tempore* Secretary presented a paper entitled "Regional Projects and International Cooperation", as part of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat's work of reviewing and appraising information. The Secretary described the growth in international cooperation provided by FAO, the European Community and the UNDP, in the form of support for the institution and in operating projects. He noted the main concrete projects currently in course, financed by the European Community, and reported that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for Colombia will shortly make a presentation of the project: "The Planning and Management of Protected Areas of the Amazon Region" in Santa Fe de Bogota where the project is conducted.

ITEM 4 ON THE AGENDA

All Parties stressed the importance of political coordination on issues of common interest which concern the Amazon region and are discussed at international organizations, conferences and Special Commissions. In this sense, the Parties approved Resolution VI ACC/6, which fosters and supports such consultation and political coordination, the text of which can be found in Appendix VI.

ITEM 5 ON THE AGENDA

With respect to the forthcoming meetings of the Amazon Special Commissions and of the V Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, the Parties tentatively approved a schedule of meetings proposed by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, and they agreed that once the internal consultation had taken place, the dates would be confirmed via diplomatic channels. According to the tentative schedule, the Special Commission meetings will be held between November 15 1994 and March 3rd 1995. The V Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs will be held in Lima during the first fortnight of March 1995.

The Contracting Parties similarly commissioned the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat to prepare the agendas for the meetings of the Special Commissions.

The following Items are on the provisional agenda for the V Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs:

1. Modification of *Pro Tempore* Secretariat Regulations;
2. Creation of the Special Education Commission for the Amazon;
3. Approval of the new regulations of the Special Commissions; and
4. Ratification of the extension of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat term.

ITEM 6 ON THE AGENDA

The *Pro Tempore* Secretariat Work Plan, drafted as per Article 5, paragraph 13 of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat Regulations, was brought before the Parties for their comments, in the VI Meeting of the *Ad Hoc* Consultative Committee. On receiving the final version of the said paper in this Meeting, the Delegations indicated that they would examine it and offer their comments via diplomatic channels.

ITEM 7 ON THE AGENDA

With regard to the Cooperative Program of Research and Technology Transfer for the South American Tropics (PROCITROPICOS), the Parties approved the proposal that the PROCITROPICOS Programme should liaise with the Amazon Cooperation Treaty organisms to hold associated programme and project activities, and commissioned the Special Commission for Science and Technology of the Amazon (CECTA) to examine these activities at its next meeting.

Finally, the Head of the Guyana Delegation stated that, echoing the sentiments expressed by all the delegations in the two meetings held recently in Lima, he wished to highlight the excellent work carried out by Peru in the performance of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat duties, in strengthening the system of consultation and of identification and formulation of new projects of common interest, which has had a positive and significant impact. The Delegate also expressed his appreciation of the quality of the papers prepared by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat for both meetings, and the logistical support provided, which contributed to the successful conclusion of the VI Ordinary Meeting of the Amazon Cooperation Council.

V THIRD PLENARY SESSION

The Third Plenary Session of this Meeting began at 9.30am on Tuesday, October 11th, considering the Meeting Final Report, and the six Resolutions. The Plenary Session approved these documents.

VI CLOSING SESSION

The Closing Session took place at 12pm on Tuesday 11th October, and the Chairmen of the Delegations signed this Final Report. The UnderSecretary for International Politics and the General Secretary of Foreign Affairs of Peru, Ambassador Eduardo Ponce Vivanco, emphasized the significant agreements reached at the Meeting, which evidence the prevailing climate of understanding and common interest, and underlined the importance of the image of cohesion and unity of purpose between the Contracting Parties, and the effect that these results have on the performance and vitality of the Treaty. He also pointed out the political incentive this Meeting will give to the joint work coordinated by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat and the positive impact which this support will have on negotiations for attracting nonreimbursable international cooperation funds and for carrying out projects benefiting the Contracting Parties. Finally, Ambassador Eduardo Ponce thanked the Contracting Parties for the satisfaction and confidence they had expressed regarding Peru's performance of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat duties.

At 5pm the delegations paid a visit to the headquarters of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat of the Treaty, where they were received by the *Pro Tempore* Secretary, the diplomatic, technical, professional and administrative staff. The delegates were shown the facilities and welcomed with a glass of wine.

RES/VI ACC/1

RESOLUTION

THE VI ORDINARY MEETING OF THE AMAZON COOPERATION COUNCIL

WHEREAS:

The will to provide the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat with greater support through finetuning consultation and communication mechanisms and facilitate greater participation on the part of the Contracting Parties.

RESOLVES:

To approve and submit for the consideration of the V Meeting of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs the following amendments to the current Regulations of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty:

To add the following text as second paragraph of item 5 of Article 5 of the Regulations:

"The official communications of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat and the competent national entities of the Countries Party concerning the convention of technical meetings, Special Commissions' meetings, workshops and seminars and major aspects of programs, projects and international cooperation will be conveyed through diplomatic channels, preferably through the Diplomatic Representation accredited before the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat host country. The *Pro Tempore* Secretariat will ensure that the Special Commissions observe this procedure."

To replace Item 7 of Article 5 with the following text:

"Projects may be conceived by the Special Commissions or by the initiative of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat. They must be submitted for the consideration of all the Parties. Projects must have prior and express approval of each of the Parties involved. Non-involved Parties may make comments in a period of not more than sixty days".

To add the following text as a second paragraph of item 13 of Article 5:

"The *Pro Tempore* Secretariat will submit annually, for the approval of the Parties, a Work Plan of the Special Commissions. The *Pro Tempore* Secretariat will ensure that all the Commissions meet prior to the Council Meeting so that the Council can monitor their activities adequately."

Written in the city of Lima, on the eleventh day of October of nineteen ninetyfour.

RES / VI ACC /2

RESOLUTION

VI ORDINARY MEETING OF THE AMAZON COOPERATION COUNCIL

WHEREAS:

The interest of the Parties to initiate joint action with a view to gradual institutional development so that the Secretariat will duly acquire a structure which corresponds to the progress in cooperation.

RESOLVES:

First. To create an *Ad Hoc* Working Group to conduct a study of the administrative, legal, technical and financial aspects involved in the possible establishment of a permanent seat for the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Secretariat and to propose alternatives for the consideration of the Parties. This Group should also propose the consequent modifications in the texts of the Treaty and corresponding regulations. The report of this Working Group must be submitted for the consideration of the Contracting Parts by 31st March 1995 at the latest. The Contracting Parties may similarly make their contributions to this study.

Second. To commission the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, in coordination with the *Ad Hoc* Consultative Committee, to propose to the Parties, at the earliest possible opportunity, the mechanisms for creating and organizing this Working Group. The *Pro Tempore* Secretariat will grant special consideration to the convenience of having technical and financial assistance from regional organizations.

Written in the city of Lima on the eleventh day of October of nineteen ninetyfour.

RES/VI ACC/3

RESOLUTION

THE VI ORDINARY MEETING OF THE AMAZON COOPERATION COUNCIL

WHEREAS:

The term of one year for the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat is insufficient for the effective performance of its duties;

Experience indicates establishing a term of three years for the Secretariat.

RESOLVES:

To extend the term of exercise of the Secretariat in Lima to three years. Written in the city of Lima, on the eleventh day of October nineteen ninetyfour.

RES/ VI ACC /4

RESOLUTION

VI ORDINARY MEETING OF THE AMAZON COOPERATION COUNCIL

WHEREAS:

The Special Commissions' Regulations must be modified to meet the proper levels of management and responsibility as defined in the Amazon Cooperation Treaty.

RESOLVES:

To commission the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat to prepare a new text of Standard Regulations for the Special Commissions of the Treaty and to replace the term of executive or technical secretaries for that of Coordinators of the Special Commissions designated by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat. The duty of the Coordinators will be to promote and monitor activities and lies between national institutions, reporting to the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat.

Written in the city of Lima, on the eleventh day of October of nineteen ninetyfour.

RES/VI ACC/5

RESOLUTION

VI ORDINARY MEETING OF THE AMAZON COOPERATION COUNCIL

WHEREAS:

International cooperation provided by international organizations and governments permits the Countries Parties to the Amazon Cooperation Treaty to operate its projects in relevant issues, in accordance with its objectives and to the benefit of its Contracting Parties;

The Meetings of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and of the Amazon Cooperation Council have repeatedly stressed the importance of said cooperation;

RESOLVES:

1. To express to the Organization of the United Nations for Food and Agriculture (FAO), the European Union (EU), the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and to the government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, its acknowledgment of the technical and financial support they grant to the Amazon Cooperation Treaty in its institutional activity and in the execution of its regional projects. To express its appreciation for the collaboration of the World Bank, the InterAmerican Development Bank (IDB) and the Organization of the United Nations for Industrial Development (UNIDO).

2. To submit a request to these cooperation agencies and other countries and international institutions to increase their cooperation with the Countries Parties Amazon Cooperation Treaty for attaining its objectives.

Written in the city of Lima, on the eleventh day of October nineteen ninetyfour.

RES/VI ACC/6

RESOLUTION

VI ORDINARY MEETING OF THE AMAZON COOPERATION COUNCIL

WHEREAS:

The importance granted to coordination of positions on matters concerning the Amazon region, dealt with in international fore;

RESOLVES:

To promote and support implementation of regular diplomatic consultations and political coordination between the Contracting Parties of the Treaty on matters of common interest regarding the Amazon region to be examined in Organizations or international conferences, and to commission the coordination of the said consultations to the host Country of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat. The meetings could be convened by any of the Parties or through the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat.

Written in the city of Lima, on the eleventh day of October, nineteen ninetyfour.

FINAL REPORT: VII ORDINARY MEETING OF THE AMAZON COOPERATION COUNCIL

In the City of Lima, on November 30 and December 1, 1995, the VII Ordinary Meeting of the Amazon

Cooperation Council was held, called by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Peru in its capacity as *Pro Tempore* Secretariat of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty, as a preparatory meeting for the V Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs to be held on December 4 and 5, 1995.

I) Delegations

This Meeting was attended by Delegations from the eight Countries Party to the ACT. A complete list of the participants is contained in Annex I.

The delegations were chaired by the following representatives: Peru, Ambassador Harry Belevan McBride, Director General of Political Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Suriname, Mr. Hendrik A. Alimahomed, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Venezuela, Mr. Horacio Arteaga, Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador to the Government of Peru; Bolivia, Dr. Jorge Gumucio Granier, Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador to the Government of Peru, Brazil, Minister Luiz Augusto de Castro Neves, Head of the Department of the Americas of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Colombia, Ambassador Ramiro Zambrano Cardenas, Director General of Territorial Sovereignty of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ecuador, Ambassador Oswaldo Ramirez Landazuri, Director General of Border, Development and Amazon Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and, Guyana, Mr. Forbes July, of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

II) Initial Plenary Session

In accordance with Article 9 of the Regulations of the Amazon Cooperation Council, the Initial Plenary Session was chaired by the Head of the Delegation of Peru, Ambassador Harry Belevan, who welcomed the Delegates and in his opening address emphasized the recent progress made jointly by Countries Party to the ACT within the framework of the Treaty. He also stressed the national efforts oriented toward the fulfillment of the objectives of sustainable development contemplated in the said international instrument and the important role of the international cooperation agencies, who support this process.

Immediately after the opening address, the Chairman of this VII Ordinary Meeting of the Amazon Cooperation Council was elected. The person unanimously elected to this position was the Head of the Delegation of Peru, Ambassador Harry Belevan. Ambassador Ramiro Zambrano Cardenas, Head of the Delegation of Colombia, was elected Vice Chairman; Ambassador Gustavo Dubuc of the Delegation of Venezuela, was elected Secretary General Rapporteur.

The Head of the Delegation of Peru thanked, in the name of the Vice Chairman, of the Secretary General Rapporteur and in his own name, for the honorable distinction to form the Directing Board and invoked the participants to work hard towards the achievement of this Meetings' objectives.

APPROVAL OF THE MEETING'S AGENDA

In continuation of the program, the Chairman of the Meeting invited the *Pro Tempore* Secretary, Ambassador Jorge Voto Bernales to address the participants, who briefly presented the items of the draft agenda drawn up by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat.

The Delegates of the Parties agreed to approve the said draft, adding "Other Matters" as point 7 of the agenda.

The agenda approved reads as follows:

- 1.- Report by the *Pro Tempore* Secretary on the activities of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat and presentation of the Work Plan
2. Institutional Strengthening of the Treaty
 - 2.1. Regulations of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat
 - 2.2. Draft Standard Regulations for the Special Commissions of the Amazon Region
 - 2.3. Study of the administrative, technical, legal and financial implications of the setting up of a Permanent Secretariat for the Amazon Cooperation Treaty
 - 2.4. Financial contributions from the Countries Party to the ACT to support the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat
 - 2.5. Creation of the Special Commission of the Amazon Region on Education
- 3.- The linking of the Cooperative Program of Research and Technology Transfer for the South American Tropics (PROCITROPICOS) with the Amazon Cooperation Treaty (ACT) bodies, in order to carry out joint activities in programs and projects in favor of the sustainable development of the Amazon Region.
- 4.- Draft agenda for the V Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty.
- 5.-Consideration of the Draft Resolutions and the Declaration of Lima, to be subscribed by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs.
- 6.- Schedule of meetings of the mechanisms of the Treaty.
 - 6.1. Special Commissions of the Amazon Region, seminars and workshops.
 - 6.2. Date and provisional seat of the VIII Ordinary Meeting of the Amazon Cooperation Council.
- 7.- Other matters.

The Head of the Delegation of Brazil emphasized the pioneer initiative of the Treaty in having included the concept of sustainable development. He also pointed out that the Amazon cooperation carried out within the framework of this international mechanism has fostered closer relations between the Parties, thus favoring the adoption of joint positions on environmental topics of regional interest, as was the case of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. On this regard, he proposed that representatives from the Countries Party to the ACT could meet before the Americas Summit on Sustainable Development which will be held in Bolivia in 1996. Moreover, he added that the Treaty is a successful cooperation mechanism which should be strengthened in order to ensure that its objectives be achieved for the benefit of the populations of the Countries Party to the ACT. To this end, he reaffirmed the proposal of his Government to create a Permanent Secretariat with seat in Brasilia, stressing the strategic importance and interest said territory has for Brazil since it covers approximately 70 % of its total surface.

AGENDA ITEM 1

In accordance with the Regulations of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, Article 5, paragraph 14, the *Pro Tempore* Secretary reported on the activities carried out from the beginning of the Peruvian mandate and in more detail on the period between February 1 and October 31, 1995. The complete texts of these reports were given to the participating delegations. Likewise, the *Pro Tempore* Secretary submitted the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat's Work Plan, drawn up as stipulated in Article 5, paragraph 13 of its Regulations.

In the said report, Ambassador Jorge VotoBernaes underlined the advances made in the process of cooperation, emphasizing the additional effort displayed in order to attend the specific requirements of the Countries Party to the ACT, in the organization of seminars, publications and formulation of new projects.

The delegations present expressed their recognition for the preparation of various documents for this meeting, and the dynamism achieved by the Secretariat in various areas, which is reflected in the reactivation of the mechanisms of the Treaty through periodic meetings. Special mention should be made to this VII Ordinary Meeting of the Amazon Cooperation Council which for the first time is held within the schedule stipulated in its Regulations.

The Delegates of the Countries Party to the ACT were pleased to approve the Activities Report and the Work Plan of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat.

The Delegations of the Parties coincided in the need to give a renewed impulse to the Treaty.

The Head of the Delegation of Venezuela, after having placed emphasis on the periodical nature of the meetings of the Amazon Cooperation Council and the Special Commissions of the Amazon Region, qualifying them as an important institutional achievement, expressed his congratulations to the *Pro Tempore* Secretary for presenting the Management Report and Work Plan of the Secretariat of the Treaty. He added that the Treaty, as an integrating framework for the joint efforts made in the Amazon Region, plays a pioneer role in the environmental dynamics due to which the concept of sustainable development has become a first rank topic, and emphasized that it was convenient to design an effective strategy in favor of the sustainable development of the respective

Amazon territories of the Countries Party to the Treaty. Moreover, he reconfirmed the support of his country to the creation of the Special Commission of the Amazon Region on Education, which will further environmental awareness at the school level. Finally, he underlined the positive work being done by the *Pro Tempore* Secretary with respect to publications and their distribution.

The Head of the Ecuadorian Delegation emphasized the significant multinational effort promoted by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat since 1991, and with greater impulse since Peru is in charge of the Secretariat. He emphasized that regional Projects of areas interest to the Amazon countries have been designed and executed, and that the work done by the *Pro Tempore* Secretary and its working team stimulates a stronger commitment on the part of the member countries. He indicated that the Treaty is at a stage of maturity for which reason it is convenient to give it a new impulse based on imagination and political will.

Furthermore, he added that the two issues of concern to his country are referred to the control of illegal traffic of drugs and to the control of river pollution by toxic waste, expressing his recognition to the Secretariat for having incorporated the latter topic into its activities. Finally requested the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat to carry out a draft study on the capacity of navigation of the Amazon rivers in terms of transport and trade possibilities, among others.

The Delegate of Colombia coincided with the speech of the Ecuadorian Delegate, stressing the capacity, dynamism and excellent work of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat. Likewise he stated that the Treaty was facing the moment at which the political will of its Parties will decide the mediate and immediate future of the same. He concluded his exposition by indicating that his country requires an additional Protocol for the system of financial contributions proposed by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat.

The Head of the Delegation of Suriname expressed his support to the strengthening of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat for the purpose of continuing its valuable work carried out so far.

The Head of the Delegation of Bolivia concurred with the other Delegations in the sense that due to progress achieved during the last years in issues on the environment, the Treaty must be given a renewed impulse, adding that this will imply periods of adjustment within the mechanisms of the Treaty.

The Delegate of Guyana stated that his country is making major efforts to intensify its participation in the mechanisms of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty.

AGENDA ITEM 2

At the beginning of the debate on the topic of Institutional Strengthening of the Treaty, the Parties prepared a draft resolution for the consideration of the V Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs in order to approve the amendments and modifications to the Regulations of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, adopted at the VI and VII Ordinary Meetings of the Amazon Cooperation Council, respectively, as shown in Annex II.

With regard to the Draft Standard Regulations for the Special Commissions of the Amazon Region., the *Pro Tempore* Secretary recorded the origin of the proposals contained in the working paper submitted to the Parties.

After several varying observations made by the Delegates, it was decided to establish a Working Group made up of representatives from Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, with the specific commission to present a proposal to the Plenary Session which consolidates the various formal and substantial comments made.

On point 2.3 of the agenda referred to in the Final Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group in charge of the study on the administrative, technical, legal and financial implications that would have the establishment of a Permanent Secretariat of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty, the *Pro Tempore* Secretary briefly summarized the background of said report, leaving open the possibility that this Council may enrich the same and thereafter submit it to the consideration of the V Meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs.

The Heads of the Delegations of Ecuador, Brazil and Venezuela, after stressing the virtues of the document, coincided in pointing out that it represented an important input for dealing with the topic of the Permanent Secretariat. The Delegate of Ecuador reminded the Meeting of the fact that his Delegation had distributed a document with various comments to the Parties, adding that his country favored the possibility of creating a Permanent Secretariat, even though he indicated that it was necessary to define both the opportune occasion and procedure for setting it up.

The Delegate of Brazil stated that the study on the implications was important for the future treatment of the Permanent Secretariat topic. The Delegate of Venezuela added that it was suitable to first gather the comments made by the Parties and thereafter continue studying the issue under discussion.

The *Pro Tempore* Secretary proposed to submit the Report to the consideration of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs since they embody the highest instance contemplated in the Treaty, what was approved by the Parties.

With regard to item 2.4 of the agenda on financial contributions by the Countries Party to the ACT for the maintenance of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, Ambassador VotoBernaes expressed the argument that the active work done by the Secretariat, which was reflected in the organization of meetings, formulation of projects, dissemination of activities and publications, these representing without any doubt a sustained growth of the Treaty, were concrete facts to be analyzed by the Foreign Ministers for the purpose of giving greater impulse to the Treaty and providing it with a broader scope of action. Moreover, he noted that the intense activity of the Secretariat was financed by contributions from international cooperation and, as mentioned, by the Government of Peru in its role as host country, whose funds provided were progressively increasing. He added that the international agencies provide financial aid for projects, but not for the support of administrative structures if there is no counterpart contribution by the Countries Party to the ACT.

In this regard all Delegates of the Parties showed interest in the arguments expressed by the *Pro Tempore* Secretary and stated that for various internal administrative and legal reasons of their countries, they were unable to make commitments of contributions within the short term.

On the other hand, regarding the issue of the financial mechanism proposed by Bolivia in the II Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, he emphasized that this should be considered together with the proposals of structural changes to be applied to the Amazon Cooperation Treaty by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs during the V Meeting.

With regard to point 2.5 of the Agenda, referring to the creation of the Special Commission of the Amazon Region on Education (CEEDA), and once the *Pro Tempore* Secretary had mentioned the background of the topic and pointed out that education was a fundamental factor for the social and economic development of the Countries Party to the ACT, the Heads of the Delegations decided to approve the draft resolution prepared by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat with two amendments proposed by Brazil and Ecuador, and to submit it to the consideration of the V Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs. Said draft Resolution is included in Annex III.

AGENDA ITEM 3

With respect to the linking of PROCITROPICOS with the bodies of the Treaty in order to carry out joint activities in programs and projects to further the sustainable development of the Amazon Region, the Delegation of Ecuador expressed its approval of the cooperation project submitted to the Council, but requested that the observation made by its country on one of the chapters in relation to the improvement of the quality of life of the Amazon ethnic groups, should be taken into account. Likewise, the Parties approved the proposal submitted for their consideration and commissioned the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat to develop the pertinent aspects identified in the Final Minutes of the IV Ordinary Meeting of CECTA.

The Delegation of Ecuador requested to take into account the observation made by his country on one of the chapters in relation to the improvement of the quality of life of the ethnic groups of the Amazon Region.

At this stage of work, the Head of the Peruvian Delegation and Chairman of the Meeting passed the Chairmanship to the Vice Chairman and Head of the Delegation of Colombia, Ambassador Ramiro Zambrano Cardenas.

AGENDA ITEM 6

Immediately thereafter, and as proposed by the Chairman, the Parties agreed to consider points 4 and 5 of the Agenda in the session of the following day, initiating the debate of point 6 on the schedule for the 1996 meetings.

In this sense, the Delegates of the Parties agreed to hold the Ordinary Meetings of the Special Commissions of the Amazon Region on the dates and seats contained in the respective Final Minutes of the last Ordinary Meetings.

The *Pro Tempore* Secretariat will submit to the Parties via diplomatic channels the schedule proposed I for the technical meetings, workshops and seminars to be held in 1996, based on the Annotated Agenda of this VII Meeting (Informative Document N° PTS-ACT/VII ACC/ID 03) and those determined in the *Declaration of Lima*.

The Delegation of Bolivia offered La Paz as seat for the Regional Workshop on Communications in I the Amazon Region, a proposal that was accepted by the Parties.

Thereafter, upon commencing to deal with point 6.2 of the agenda, the Delegates of the Parties agreed to hold the VIII Ordinary Meeting of the Amazon Cooperation Council in Lima, during the last quarter of 1996.

AGENDA ITEM 7

The Delegate of Brazil distributed the trilingual document entitled "Integrated National Policy for the Legal Amazon Region Brazil".

The Head of the Delegation of Ecuador, in turn, reiterated his request made to the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat to carry out a study on the navigation capacity of the Amazon rivers. Moreover, he submitted for consideration by the Parties the proposal to adopt a resolution for presenting their congratulations to the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat and approving the Activities Report and the Work Plan. The Delegates unanimously approved this petition, as shown in the draft resolution contained in Annex IV.

III) Second Plenary Session

The Second Plenary Session started with the presentation by the Peruvian Delegation of the report of the Working Group on the Draft Standard Regulations for the Special Commissions of the Amazon Region.

In this regard and after a broad exchange of viewpoints on the role to be played by the Regional Coordinators, the Delegates of the Countries Party to the ACT agreed to entrust the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat with the setting up of the Ad Hoc Working Group consisting of those countries which are interested in participating, to continue working on this topic. The report to be prepared by the said Working Group shall be submitted for consideration by the VIII Ordinary Meeting of the Amazon Cooperation Council, to be held in Lima in 1996.

AGENDA ITEM 4

The Delegates decided to submit the following draft agenda to the consideration of the V Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty:

1. Report on the results of the VI and VII Ordinary Meetings of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty
2. Report of the *Pro Tempore* Secretary on the Activities of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat and presentation of the Work Plan
3. Draft of the "Declaration of Lima"
4. Tentative date and seat for the VI Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty.

AGENDA ITEM 5

With regard to the documents to be submitted to the consideration of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, the Delegates of the Parties approved the Drafts of the Declaration of Lima, Resolutions and Final Minutes.

VI) Closing Session

On Saturday, December 2, the VII Ordinary Meeting of the Amazon Cooperation Council was closed, and these Minutes were signed.

The *Pro Tempore* Secretary, stressed the important progress made during the Meeting, as well as the favorable atmosphere of comprehension and the consensus of interests of the Countries Party to the ACT. Finally he thanked the assembly for the words of recognition and satisfaction expressed by the Delegates of the Countries Party to the ACT regarding the work carried out by Peru during the fulfillment of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, highlighting that this was the achievement of a working team which has not saved any effort to respond with dedication and endeavor to the honorable commission entrusted to it by the Parties.

In witness whereof the Heads of the Delegations proceeded to subscribe these minutes drawn up in Spanish, English and Portuguese, in the City of Lima, this second day of the month of December, 1995.

For the Delegation of Bolivia
Ambassador Jorge Gumucio

For the Delegation of Brazil
Minister Luiz Augusto de Castro Neves

For the Delegation of Guyana
Mr. Forbes July

For the Delegation of Suriname
Mr. Hendrik A. Alimahomed

For the Delegation of Colombia
Ambassador Ramiro Zambrano

For the Delegation of Ecuador
Ambassador Oswaldo Ramirez

For the Delegation of Peru
Ambassador Harry Belevan

For the Delegation of Venezuela
Ambassador Horacio Arteaga

4.Regulations: Pro Tempore Secretariat of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty

REGULATIONS

Pro Tempore Secretariat of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty

1. STRUCTURE AND PURPOSE

ARTICLE ONE: The *Pro Tempore* Secretariat of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty is the entity in charge of carrying out the activities stipulated in the Treaty and those established at the Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs and of the Amazon Cooperation Council.

ARTICLE TWO: The *Pro Tempore* Secretariat shall be exercised by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the country designated therefor in accordance with the provisions of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty.

ARTICLE THREE: In order to compose the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, the relevant Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall appoint as the *Pro Tempore* Secretary a highranking diplomatic officer who shall be supported by a team working fulltime, whose names shall be reported to the remaining Countries Party to the ACT.

ARTICLE FOUR: The *Pro Tempore* Secretariat shall be supported by the *Ad Hoc* Consultative Committee and the Technical Secretariats of the Special Commissions in order to exchange information, on a regular and systematic basis, or coordinate positions or actions within the framework of the Amazon cooperation process.

PARAGRAPH ONE: The *Ad Hoc* Consultative Committee shall consist of the Heads of Mission, or their representatives, of the member countries accredited before the government of the State exercising the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat and one official of similar rank belonging to the Foreign Office of the host country.

PARAGRAPH TWO: Should a Country Party to the ACT have no diplomatic representation at the headquarters of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, consultations shall be made by means of the most diligent procedure or through another member country.

2. FUNCTIONS

ARTICLE FIVE: The *Pro Tempore* Secretariat shall have the following functions:

1. Ensure the compliance of the objectives and purposes of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty.
2. Fulfill and enforce the resolutions adopted at the Meetings of Ministers of Foreign Affairs and of the Amazon Cooperation Council.
3. Coordinate with the relevant authorities and entities of the Amazon countries everything necessary to hold the Meetings of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, and of the Amazon

Cooperation Council, as well as any seminars and technical meetings, events agreed upon by the Special Commissions, *Ad Hoc* working groups and any other events. Moreover, prepare the relevant documentation for each event, disseminate the results thereof and ensure compliance of the decisions taken therein.

4. Prepare and file the official mail of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty and keep the official records of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, which shall be transferred upon rotation of the headquarters.

5. Keep the Permanent National Commissions of the ACT duly informed, through their respective Ministries of Foreign Affairs, of any advances achieved by the different Special Commissions as well as at the seminars, technical meetings and any other activities related to the Amazon cooperation process.

Any official communications of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat addressed to the relevant national entities of the States Party to the ACT regarding the convening of technical meetings or Special Commissions, workshops and seminars, as well as relevant aspects of programs, projects and international cooperation, shall be made via diplomatic channels. The *Pro Tempore* Secretariat shall ensure that the Special Commissions comply with the same procedure.

6. Carry out, pursuant to the specific powers granted by the Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, the Amazon Cooperation Council and the Special Commissions, any tasks related to the negotiation, promotion, preparation of general and technical documentation necessary for the funding and followup procedures, and all actions aimed at attracting resources to finance the programs and projects, as well as for the execution and timely and efficient start-up of said programs and projects.

7. The projects may originate from the Special Commissions or initiatives taken by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, and must be submitted for the consideration of all Parties. The projects shall be previously and expressly approved by any Party involved. Parties not involved may submit their comments in a term not to exceed 60 days.

8. Coordinate, for the purpose of the preceding point 7, with the relevant bodies and mechanisms of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty.

9. Request, negotiate and submit to the approval of the member countries, any technical, scientific and financial cooperation.

10. Carry out the followup and general evaluation of the programs and projects in progress and take appropriate actions for their timely and efficient execution.

11. Take care of and keep updated all documentation and bibliography relating to the advances made in the application of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty, to the bilateral Amazon Cooperation agreements and any related instruments, establishing an automated system enabling adequate access to such information and its transfer upon rotation of the headquarters of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat.

12. Disseminate the information permanently issued on the cooperation process, for the purpose of attracting the effective attention of international agencies, other countries as well as private and public entities.

13. Prepare, in coordination with the Ad Hoc Consultative Committee and the Executive Secretariats of the Special Commissions, an annual work plan for the activities to be carried out in compliance with the objectives of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty, which shall include proposals of operational plans for studies and the execution of special programs and projects.

The *Pro Tempore* Secretariat shall annually submit a Work Schedule of the Special Commissions for approval by the Countries Party to the ACT. The *Pro Tempore* Secretariat shall seek to ensure that all commissions meet prior to the Meeting of the Council so that the latter may carry out an adequate followup of their activities.

14. Submit detailed sixmonthly reports on the activities carried out during said period, as well as an itemized report upon expire of its term.

15. Coordinate with the respective Executive Secretariats the actions of the Special Commissions on Health, Science and Technology, Indigenous Affairs, Transport, Tourism, Environment and any other commissions which may be created within the framework of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty.

16. Summon, at the request of any of the Countries Party to the ACT, the technical meetings necessary to coordinate actions among the various bilateral and multilateral mechanisms of the Treaty, and submit for the consideration of the Amazon Cooperation Council, the reports on the achievements made, for the purpose of facilitating the evaluation of the Amazon cooperation! process.

17. Any other functions to be conferred on it by the Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Countries Party to the ACT and the Amazon Cooperation Council.

5.Final Reports Meetings of the Special Commissions of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty

FINAL REPORT: IV ORDINARY MEETING OF THE SPECIAL COMMISSION ON THE AMAZONIAN ENVIRONMENT (CEMAA)

The IV Ordinary Meeting of the Special Commission on the Amazonian Environment (CEMAA) was held in Lima from April 3rd to 5th 1995. It was attended by representatives of Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname and Venezuela, Countries Party of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty.

The Delegations were chaired by the following representatives:

BOLIVIA

Juan Carlos Gomez, B.Sc.(Forestry)

Forestry Consultant of the Forestry Department of the SubSecretariat of Renewable Natural Resources of the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Environment.

BRAZIL

Secretary Antonio Carlos do Nascimento Pedro
Brazilian Embassy in Peru

COLOMBIA

First Secretary Dr. Rocio Guzman Montoya
Representative for Amazon Cooperation Treaty Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Colombia

ECUADOR

Minister Alejandro Suarez
Ecuadorian Embassy in Peru

GUYANA

Dr. Lakerman Chatarpaul
Advisor on Science and Technology
President's Office

PERU

Miguel Ventura Napa (Engineer)
Chief of National Natural Resources Institute

SURINAME

Dr. Carlo Julen

Assistant Director of Forestry Affairs and Nature Conservation
Representative of the Chief of the Surinamese Forest Service
Ministry of Natural Resources

VENEZUELA

Dr. Isabel Carlota Bacalao Romer

General Sector Director of the Autonomous Service of Soil Conservation and
Hydrographic Watersheds
Ministry of Environment and of Renewable Natural Resources

The complete list of participants can be found in Appendix I.

At 10.00 hrs on April 3rd, 1995, the *Pro Tempore* Secretary of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty, Ambassador Jorge VotoBernaes, addressed the plenary, stressing the importance of the meeting, and highlighting the promising results obtained in the VI Ordinary Meeting of the Amazon Cooperation Council in the course of which major agreements were reached which invigorate and further the process of Amazon cooperation, and give a corresponding impetus to the Amazon Cooperation Treaty. Having welcomed the participants, the *Pro Tempore* Secretary declared the meeting open, and work commenced immediately.

I. ELECTION AND INDUCTION OF THE MEETING OFFICIALS

At the proposal of the Colombian delegate, Mr. Miguel Ventura Napa, Chief of the National Natural Resources Institute (INRENA) and Head of the Peruvian Delegation was elected Chairman of this IV Ordinary Meeting.

Similarly, at the proposal of the Peruvian Delegation, Dr. Isabel Carlota Bacalao Romer, Head of the Venezuelan Delegation, was elected Rapporteur. The induction of officers for this IV Meeting was thereby completed.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Agenda prepared by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat was submitted for consideration by the Countries Party, and was approved as follows:

1. Election of the Meeting officials.
2. Approval of Agenda and work organization.
3. Report on Activities and presentation of CEMAA's Operating Plan by the Special Commission Coordinator.
4. Exchange of experience, studies and information.
5. Programs and Projects
 - 5.1. Report on projects in course run by the various directors.
 - 5.2. Identification of new projects.
6. Review of agreements approved in the III Meeting of CEMAA.
7. Considerations and Regional position on the Criteria and Indicators for the Sustainable Management of the Amazon Forest: "The Tarapoto Proposal".
8. Observations on the project "Action Plan for a Sustainable Amazon".
9. Considerations of the draft Standard Regulations for the Amazon Special Commissions.
10. Agenda, place and tentative date for the V Ordinary Meeting of the Special Commission.

III. ACTIVITIES REPORT AND PRESENTATION OF THE OPERATING PLAN OF THE CEMAA

At the invitation of the Chairman, the Coordinator of the Special Commission on the Amazonian Environment, Cesar Villacorta (economist), gave his report on the activities held in the CEMAA framework during 1994, and presented the proposal for the Special Commission Operating Plan.

In his presentation, the Coordinator emphasized the transparency and permanent coordination of the activities held, making special reference to the regional projects which have been formulated on the initiative of the Secretariat, and the workshops and seminars which have led to an exchange of experience and opinions conducive to the construction of a regional consensus on issues relevant to the Commission's work.

The Special Commission Coordinator mentioned that the Operating Plan is geared to achieving the objectives established on the creation of the Special Commission, highlighting the continuation of projects already in course, the formulation of proposals for new projects, the possibilities of international finance for these and the program of publications, in accordance with the consultation and approval mechanisms established by the Countries Party.

The Heads of Delegations took the floor in order to express their satisfaction on the holding of the meeting and to congratulate the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat for the quality, coherence and depth of the papers submitted to the Countries Party prior to the event.

Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela noted that because of their complexity, the issues required further analysis and evaluation by their respective Permanent National Commissions and/or the competent national authorities, in order to enrich the proposal with their comments as soon as possible.

IV. EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCE, STUDIES AND INFORMATION

The Delegations of each of the Countries Party commented on the various aspects of the institutional environment framework within which the activities of each of their countries are held. They coincided in stressing the priority which their governments are giving this issue, and reported on the progress made in the formulation of environment strategies, plans and programs in course, and mentioned the main programs and projects held in the Amazon regions of their respective countries.

The Delegations of Bolivia and Peru circulated information documents. The representatives of Brazil and Guyana offered to send the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat additional information of interest to the Special Commission be distributed later to the Countries Party.

V. PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

Representing the Regional CoDirector of the project "Regional Program for Planning and Managing the Protected Areas of the Amazon", Dr. Claudia Romero, Assistant Director of Planning and Management of National Parks of the Colombian Ministry of Environment, presented a report on the scope, objectives and progress in this project, which is based in Santa Fe de Bogota. Dr. Romero distributed to the delegations the 1994 annual activities report of the Regional Planning and Management of Protected Amazon Areas Program in the Amazon Cooperation Treaty.

The Delegate of Brazil made a number of comments on the content of the paper, stating that his country is still evaluating the project. The Head of the Colombian Delegation reported that, in accordance with the Final Report of the VI Amazon Cooperation Council held in Lima in October 1994, the Colombian government is coordinating issues related to the official presentation of the project with the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat.

The representative of Ecuador requested the verification of a number of figures regarding the total extension of the protected areas in his country mentioned in the report. The Bolivian Delegation indicated that the designation of the indigenous territory as the Isiboro Secure Park is in the spirit of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty and that his government will supply any information with respect to this which the Countries Party may request.

The CTA of the FAO Project, Dr. Roberto Samanez Mercado, made a presentation of the Activities or SubActivities contemplated in the FAO Institutional Support Project, Agreement GCP/RLA/118/NET, linked to the programs and projects of the Special Commission of the Amazonian Environment. The Head of the Delegation of Brazil pointed out the smooth relations his country has with the FAO, and indicated that the presentation was interesting. He added that considering the width and depth of the report, his government would make comments on it at a later date if necessary.

At 19.30 hours, the participants in the meeting visited the headquarters of the Secretariat, for a cocktail party given in their honor by the *Pro Tempore* Secretary.

SECOND SESSION

The Delegates began the second session at 09.00 hrs on Tuesday April 4th, reviewing the partial Final Report of issues discussed during the first day of the Meeting. They went on to discuss the following items on the Agenda.

VI. IDENTIFICATION OF NEW PROJECTS

The CEMAA Coordinator then gave a succinct summary of the projects formulated on the initiative of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat: "Organizing Fishery in the Amazon Basin", "Demonstration and Agroforestry Training in the Amazon", "Improvement in Small Farmers' Soil Management in the Amazon Region" and "Ecological and Economic Zoning for the Sustainable Development of the Amazon", quoting in each case the express approval received by the governments involved in project execution. He also reported that a funding agreement had recently been signed with the IDB for US\$1,500,000 for the "Programme of Support for Amazon Zoning" in Washington by the *Pro Tempore* Secretary, after this had received the approval of six Countries Party.

The Coordinator referred to the importance of the "Directive for the Standardization of Regulations and Operational Aspects of Regional Programs and Projects Promoted by the ACT" as a mechanism for keeping the Parties duly informed of the progress of the projects in course and for monitoring the projects effectively.

The Representative of Ecuador underlined that all the projects submitted were closely related to the process in course in his country in identification and formulation of national environment policies. Having emphasized the importance to the region of the project "Organizing Fishery in the Amazon Basin", he undertook to negotiate his government's official approval of the projects submitted for consultation by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat as quickly as possible.

The representative of Brazil referred to the regulations which stipulate that the Parties should give their express approval regarding their participation in the projects.

The Head of the Colombian Delegation expressed her country's interest in participating in the projects in which it is still not involved and which take place as part of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty. The Delegate also indicated her interest in the Economic and Ecological Zoning Project, which is taking place in Colombia, being supported by CEMAA. Regarding the identification of new projects in the Special Commission framework, she reported that in the case of wildlife, Colombia is very concerned that the problem of the status of the Black Cayman should be resolved and that a regional plan for conservation management, sustainable use and welfare of the local population should be designed. The Delegate proposed a workshop on this issue next August, to be held in Leticia or the Amacayacu Park. Finally, regarding forest use, the delegate expressed Colombia's interest that the scope of CEMAA's work should include a project on the recovery of soil productivity of the areas used for crop and stock farming, through the use of intensive terracing and agroforestry systems and forest and pasture systems.

The Representative of Guyana indicated that it was feasible that his country could shortly give its support to the project proposals formulated by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, since these were a major concern in his and other Amazon Cooperation Treaty countries. He stated that the delay in his government's official approval of the projects under consultation was due to the recent institutional restructuring in his country. He also indicated that all project funding tends to produce a heavy dependence on consultants from outside the region, frequently bypassing experts in the Countries Party with great experience and knowledge of their situation. He suggested that most of the funds negotiated should be used for local personnel, and that this would entail stronger institutional capacity in the region and long term continuity in the pursuit of common goals. The *Pro Tempore* Secretariat state that one of the main lines of action is to hire national experts and consultants from the Countries Party for formulating and carrying out programs and projects and studies. and carrying out programs and projects and studies.

The Representative from Suriname indicated that forestry is an extremely important issue in his country, since the forests and farmland should be considered national heritage. In this sense, he undertook to obtain a prompt response to the formulation of the project "Sustainable use of the Amazon Forest".

VII. REVIEW OF AGREEMENTS APPROVED IN THE III MEETING OF CEMAA

After reviewing the progress in the agreements adopted in the III Ordinary Meeting of the Special Commission held in Quito in July 1993, the representatives of the Parties undertook to send the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat the names, posts and national institutions which compose the CEMAA Directorate as promptly as possible.

VIII CONSIDERATIONS AND REGIONAL POSITION ON THE TARAPOTO PROPOSAL ON CRITERIA AND INDICATORS FOR THE SUSTAINABILITY OF THE AMAZON FOREST

Following the presentation of the *Pro Tempore's* presentation of the importance of the regional effort involved in the criteria and indicators for the sustainability of the Amazon forest of the "Tarapoto Proposal", attached in Appendix II, the representatives of the Countries Party praised the rapid response of Peru in making the preparations for this event, highlighting the interest it has awakened. The Delegations of Brazil and Venezuela stated that the document was being evaluated by their governments, which would soon be sending their observations on the proposal to the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat.

The Delegate for Bolivia stated that the documents reflect a regional consensus and that he will be sending his comments in the future, via diplomatic channels.

The Delegates for Colombia and Ecuador similarly requested the support of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat in organizing national workshops in their countries in order to foster their respective internal processes of evaluation and analysis of the proposal.

IX. OBSERVATIONS ON THE REGIONAL PROJECT: "ACTION FOR A SUSTAINABLE AMAZONIA"

The Coordinator of the Special Commission stated that the description and terms of reference of the project "Action for a Sustainable Amazonia", submitted to the Countries Party for their consideration via Note PTSACTCIRC/2195, dated 28th February 1995, is the result of a process which involved major national and regional institutions. In the opinion of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, this project offers a broad agenda for common work for the eight Countries Party, and it could become a valuable joint instrument for furthering the tasks contained in the recent "Tarapoto Proposal on Criteria and Indicators for the Sustainability of the Amazon Forest".

The Representatives of Bolivia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru and Suriname expressed their agreement with the execution of the said project, in view of the fact that this could make a substantial contribution to stimulating their respective development plans in the Amazon region, of which the more fundamental are those for strengthening the national institutions of the Countries Party and contributing to the enhancement of the Tarapoto Proposal.

The Delegate for Venezuela made a number of comments regarding the project, indicating that the text appears to incorporate the Tarapoto Proposal as a regional document approved by the Parties, while it is still being evaluated by her government.

The Delegate for Brazil, indicated that he shared the concern of Venezuela, and that in the opinion of his government the Tarapoto Proposal should be separate. He also indicated that the project is being evaluated by the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Environment, Amazonian Law and Science and Technology of his country. He mentioned that his government considered the proposal's objectives broad in scope and complex. He requested more information from the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat regarding the participation of international organizations in funding the project, a clearer definition of the actors which will participate in it, particularly the nongovernmental organizations and the Amazon Business Council. Similarly, he suggested greater discussion and precision regarding the terms "indigenous peoples" and that these should be replaced by "indigenous communities".

The Delegate from Colombia stated that in principle, her country would be interested in participating in the project; however, she noted that she shared the concern of Venezuela and Brazil with regard to the level of approval of the Tarapoto Proposal, clarifying that there are no forestry concessions in the Colombian Amazon. Finally, she requested further details of the participation the regional institutions mentioned in the project would have, such as the Amazon Business Council and the PARLAMAZ (Amazon Parliament).

In response to the requests of the Representatives for Brazil, Colombia and Venezuela, the *Pro Tempore* Secretary made a number of comments regarding the concerns expressed by these Delegates. He indicated that the project "Action for a Sustainable Amazonia" constituted a first step with ambitious perspectives, subject to the valuable contributions of the interested countries. He stated therefore that it can be improved and that the comments made by the Parties are of tremendous importance for the Secretariat since they reinforce participation and promote the positive development of the Treaty.

Ambassador VotoBernaes explained that the project did not originate with the Tarapoto Proposal, but had been formulated prior to the latter and that the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat had sought to channel it in through the Amazon Cooperation Treaty in order to provide the interested countries with technical support, inputs and resources for implementing the national processes on the criteria and indicators for the sustainability of the Amazon forest. He added that the GEF is expected to fund the project, since it complements other initiatives funded by this international agency. He emphasized that the actors who may participate in the project will be chosen by the countries as sovereign states, and they will decide which national entities, public or private, will participate in the project execution.

With regard to the question of the Amazon Business Council, the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat recognized that it was not sufficiently developed, but it could become an instrument for motivating the investment market in the region in the areas most important for the Countries Party. Finally, he expressed the willingness of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat to incorporate these and other suggestions into the text of the project under consultation

X. CONSIDERATIONS ON THE DRAFT STANDARD REGULATIONS FOR THE SPECIAL COMMISSIONS

The VI Amazon Cooperation Council, via RES/VI ACC/4, commissioned the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat to prepare a new text of Standard Regulations for the Amazon Special Commissions, replacing the term Executive Secretaries or Technicians with that of Coordinators for each of them, to hold promotion events and monitor activities and act as liaison between national institutions, being accountable to the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat.

The *Pro Tempore* Secretariat submitted this project to the Countries Party in November 1994, and the Delegates for Brazil, Colombia and Venezuela made some preliminary and general comments to be sent to the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat in due time. These aim mainly to create mechanisms to foster greater participation and consultation with the Countries Party in order to strengthen the process of Amazon Cooperation. The Delegates for Brazil, Colombia and Venezuela shared the opinion that regulations should be drafted to help rectify occasional distortions in the Special Commissions. Hence in their general comments on the draft regulations they stated the following (inter al): that the systems for exchanging information and holding consultations between the Countries Party regarding the formulation of projects, the identification of regional and international consultants and experts, cooperation mechanisms and international finance. They also requested that the comments made should be presented to the forthcoming meetings of the Amazon Special Commissions in order to enrich their debates.

The Delegate for Ecuador expressed his support for the establishment of standard regulations, which will be a useful tool for strengthening the Special Commissions' activities. He made a number of general comments regarding the factors which could be borne in mind for deciding on the content of the regulations, particularly those relevant to coordination. The Delegates for Ecuador and Guyana similarly offered to forward their comments shortly.

XI. DEFINITION OF DATE AND TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR THE V ORDINARY MEETING OF THE SPECIAL COMMISSION

The Countries accepted with pleasure, ad referendum, the offer of the government of Colombia to host the V Ordinary Meeting of the Special Commission of the Amazon Environment in the Iguaque Wildlife Sanctuary in Villa de Leiva, scheduled tentatively for the first quarter of 1996.

The Delegates of the Countries Party noted the offer of Guyana to host the VI Ordinary Meeting of the Special Commission.

Regarding the draft agenda of the V Meeting, it was agreed that this would be subject to consultation between the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat and the Countries Party. Finally, the Delegate for Ecuador expressed his particular acknowledgment of the technical support given by the FAO to the Amazon Cooperation Treaty and congratulated the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat for the quality of its work and the impetus and dynamic of the action of the Special Commission for the Amazonian Environment and congratulated the Chairman and Rapporteur of the Meeting for their efficiency.

The Delegations of Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Guyana and Suriname echoed his congratulations.

THIRD SESSION

The Third Session started at 9:00 hrs., with the reading of the Final Report.

XII. READING AND APPROVAL OF FINAL REPORT

The Final Report was reviewed by the Heads of Delegations and was approved. The *Pro Tempore* Secretary then closed the Meeting.

In witness whereof the Heads of Delegations signed the Report, in the City of Lima, on the Fifth day of April, 1995.

For Bolivia
Juan Carlos Gomez, B. Sc

For Colombia
First Secretary Rocio Guzman

For Guyana
Dr. Lakerman Chatarpaul

For Suriname
Dr. Carlo Julen

For Brazil
Secretary Antonio Carlos do Nascimento Pedro

For Ecuador
Ministry Alejandro Suarez

For Peru
Miguel Ventura Napa (Eng.)

For Venezuela
Dr. Isabel Carlota Bacalao

FINAL REPORT: III ORDINARY MEETING OF THE SPECIAL COMMISSION OF TRANSPORT, INFRASTRUCTURE AND COMMUNICATIONS IN THE AMAZON (CETICAM)

The III Ordinary Meeting of the Special Commission of Transport, Infrastructure and Communications in the Amazon (CETICAM) was held in the city of Lima, from 2nd to 4th May 1995, attended by representatives of Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru and Venezuela, the Countries Party of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty.

The delegations were presided by the following officials: for Bolivia, Mr. Oscar Chavarria, Planning Director of the Transport, Communications and Aeronautics Secretariat; for Brazil, Minister Eduardo da Costa Farias, Chief of the II Meridian America Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; for Colombia, Dr. Hugo Fuentes, Advisor to the Minister of Transport; for Ecuador, Mr. Alejandro Suarez, Minister in the Ecuadorian Embassy in Peru; for Guyana, Miss Barbara Cole, Chief of the Transport Office of the Ministry of Public Works, Communications and Regional Development; for Peru, Mrs. Edda Chiappe de Echeandia, Director General of the Budget and Planning Office of the Ministry of Transport, Communications, Housing and Construction, and for Venezuela, Dr. Celia Benchimol, General Director of the International Relations Office of the Ministry of Transport and Communications. The complete list of participants is given in Appendix I.

At 10.00 hrs on 2nd May 1995, Minister Counsellor Mr. Manuel Picasso, Director of Coordination of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, representing Ambassador Jorge Voto-Bernales, *Pro Tempore* Secretary of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty, welcomed the delegations and presented Mr. Fernando Ojeda Zanartu, ViceMinister of Housing and Construction of the Ministry of Transport, Communications, Housing and Construction of Peru, who, on behalf of the Minister, indicated the importance and wisdom of promoting the development of transport infrastructure and communications in the Amazon Region, as a key factor in the sustainable development contemplated for the area. After calling on the Countries Party to exercise mutual understanding in order to achieve the objectives of the regional cooperation encouraged by their governments in the context of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty, he declared the III Ordinary Meeting of the Special Commission open. The representatives of the Countries Party began work immediately.

I. ELECTION AND INDUCTION OF THE COMMITTEE OFFICERS

At the proposal of the Chief of the Bolivian Delegation, Mrs. Edda Chiappe, Chief of the Peruvian Delegation, was elected Chairwoman of the III Ordinary Meeting. Similarly, at the proposal of Peru, Mr. Hugo Fuentes Restrepo, Chief of the Colombian Delegation, was elected Rapporteur. The induction of the Committee officers was thus effected.

II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The Draft Agenda prepared by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat was put before the Parties and was approved as follows:

- 1.- Election of Committee Officers
2. Approval of Agenda and Work Organization
3. Activities Report and presentation of CETICAM Operating Plan by the Special Commission Coordinator
- 4.- Programs and Projects
 - 4.1. Evaluation of scope and progress of identified programs and projects
 - 4.2. Identification of new projects
 - 4.3. Definition of scope and assignation of the Regional Coordination of the programs CETICAM 5 (Communications) and CETICAM 8 (Infrastructure)
- 5.- The "Amazon Region Transport Network" project
6. Discussion of experiences, studies and information regarding transport, communications and infrastructure
7. Technical Cooperation Network
8. Aspects of the draft Standard Regulations for the Amazon Special Commissions.
9. Agenda, venue and tentative date of the IV Ordinary Meeting of the Special Commission.

III. ACTIVITIES REPORT AND PRESENTATION OF CETICAM OPERATING PLAN

Maria Julia Guzman, Coordinator of the Special Commission of Amazon Transport, Infrastructure and Communications gave a report on the activities held from the beginning of the Peruvian Management of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat until February 1995, indicating that these have been characterized by the policy of transparency and permanent coordination with the Countries Party established by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat. The Coordinator made special mention of the main tasks of the Coordination, aimed at establishing the status of the work carried out within the scope of the Special Commission, with reference both to the progress and agreements established and those pending, in order to put forward the activities which could be implemented; of the formulation of the Amazon Region Transport Network project; and of identifying and establishing the necessary contacts with the government officials and funding agencies which have particular links with the Special Commissions' work; and of collaboration with the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat in aspects related to institutional strengthening and project management.

The Coordinator also reported that the World Bank may participate in organizing and funding a seminar for evaluating the environmental impact of transport infrastructure projects, which is to be held next July and is especially aimed at the officials of the Countries Party who are concerned with issues addressed by CETICAM.

The Coordinator presented the proposed Operating Plan of the Special Commission of Transport, Infrastructure and Communications in the Amazon, the text of which can be found in Appendix II, which was formulated pursuant to the objectives identified at its creation and in the scope of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat Work Plan.

The Chief of the Brazilian Delegation emphasized the importance of issues related to environmental impact, and proposed that this issue should be discussed in a workshop in the near future or in the next CETICAM meeting attended by delegates of the Countries Party who work in the entities responsible for environment affairs. The Chief of the Colombian Delegation agreed with Brazil regarding the importance of the environment in the work of this Commission, and suggested that the seminar announced by the Coordination, to be funded by the World Bank and held in July, should be attended by officials who are specialists in the environment of the Countries Party. The Chief of the Venezuelan Delegation proposed that the Operating Plan proposal be discussed at the end of the discussion of the items on the agenda, stressing the aspects of environmental impact entailed by the infrastructure and transport projects.

IV. PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

Regarding the item on the Agenda corresponding to the evaluation of the scope and progress of identified programs and projects, the regional program coordinators made the following comments:

Regarding the CETICAM 2 Program, River Transport, the Bolivian Delegation requested a pronouncement on the proposal it had presented for the "Design for the Implementation of the River Transport Program". The Peruvian Delegation suggested awaiting the results of the "Amazon Region Transport Network" project, since this covers diverse modes of transport and would provide a framework for further steps in this important issue.

The Ecuadorian representative referred to the project "General Regulations for Commercial River Traffic on the International Amazon Region Rivers", and suggested putting these into effect promptly. The Venezuelan Delegation similarly underlined the usefulness of such a regional instrument for Countries Party in facilitating river traffic.

The Peruvian Delegation indicated that it had technical observations regarding the Draft Regulations, and that the latter do not include the liberalization processes or the law currently in force in most of the Countries Party. The Delegation proposed that the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat should convene a technical meeting especially to adjust the regulations to the modifications in the laws of the Signatory Countries.

The Delegations of Ecuador, Bolivia, Venezuela and Colombia supported this proposal. The Colombian representative requested that Peru, via the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, should inform the Parties of the technical observations prior to the convention of the meeting.

With regard to CETICAM Program 3, Land Transport, the Colombian representative stated that, as in the River Transport Program, it would be advisable to wait for the results of the "Amazon Region Transport Network" project, to avoid duplicating work. However, he suggested that the issues of Highway Construction Technologies in the Amazon Region should be discussed as part of this program, and recommended that a seminar should be held on the subject.

The Peruvian Delegation requested a pronouncement by the Parties regarding the Airships in the Amazon project, included in the CETICAM 4 Program, Air Transport. The delegations accorded to postpone the discussion of this project.

With regard to the CETICAM Program 5, Communications, the Peruvian Delegation presented proposals for implementing the program and the development of a regional project called. "A Telecommunications Network for the Amazon Region", found in Appendix III. The Bolivian Delegation considered the proposal on the program implementation to be progress made in and finetuning of the proposal presented at the II Ordinary Meeting of CETICAM. The Parties accorded to commission the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat to organize a workshop for the Countries to discuss as a priority the situation of communications in their respective Amazon territories. Finally the Peruvian Delegation offered to act as regional coordinator of this program until another Country Party, which is not responsible for any regional coordination, assumes responsibility for it. The Delegates approved the offer.

Regarding the CETICAM 6 Program, Interoceanic Corridors, the Ecuadorian Delegate presented a report which was distributed to the Delegations and requested a pronouncement on the Regional Project "Strategies for Promoting Transport Priority Corridors in the Amazon and Strategies for Implementation by the Parties". This proposal was presented by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat during the Ecuadorian management, and so the Delegation presented it as its own.

In the discussion of the CETICAM 7 Program, The Amazon Basin and the Feasibility of its Interconnection with the Orinoco and De la Plata River Basins, the Venezuelan Delegation expressed its country's interest in going ahead with this issue, in relation to which Venezuela is implementing activities with Brazil and Argentina, and that these should be carried out in a context such as that of this program. The Delegation requested the opinion of the Parties regarding the proposal for "The Amazon Basin and the Feasibility of its Interconnection with the Orinoco and De la Plata River Basins. Work Outline", which was distributed among the Delegations and is found in Appendix IV.

The Delegations accorded to forward to the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat the activities related to this program to which they have access or which have been implemented in their respective countries, and commissioned the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat to obtain studies made in this field from international organizations.

The Delegations accorded to abandon the CETICAM 8 Program, Infrastructure, since infrastructure is implicit in the issues of transport and communications.

Finally the Delegations accorded that June 30th should be the deadline for pronouncements regarding the proposals presented by Peru, Ecuador and Venezuela.

Regarding the identification of new projects, the Delegations expressed their interest in carrying out this task, while progress is made on the definition of the scope of the different programs.

In view of comments by the Delegations with regard to concern for maintaining continuity in discussion of issues and the importance of constant monitoring of activities via the Permanent National Commissions in each country, the Director of Coordination of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat commented on the Technical Cooperation Agreement recently signed with the IDB by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, for funding one subprogram for Economic and Ecological Zoning and another for strengthening the Permanent National Committees in each Country Party involved.

The Chief of the Venezuelan Delegation requested on the behalf of her government that the Final Report should record the satisfaction of her country and its recognition of the work carried out by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, especially of the documents presented in the Annotated Agenda of this III Ordinary Meeting of CETICAM, which has meant that the Delegations of the Countries Party have been informed about the background information and documents considered in earlier meetings of the Special Commission, indicative of the policy adopted by Peru in its management of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, of maintaining permanent consultation and transparency. The Delegates unanimously echoed this a acknowledgment.

V. PROGRAM: "AMAZON REGION TRANSPORT NETWORK"

The CETICAM Coordinator presented the project and reported which Countries Party had expressly declared their interest in participating in the project, and presented the Cooperation Agreement which the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat has signed with the Brazilian Transport Planning Company (GEIPOT) for implementing the network proposal.

Mr. Ismael Carneiro, designated by the GEIPOT as Project Chief, gave a talk on the progress in the work commissioned, and indicated that information was required from Guyana, Ecuador and Suriname.

The Delegations expressed the interest of their governments in the results of this project, and made the commitment to collaborate closely with the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat and GEIPOT, in the formulation of the Network proposal and in the compliance with the following deadlines: presentation to the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat of a) the report on the results by 15th June, 1995; and b) a draft of the activities commissioned by October 1 5th, 1995. The *Pro Tempore* Secretariat will later distribute the Reports to the Countries Party and will convene a meeting to discuss the issue after November 1 5th this year.

VI. EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCES, STUDIES AND INFORMATION REGARDING TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The representative of Brazil made a succinct report of the progress and great relevance of the SIPAM-SIVAM program which is in course in Brazil, and repeated his invitation to the Amazon countries to make use of this program. He indicated that the program includes monitoring of weather conditions, air traffic, transport etc., with remote sensors and mobile radar units in the region.

The Colombian Delegate suggested that via the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, the Countries Party could receive more information regarding the SIPAMSIVAM program. He went on to mention the Colombian document "Amazon Region Highway Construction Technology", a copy of which was distributed to the participants, and pointed out that this was the outcome of a seminar organized by his government in compliance with the commission received at the Presidential Summit in Manaus.

The Bolivian Delegate referred to the successful results of the "Service for the Improvement of Amazon River Traffic SEMENA" implemented in his country and supported by the Kingdom of Belgium, and distributed a publication on the progress made with this service.

The Peruvian Delegation made a succinct presentation of experience in Amazon Region paving of the National Institution for Transport Research (INAIT). The INAIT expressed its willingness to provide the information the Parties might require.

The Delegations distributed the following documents to the participants: the text of Act 99 of 22nd December 1993, creating the Ministry of the Environment in Colombia; the "Transport Statistics Year Book 1994" written by the Brazilian Transport Planning Company (GEIPOT); and the documents of the General Environment Department of the Ministry of Transport, Communications, Housing and Construction of Peru: "Environment Manual for Road Design and Construction" and "Terms of Reference for Studies on the Environmental Impact of Highway Construction".

Finally, the representatives of the Countries Party accorded the importance of furthering the discussion of experiences, studies and information, suggesting that the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat should organize a seminarworkshop to study in greater detail the successful experiences carried out in the Countries Party. The Peruvian Delegation proposed that the workshop should also include the issue of paving design.

VII. TECHNICAL COOPERATION NETWORK

Following the presentation of the Special Commission Coordinator, emphasizing the importance of the implementation of this mechanism for the institutions in charge of issues addressed by CETICAM to have a better level of information. the representatives of the Countries Party made the commitment to

send the names, positions and national institutions which make up the Technical Cooperation Network to the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat shortly.

VIII. OBSERVATIONS REGARDING THE DRAFT STANDARD REGULATIONS FOR THE SPECIAL COMMISSIONS

The Director of Coordination of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat referred briefly to the mandate issued by the VI Amazon Cooperation Council which commissioned the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat to draft a new text for the Standard Regulations for the Amazon Special Commissions, and to the comments to which these draft regulations gave rise during the IV Ordinary Meeting of the Special Commission of the Amazon Environment (CEMAA) held in Lima, April 3rd 5th April 1995.

The Brazilian Delegate made a number of further general comments indicating that in the opinion of his government the projects, funding negotiations, contracts and identification of technicians from outside the region should have the express approval of all the Parties. He added that this corresponded to the region's complex and sensitive ecosystems which often involve aspects of each country's internal policies. He suggested that the final version of the Draft Standard Regulations for the Special Commissions could be the subject of a specific meeting of the *AdHoc* Consultation Committee or similar which the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat could convene with the participation of highranking officials from the Foreign Affairs Ministries.

The Chiefs of Delegations of Colombia and Venezuela, having made some specific comments regarding the Standard Regulations project, expressed their support for the proposed meeting.

The Bolivian representative stated that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bolivia is evaluating the Draft Standard Regulations, and hence this issue needs to be analyzed in the forthcoming Ordinary Meetings of the Special Commissions. in order to continue improving it.

The Venezuelan Delegation suggested the need to discuss the headway made by CETICAM, especially that concerning the infrastructure traditionally linked to energy issues. The Chief of the Brazilian Delegation indicated that indeed the scope of the Special Commission is very wide, and suggested that the possibility was open for the Parties to create other Special Commissions, one of which could be exclusively concerned with energy.

Finally, the representatives of Colombia, Venezuela, Bolivia, Ecuador, Peru and Guyana accorded that it would be convenient to create a Special Commission on Energy in the Amazon, due to the outstanding importance of this issue for the development of the Amazon Region.

IX. APPROVAL OF THE CETICAM OPERATING PLAN

The Delegations returned to the issue of the Operating Plan and accorded to approve it with the incorporation of the following aspects: i) to hold workshops on communications and on the discussion of experiences in issues related to transport infrastructure in the Amazon; ii) to continue to compile studies and information related to the "Amazon Basin and the Feasibility of its Interconnection with the Orinoco and De la Plata River Basins" project; iii) to bear in mind the pronouncement of the Parties on the "Use of Airships in the Amazon" project; iv) to establish as a goal of the Operating Plan the formulation of the Amazon Region Transport Network proposal; and v) to await the results of the Amazon Region Transport Network project to establish the goals for the River Transport, Land Transport and Interoceanic Corridors programs. The *Pro Tempore* Secretariat will incorporate these aspects into the Operating Plan and will send it to the Countries Party in two weeks.

X. THE DEFINITION OF THE DATE AND TENTATIVE AGENDA OF THE IV ORDINARY MEETING OF THE SPECIAL COMMISSION

In order to evaluate the progress of the activities held in the framework of the Special Commission, the Delegations commissioned the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat to organize an extraordinary meeting of CETICAM, following the workshop to be held in the second half of November to discuss the draft proposal of the Amazon Region Transport Network. The date and agenda of the IV Ordinary Meeting of CETICAM will be defined on that occasion.

XI. MISCELLANEOUS

The Chief of the Venezuelan Delegation noted the importance of keeping up a flow of information between the ACT and other international fore concerned with the issue of transport and communications. She suggested that it should be arranged via the competent authorities that the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat should participate as observer especially in the Conference of Ministers of Transport, Communications and Public Works of South America and of the Andean Pact. All the Delegations supported this proposal.

Finally, the Chief of the Venezuelan Delegation, on behalf of the delegates of the Countries Party attending this III Ordinary Meeting, expressed their thanks for and their unanimous recognition of the attention and hospitality shown by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, and of the technical and secretarial support, which made the success of this meeting possible.

XII. READING AND APPROVAL OF FINAL REPORT

This Final Report was reviewed and approved by the Chiefs of Delegations, and Minister Manuel Picasso, Director of Coordination of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, on behalf of the *Pro Tempore* Secretary, then closed the III Meeting of CETICAM.

In witness whereof, the Chiefs of Delegation signed this Final Report, in the city of Lima, on the fourth day of May, 1995.

For Bolivia
Mr. Oscar Chavarria (Engineer)

For Colombia
Dr. Hugo Fuentes

For Guyana
Miss Barbara Cole

For Venezuela
Mrs. Celia Benchimol (Engineer)

For Brazil
Minister Eduardo da Costa Farias

For Ecuador
Minister Alejandro Suarez

For Peru
Mrs. Edda Chiappe de Echeandia (Architect)

FINAL REPORT: IV ORDINARY MEETING OF THE SPECIAL COMMISSION ON AMAZON INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS (CEAIA)

The IV Ordinary Meeting of the Special Commission on Indigenous Affairs met in the city of Lima May 8 and 9, 1995. Participants included representatives from Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname and Venezuela, Countries Party of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty.

The following officials presided over the Delegations: For Bolivia, Lic. Luz Maria Calvo, of the Under Secretariat of Ethnic Affairs, of the National Secretariat of Ethnic Affairs, Gender and Generations of the Ministry of Human Development; for Brazil, Secretary Paulo França, of the Brazilian Embassy in Lima; for Colombia, Dra. Gladys Jimeno, General Director of Indigenous Affairs for the Ministry of Government; for Ecuador, Arq. Luis Felipe Duchicela, National Secretary of Indigenous Affairs; for Guyana, Ms. Pauline Campbell Sukhai, of the Ministry of Indigenous Affairs; for Peru, Council Minister Vicente Rolas, South America Director from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; for Suriname, Mr. Ronald R. Aloema, President of the Organization of Indigenous Peoples of Suriname, Ministry of Education and Culture; and for Venezuela, Second Secretary, Francisca Cadenas Linares, of the Venezuelan Embassy in Lima. The complete list of participants is available in Appendix I.

At 10:00 May 8, 1995, Minister Counselor Manuel Picasso, *Pro Tempore* Secretariat Coordination Director, addressed the plenary session, welcoming participating Delegations. He then read a message from Ambassador Jorge VotoBernal, Amazon Cooperation Treaty *Pro Tempore* Secretary and, representing the Ambassador, declared open the IV Ordinary Meeting of the Special Commission. Representatives of Countries Party proceeded immediately to the task at hand.

I. ELECTION AND INDUCTION OF COMMITTEE OFFICERS

The head of the Colombian Delegation proposed that the Dr. Luz Maria Calvo, head of the Bolivian Delegation, be elected chairperson of the IV Ordinary Meeting. The Delegate for Peru proposed that Dr. Gladys Jimeno, head of the Colombian Delegation, be elected Rapporteur. Both proposals were accepted and thus, committee officers were inducted.

II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

When the Agenda Project, drafted by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, was placed before the consideration of the Countries Party, the head of the Brazilian Delegation recognised the work being carried out by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, in particular in terms of publications related to different cooperation areas within the framework of the Treaty. Subsequently, in reference to the agenda, he proposed that, due to legal and constitutional considerations in his country and due to international law, the words "territories" and "peoples" be replaced for "land" and "populations". Moreover, he stated that the ACT regulations and, more specifically, the Resolution of the III Meeting of Foreign Affairs Ministers creating CEAIA, rarely used the term "populations". He also indicated that the minutes of previous meetings of CEAIA establishing programmatic priorities used the term

"lands". He expressed that his comment was based on the precedents established by documents previously approved Amazon Cooperation Treaty.

The Delegate for Colombia stated that the terminology used in the Agenda Project would not be a problem within the Colombian context. She proposed that a footnote be added, expressing the reservations voiced by the Delegate from Brazil, and that the plenary move on to issues proposed for this I Ordinary Meeting. This proposal was supported by the Delegates of Bolivia, Peru and Ecuador. The | Delegate for Ecuador pointed out Agenda items 4 and 5 refer to the title of the Regional Project which is carried out within the CEAlA framework, based in Quito, and to final report resulting from a technical meeting related to this project.

The Delegate from Brazil reiterated his proposal and at the request of the Delegate from Peru, the Chairperson proposed a break in order that heads of Delegations discuss this issue. After this discussion, in a constructive spirit, representatives from the Countries Party agreed to the following criteria in order to approve the agenda:

- i) the terminology used in items 4 and 5 would remain the same as they refer to the title of the project and related activities. The titles would appear in quotations marks and the Agenda would include a footnote which indicates that the terminology does not legally or politically commit Countries Party.
- ii) that the term "peoples" be substituted for "populations" in point 6 of the agenda project; and
- iii) in point 7 of the agenda "exchange of experiences, studies and information", the plenary will reflect about progress in each of their countries in terms of these definitions.
- iv) that in the documents to be produced in the meeting, the terms "populations" and "lands" be used according to ACT Regulations.

Thus the following agenda was approved for this Ordinary Meeting:.

- 1.- Election of Committee Officers
- 2.- Approval of Agenda and Organization of Work
- 3.- Report on Activities and presentation of the CEAlA's Operative Plan, on the part of the Special Commission Coordinator.
- 4.- Evaluation and Perspectives of the Project "Regional Consolidation of the Indigenous Lands/Territories Program through the Amazon Cooperation Treaty".
5. Consideration of the final document of the Technical Meeting convened with the title "Regional Proposal for the Legalization of Indigenous Territories." (The term "Indigenous Territories" used in the name of these projects does not have political or legal implications for the Countries Party)
6. Regional Initiatives in support of indigenous populations in the Amazon
7. Exchange of experience, studies and information
8. Others
 - 8.1. Implementation of a Subsystem of Indigenous Information
 - 8.2. Consideration of the Draft Standard Regulation for the Special Amazon Commissions
9. Agenda, place and tentative date for the V Ordinary Meeting of the Special Commission

The Delegates of the Countries Party also indicated that, if possible, it would be advantageous to carry out a concerted effort in favor of the adoption of a common terminology.

III. ACTIVITIES REPORT AND PRESENTATION OF CEAIA OPERATIVE PLAN

Anthropologist Carlos Yanez Boluarte, Coordinator of the Special Commission of Indigenous Affairs in the Amazon, made a presentation about activities which have been carried between the beginning of the Peruvian management of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat and February 1995, with special emphasis on the area of indigenous Affairs. He referred to the broad objectives contained in the Special Commission's Founding Act, and the progress and challenges presented to the Parties in this field.

At the same time he made a succinct presentation of the Special Commission's Operative Plan, which was formulated within the framework of objectives identified in the founding mandates and in the Work Plan of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat.

The Delegate from Brazil was appreciative of the extensive report contained within the Annotated Agenda, previously circulated by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat. He indicated that in some areas it would be useful to receive more information about the results of the projects, different activities and institutional support received by the KU, the UNDP and FAO as well as progress in contacts established with entities such as the ILO, the Indigenous Fund, the IDB and the FIDA. He also stated that he does not believe that it corresponds to the Coordinator or the PTS, to carry out activities to strengthen and promote institutional ties with the Indigenous Fund.

In response, the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat voiced its willingness to broaden information previously distributed among the Countries Parties within periodic *Ad Hoc* Consultative Committee Meetings, about the VI Amazon Cooperation Council and the Annual Activities Report, which was distributed at the end of the first year of management. In terms of strengthening and promoting ties with the Indigenous Fund, the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat stated that point X of the Final Report of the III Ordinary Meeting of the Special Commission, "commissioned the Executive Secretariat to identify possibilities for collaboration between the Indigenous Fund and the CEAIA to inform the governments of the Contracting Parties about different possibilities.

The Bolivian Delegate manifested Bolivia's support for activities which have been carried out within the Special Commission and emphasized the convenience to better organize work areas, expectations, to better clarify principles, objectives, activities and lines of work. The Delegate also proposed to prioritizing programmes and impelling the joint work of the Countries Party, exchanging experiences and developing programmes in areas such as health, education, etc. She also proposed that the indigenous issue be promoted in other Special Commissions of the ACT. Another priority proposed by the Delegate is appropriate information about the work of international cooperation organizations and the way they address the indigenous problematic.

The Colombian Delegate, after emphasizing the importance of international technical cooperation and the need to advance in commitments assumed by Countries Party, called on the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat to define an area of work which would take into consideration strengthening the participation, partnership and consultation of indigenous populations, taking into account the current modernization, decentralization and territorial reordering processes which are being developed in Amazon countries. Moreover, the PTS should encourage regional interculturisation and integral, interethnic training, considering the Amazon as a macroregion.

Finally, Delegates from the Countries Party were informed about the background, current situation and perspectives of the European Union Cooperation Program with the Amazon Cooperation Treaty by Mr. Vincent Brackelaire, Coordinator of the Institutional Support Program for the PTS. The Chairperson emphasized the importance of this support.

IV. EVALUATION AND PERSPECTIVES OF THE "REGIONAL CONSOLIDATION OF INDIGENOUS LAND/TERRITORIES THROUGH THE AMAZON COOPERATION TREATY"

Codirectors of the Project "Regional Consolidation of Indigenous Land/Territories through the Amazon Cooperation Treaty", Mrs. Lourdes Barragan and Jose Aviles presented the objectives and progress of the three subprojects contained the Program as well as levels and goals reached by the respective national components involved. They emphasized the enormous expectations which have been expressed by Indigenous Communities to continue this work.

At the end of their presentations, they manifested their appreciation to national institutions, involved governments, the Special Commission Coordinator, the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat and the European Union for the joint work carried out in favor of the project, proposing the convenience of continuing with a second phase of this project.

The Coordinator of the Special Commission then referred to the following components which could potentially be contained in an eventual Phase II: i) consolidation, demarcation and legal protection of indigenous areas, ii) training and education of indigenous communities, iii) investigation, planning and sustainable management of biodiversity resources, and recovering and valuing traditional knowledge and iv) the constitution of a support fund for local initiatives.

The Delegate from Ecuador congratulated the Secretariat, the Commission Coordinator and the Co-directors of the Project for the valuable results obtained. He stated that Ecuador supports the implementation of a second phase of the Project in which the legalization of lands and the elaboration of management plans will be prioritized, emphasizing that without them the efforts of the I Phase will be left unfinished. He also expressed the country's interest in continuing to host the headquarters.

The Peruvian Delegate thanked for the information received and congratulated the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat and the Codirectors of the Project for the valuable steps which have been taken in this first stage. The Delegate expressed the convenience of continuing with the project, taking into account that land demarcation aspects should be complemented with integral development programs which place priority on recovering indigenous technology.

The Delegate from Bolivia, echoed the sentiments which were expressed congratulating the Co-directors, emphasizing the contribution which the project has provided Bolivia in the technical area.

The Delegate from Brazil thanked the Codirectors of the Project for the extensive presentation and stated that even though Brazil did not form part of the pilot phase, the country continues to evaluate the Project. He expressed his desire for more detailed information about the Project development process, above all in terms of the role and sphere of action of the financial entities related to the Project. He added that the approval of an eventual second phase of the Project should be subjected to mechanisms established in the dispositions which state the need for express approval on the part of Countries Party. The Delegate considered that the proposed objectives are extremely broad and it would be necessary to adapt them to respective national experiences and realities. The Delegate ended up by stating that indigenous land demarcation is a highly

sensitive political issue and, therefore, it is necessary to reinforce the active participation of the governments as the intermediaries of the interests at stake.

The Delegate from Guyana expressed its support for a II Phase of this Project, indicating that it would be convenient to extend it in benefit of other Countries Party and that the most appropriate interlocutors be clearly identified.

The Delegate from Colombia, after emphasizing the components identified by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat for an eventual II Phase, reminded that in the Workshop on Indigenous Lands and Areas held in Lima prior to this Ordinary Meeting, it was seen the need to strengthen territoriality aspects with integral life and sustainable development plans, important criteria to be taken into consideration in the development of any project. The Delegate also proposed the need to establish mechanisms that will make it possible to share experiences in order to advance with collective processes and to strengthen, with specific contributions, the works aimed at formulating a base proposal to be prepared by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat. At the same time, the Delegate manifested Colombia's interest and desire to enter a II Phase of the Project in aspects such as improving indigenous land, demarcation, placing border marker and controlling and broadening assigned land to Amazon indigenous populations.

In response to a proposal on the part of the Chairperson, that the IV Ordinary Meeting propose a deadline in order to prepare the II Phase of the Project, the Delegate from Brazil, after recognizing that the Project was a priority according to the Final Report of the II Ordinary Meeting of the CEAIA, stated that, in his opinion, it would not be appropriate to impose time frames on the political levels of the Countries Party. At the same time, he indicating that the Parties should address this issue with caution and, in the event that a II Phase of the Project is developed, it should prioritize the strengthening of the role of national states and the exchange of experiences among the Parties. The Delegate ended by indicating that any proposal will have to be adapted to the terminology and concepts which are accepted by all Countries Party.

The Delegates from Bolivia and Ecuador reiterated the convenience of establishing a precise date in order to elaborate the II Phase. The Delegate from Colombia suggested that it is the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat which should establish the respective schedule for the work, with technical periods which will make it possible for the different projects to function adequately and to advance. The Delegate clarified that these terms are different from the policies in which each country party should be free and have the necessary time which corresponds to their processes.

In response, the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat reminded the adoption of the RES/VI CCA/1 of the VI Amazon Cooperation Council, which met last October in Lima. At that time different clauses contained in Article 5 of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat's Regulations were modified and placed in operation. This clauses indicating that the projects can be originated in Special Commissions or at the initiative of the Secretariat itself, but then must be placed before the consideration of all Countries Party. He added that this resolution establishes that the involved Parties will have to previously and expressly approve projects and non involved Parties would have a 60day period to formulate their observations.

The Bolivian Delegate indicating that Bolivia considered it indispensable to make an effort within the framework of the Treaty to carry out this project with the support of international cooperation. The Delegate thanked the European Union. The Bolivian, Colombian and Ecuadorian Delegates proposed that the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat have a 60day period in order to elaborate a work plan. During this period countries are free to send initiatives.

V. CONSIDERATION OF THE FINAL DOCUMENT OF THE TECHNICAL MEETING CONVENED WITH THE TITLE "REGIONAL PROPOSAL FOR THE LEGALIZATION OF INDIGENOUS TERRITORIES"

Dr. Roque Roldan, advisor contracted by the Project Codirectors, proceeded to briefly present the terms of reference and the contents of the study entitled "Indigenous Lands and Territories in the Amazon: Legal Elements for a Regional Juridical Analysis". He stated that it was a document which could be perfected and which touches on sensitive issues which could be material for a broad discussion. He indicating that the study contains two parts: the first, refers to a regional analysis which touches on the issue of legality and existing instruments to protect land tenancy. The second refers to monographs per countries, which contain a brief description of the physical characteristics of respective Amazon territories, a politicaladministrative management model on the part of each state and legislation about land management.

Delegates from Bolivia, Colombia and Peru referred to the importance of a study of this nature, in terms of the interesting debate it could generate in the region.

The Delegate from Brazil stated that in his opinion the document deserves a profound evaluation and reflection, and asked about the mandate which authorized the study.

In response, the Codirector of the Project, Mrs. Lourdes Barragan, began to read the pertinent part of the final report of the Iil Ordinary Meeting of the CEAIA, held in Quito in July 1993, which referred to the formulation process of this study.

On this regard, the Delegate from Brazil manifested that this reading demonstrates the need to follow more clear proposals within the Special Commission, as there was no special mandate to carry out this study. This reinforces the need to submit any Project Proposal to Countries Party for the express authorization.

VI. REGIONAL INITIATIVES IN SUPPORT OF INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS IN THE AMAZON

Dr. Diego Iturralde, Executive Secretary of the Indigenous Fund, presented the progress of this Fund, explaining its composition, as well as the mechanisms established in order to authorize loans.

The Delegate from Brazil manifested the concern of his country in the sense that it is necessary to strengthen the organization and intermediary role of the state with international cooperation organizations | and the interests and proposals of indigenous communities.

Dr. Juan Carlos Schulze, Director of the "Regional Support Program for Indigenous Peoples of the Amazon Basin", then made a presentation about the objectives, advancements and components of that program.

To this end, the Delegate from Brazil emphasized the need to strengthen and stimulate the role of state entities in the determination of plans and programs in favor of indigenous populations.

At the same time a report drafted by Mrs. Maria del Rio Rumbaitis Valero, Consultant for the "Indigenous People and Community Development Unit" of the IDB, a document which summarizes the activities that this Unit has carried out in favor of indigenous communities.

Finally, Mr. Robert Haudry de Soucy, Project Comptroller of the International Agriculture Development Agency (FIDA) made a presentation about the achievements and procedures of the Fund in the financing of projects in favor of rural and indigenous communities.

The Chairperson thanked those who presented reports for their participation and summarized that | even though progress has been made in the drafting and execution of cooperation projects, it is necessary to maintain appropriate state participation in these initiatives in order to avoid the danger of weakening government policies, and ensure the technical consistency of these initiatives. The Coordinator of the Special Commission then stated that the representatives of these entities have been invited according to processes of sharing information and experiences approved in the Final Report of previous Ordinary Meetings of this Commission.

VII. INTERCHANGE OF EXPERIENCES, STUDIES AND INFORMATION

This Agenda item began with a presentation on the part of Dr. Jorge Dandler, ILO expert, about regional progress in the implementation of the ILO169 Agreement "About Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in independent countries." A copy of the agreement was distributed. He reported that in Latin America the agreement was ratified by Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Honduras, Mexico, Paraguay and Peru, in the case of Argentina registration of this ratification before the ILO is still in process. He mentioned that Brazilian, Chilean, Ecuadorian, Guatemalan and Nicaraguan congresses are considering its approval. The ILO representative emphasized the positive influence of the agreement in countries which have ratified it in different international agreements including the Constituent Agreement in the Development Fund for Indigenous Peoples in Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as the development of legislation and the creation of mechanisms for dialogue and participation at a governmental level with indigenous peoples in countries where the agreement was not ratified.

The CEIAA Coordinator reminded the plenary that the Final Report of the II Ordinary Meeting of the Special Commission includes a recommendation that countries consider the possibility of ratifying this Agreement. A meeting was proposed with the participation of experts and representatives from Countries Party in order to specifically address this issue.

The Delegate from Brazil, after ratifying the position of his country about the terminology used in the Agreement about which there is no international agreement, he stated that this issue is being examined by his Congress. In terms of the meeting proposed by the Commission Coordinator, the Delegate indicating that he did not think it was appropriate. He proposed that only after the Secretariat carry out the relevant consultations with the Countries Party should it proceed to promoting the realization of this meeting. The Delegate from Bolivia expressed support for the Workshop, emphasizing the importance of the Agreement in the process of constitutional reforms carried out in her country.

The Commission Coordinator then proposed some considerations in order to implement a mechanism to share experience and information among the Parties, tying these to a regional action proposal for the International Decade of Indigenous Populations of the World, through the establishment of Task Forces in order to analyze themes of common interest.

The Delegate from Brazil, after indicating that the proposal of the Coordinator was not explicitly elaborated in the Annotated Agenda for the meeting, requested that in the future all documentation to be considered be sent to the Countries Party and that a system be developed which makes it easy to identify said documentation. A series of priority activities for the well being of indigenous populations are being programmed in his country around the International Decade of Indigenous Populations of the World. He indicating agreement with the proposals contained in number 4.7.3.4 of the Annotated Agenda "Drafting of a Regional Action Proposal for the Decade of Indigenous Populations." He indicated, meanwhile, that it was essential to fully understand the master line of the "Partnership and Action" Decade as well as the ties that must be strengthened between government entities and indigenous organizations. He ended by indicating that the transference of financial resources, included in Agenda 21, was essential for the implementation of the sustainable development objective, including indigenous populations. He added that conditions should not be established in the transference of resources coming from international cooperation.

Mr. Jose Lirio, VicePresident of the National Peruvian Commission for the Decade, informed the plenary about the national progress and about the formulation of a Work Plan which contemplates, among other aspects, the organization of an International Fair of Indigenous Populations.

The Delegate from Ecuador indicating that the National Secretariat of Indigenous Affairs, under his responsibility, has supported different activities within the framework of the Decade, having formed a National Coordination Committee on the Decade composed of six national indigenous organizations. He emphasized that the Special Commission, at its level, could promote a process to share experiences and to obtain technical and financial support for this process.

The Delegate from Colombia noted that the Decade is an effort on the part of international organizations which call on different governments and entities to attend the needs and priorities established by different indigenous organizations. In this sense, it is important that each of the Countries Party circulate national reports about their respective processes. To this end, the Delegate indicating that the proposal presented by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat is contained within the objectives of the Treaty. The Delegate supported the possibility of addressing this item, together with achievements within the II Phase of the "Regional Indigenous Land/Territories Consolidation Program through the ACT", and progress in terms of the 169 Agreement in a workshop or extraordinary meeting of the Special Commission. The Delegate reminded the plenary of the distribution of the document "Ethnic Program to Support and Strengthen Indigenous Peoples in Colombia 1995-1998" held during the first day of the session, which is the drafting and adoption of a government policy for the fouryear period and which fulfills the principles required by the Decade.

The indigenous representative from Colombia thanked the entities of his nation for his participation in the development of the meeting and requested that a COICA delegate be present in the next meeting.

After affirming the importance of the dialogue carried out in the meeting, the Delegate from Suriname provided the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat with diverse documents for distribution about projects and the indigenous problematic in his country. The Delegate added that in his opinion the participation of indigenous populations in this forum has been limited. The Delegate also proposed that in the future COICA participate as an observer. The Delegate

from Colombia emphasized the presence of different indigenous participants, both members of recognized national and regional indigenous organizations and members of Official Delegations of respective countries. This should be emphasized in order that governments continue to integrate their Delegations with representatives from indigenous organizations. At the same time, she stated that she is in favor of COICA being invited as an observer.

The Delegate from Bolivia also expressed agreement with an invitation being extended to COICA.

The Delegate from Brazil, after reminding the plenary that the Countries Party are currently working on a new Draft Standard Regulations for the Special Commissions, proposed that it would be convenient to make this decision within the framework of that work. The Delegate added that the adoption of a decision within the framework of this IV Ordinary Meeting would prejudice the results of this process, as this Draft Standard Regulation is still being discussed.

VIII. OTHERS

8.1. IMPLEMENTATION OF A SUBSYSTEM OF INDIGENOUS INFORMATION

The Special Commission Coordinator proposed including the issue of indigenous affairs within the SIAMAZ as opposed to creating an independent subsystem of indigenous information. The aim is to develop a technical project based on the interests and expectations of the Countries Party. He then invited Mrs. Ana Rosa dos Santos, Regional SIAMAZ Coordinator to refer to the technical aspects of this item. The contents were included in a document which was circulated among participating Delegations.

The Delegates emphasized the significant importance of the Project and the expedience of providing it with extensive support. The *Pro Tempore* Secretariat was commissioned to formulate a proposed Cooperation Agreement with SIAMAZ to execute this project, and that it be submitted to the Countries Party for approval and authorization to sign.

The Delegate from Colombia requested that in the text of this Agreement, the free access of indigenous organizations to the SIAMAZ be explicitly included.

8.2 CONSIDERATIONS ABOUT THE DRAFT STANDARD REGULATIONS FOR SPECIAL COMMISSIONS OF THE AMAZON

At the invitation of the Chairperson, *Pro Tempore* Secretariat Coordination Director, Minister Counselor Manuel Picasso, made a brief presentation of the Draft Standard Regulation Project for the Special Commissions of the Amazon. He made several comments about this project and about observations made on the part of Special Commissions on the Environment, Transport, Infrastructure and Communication in the Amazon.

In reference to this item, the Delegate from Bolivia recognized the work carried out by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat in the drafting of the Standard Regulation Project, and reported that it is currently being evaluated by the Bolivian Foreign Ministry, which will send its comments through the established diplomatic channels in due time. In terms of the Article 9 of the Draft Standard Regulation Project, the Delegate suggested an alternative which contemplates the possibility that the Secretariat continue financially supporting the participation of Country Parties which desire it.

The Delegate from Colombia indicating that the Foreign Minister is awaiting the results of discussion about this issue in each of the Ordinary Meetings of the Special Commissions of the Amazon, and that it will send its comments, agreed to in its country, to the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat.

For his part, the Delegate from Brazil, after thanking the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat for the Draft Standard Regulation Project, expressed that the following two considerations were of particular importance for his government. That the need for consultation, via diplomatic channels, in the case of contract negotiation with international organizations and other entities be clearly stated; and that the Project include guarantees for the Countries Party, in the light of Treaty Article, of a broad control in terms of the activities of the Special Commissions. He also proposed, different specific comments about Articles I, III, IV, V, VII, VIII, XII, XIV, XV, XVII, XVIII, XIX, and XX, which, at the request of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, he will send in writing.

8.3. OPERATIVE PLAN OF THE SPECIAL COMMISSION

Returning to the item pertaining to the Operative Plan, the Delegate from Brazil made observations, indicating that the plan should be redrafted and adapted, taking into account different comments and proposals on the part of Delegates throughout the meeting. His observations related to points 2.1, 3.1.5; 3.2.2.1; 3.2.4.1; 3.2.4.2; 3.5 contained in the document presented by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat in the Annotated Agenda of this Ordinary Meeting.

The Delegate from Colombia proposed the need to update and complement the Operative Plan and suggested that the criteria expressed in the discussion and the objectives recommended for the work of the CEAIA proposed by the Delegate from Bolivia in the document "Ordering Proposal of the Special Commission on Indigenous Issues in the Amazon" be taken into account in this process. This document was distributed to Countries Party. She proposed that the PTS send, in an opportune fashion, a new version to be consulted with each of the Parties.

The Delegate from Ecuador informed the plenary that the National CEAIA Coordinating Committee had only recently been assumed by his country, therefore he requires more time to make any statements about this item. The Delegate requested that the Special Commission Coordinator visit Ecuador in order to address this and other issues tied to the indigenous problematic within the framework of the Treaty.

Delegations agreed that the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat would have a prudent period in order to place the Operative Plan before the consideration of the Countries Party, with the incorporation of proposed observations and suggestions. In response to a suggestion from the Delegate from Bolivia, it was agreed that Countries Party would make pronouncements within the periods stipulated for consultation. The *Pro Tempore* Secretariat expressed that the new version of the Operative Plan will be submitted to the Countries Party through diplomatic channels.

IX. TENTATIVE AGENDA, PLACE AND DATE FOR THE V ORDINARY MEETING OF THE SPECIAL COMMISSION

The parties agreed to hold the V Ordinary Meeting of the CEAIA in the April 1996. In order to carry out an opportune analysis and evaluation of the documents pertaining to this meeting, the Countries Party agreed it was necessary to receive, with sufficient anticipation, the related documents, and that these be succinct, objective and easily identifiable. To this end, Delegates suggested that the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat should proceed to draft an Agenda by September and distribute it through the established diplomatic channels. They emphasized the importance that the Agenda of the V Ordinary Meeting include a specific item in order to share experiences, studies and information about the respective national policies and programs in support of indigenous populations within Countries Party.

Finally, the delegates of Brazil, Ecuador, Colombia, Suriname, Bolivia, Guyana and Venezuela recognized the Peruvian government for the hospitality they have received, and in particular the diplomatic, technical, the CEAIA Coordinator and Technical Team and the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat personnel for the organization and its decisive support and collaboration in the success of work carried out in the IV Ordinary Meeting.

The Chairperson and Rapporteur received special recognition from all Countries Party.

The Chairperson, after emphasizing promising areas of cooperation which are opened to the Parties in this Special Commission. In the name of all the Delegates, the Chairperson expressed recognition of international cooperation organizations, in particular the European Union, for the financial support it provides.

XI. READING AND APPROVAL OF FINAL REPORT

The final report was reviewed and approved by the heads of the participating Delegations, after which Council Minister Manuel Picasso Botto, in representation of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, proceeded to close the IV Meeting of the CEAIA.

The heads of Delegations joined together to sign the present Report in the city of Lima,
May 9, 1995.

For Bolivia
Lic. Luz Maria Calvo

For Colombia
Dr. Gladys Jimeno

For Guyana
Mrs. Pauline Campbell Sukhai

For Suriname
Mr. Ronald R. Aloema

For Brazil
Secretary Paulo França

For Ecuador
Luis Felipe Duchicela, Architect

For Peru
Minister Counsellor Vicente Rojas

For Venezuela
Second Secretary Francisca Cadenas

FINAL REPORT: IV ORDINARY MEETING OF THE SPECIAL COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE AMAZON (CECTA)

The IV Ordinary Meeting of the Special Commission of the Amazon Region on Science and Technology (CECTA) was held in the city of Lima from May 17th to 19th 1995, with the participation of representatives from Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Suriname and Venezuela, Contracting Parties to the Amazon Cooperation Treaty.

The Delegations were led by the following officials: for Bolivia, Carmen Miranda, Executive Director of the Beni Biological Station; for Brazil, Secretary Paulo França, of the Brazilian Embassy in Lima; for Colombia, Dr. Olga Lucia Turbay Marulanda, Chief of the International Cooperation Division of the Colombian "Francisco Jose Caldas" Institute for the Development of Science and Technology; for Ecuador, Minister Alejandro Suarez, of the Ecuadorian Embassy in Lima; for Peru, Dr. Amaro Zavaleta, Director General of the Office of Science and Technology Affairs of the National Science and Technology Council; for Suriname, Mr. Hesdie Grauwde, of the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries of the Department of Planning and Development; and for Venezuela, Second Secretary Francisca Cadenas Linares, of the Venezuelan Embassy in Lima. The complete list of participants is found in Appendix 1.

At 09:45 hrs on May 17th 1995, Ambassador Jorge Voto Bernales Gatica, *Pro Tempore* Secretary of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty, addressed the plenary to welcome the Delegations and declare the IV Ordinary Meeting of the Special Commission open.

Thereupon, in representation of the PROCITROPICOS Director's Commission, Dr. Fernando Carvajal Chavarria, Chief of the National Agrarian Research Institute, took the floor giving the background and objectives of the Cooperation and Technology Transfer Program for the South American Tropics and the possible forms of associative cooperation with the Amazon Cooperation.

The Delegations from the Countries Party then heard the speech by Dr. Jose Seixas Lourenço, Coordination Secretary of Legal Amazon Affairs of the Ministry of the Environment, Hydrological Resources and of the Legal Amazon of Brazil and President of UNAMAZ, on "Perspectives on Education and Professional Training in the Amazon". Dr. Seixas Lourenço highlighted the links which unite UNAMAZ and the ACT, expressing his satisfaction with the sound work of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat administrated in Peru, especially with respect to the formulation of projects, and stressed the exceptional conditions of cooperation offered to the Ministry of the Environment, Hydrological Resources and the Legal Amazon of his country and to UNAMAZ with the Treaty. He also mentioned the activities held by UNAMAZ in a number of development programs, in which the more outstanding are the work in the areas of scientific and technological information (SIAMAZ); the evaluation of the impact of development on health and environment; the adaptation of technology for the Amazon; human resources training and technical meetings and publications. He finished by noting the great expectations for the Special Commission on Education in the Amazon, to be created shortly.

The Delegates thanked him for the important content of his speech and underlined the contribution and proposals in it.

The Representatives proceeded to work.

I. ELECTION AND INDUCTION OF COMMITTEE OFFICIALS

The Delegations accepted the proposal of the Delegation of Bolivia, to elect Dr. Amaro Zavaleta, Chief of the Peruvian Delegation, as Chairman of the IV Ordinary Meeting. The Peruvian Delegation proposed the election of Mrs. Carmen Miranda, Chief of the Bolivian Delegation as Rapporteur, and thus the Committee Officers' induction took effect.

The Meeting Chairman and Rapporteur expressed their thanks for the distinction, and assured Dr. Zavaleta that they would exercise the duties of the Chair in compliance with the stipulations of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty with the aim of establishing the integration of the Countries Party.

II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

The Preliminary Agenda drafted by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat was submitted to the Delegations for their consideration and they decided to approve it in the form transcribed as follows:

1. Election of the Committee Officers
2. Approval of Agenda and Work Organization
3. Activities Report and presentation of Operating Plan of CECTA, by the Special Commission Coordinator
4. Programs and Projects
 - 4.1. Institutional Training for the Sustainable Development of the Amazon
 - 4.2. Zoo and Phytogenetic Resources
 - 4.3. Projects pending from earlier meetings
 - 4.4. Identification of new projects
5. Linkage with PROCITROPICOS program
6. Exchange of experiences, studies and information.
7. Consideration of Draft Standard Regulations for the Amazon Special Commissions
8. Agenda, venue and tentative date for the V Ordinary Meeting of the Special Commission

III. ACTIVITIES REPORT AND PRESENTATION OF THE OPERATING PLAN OF CECTA

Mr. Alfredo Rondon (Economist), Coordinator of the Special Commission on Science and Technology in the Amazon, made a succinct presentation of the activities held in CECTA's scope since the beginning of Peruvian tenure of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat until January 1995, and of the general lines of the draft Operating Plan of the Special Commission.

The Bolivian Delegate highlighted the work of the PTS and mentioned that one of the issues pending from the last Special Commission meeting was the "Amazon Project Inventory", requesting further details of the incorporation of projects into the Operating Plan, on mechanisms for convening meetings and workshops and the form of and access to publications.

The Brazilian Delegate thanked Dr. Seixas Lourenço for his address and the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat for the work in organizing the IV Ordinary Meeting. He stated that he felt the same concern as the Bolivian Delegation regarding the formulation of the Project Inventory, given the need to have systematic knowledge of how many and which projects are in course in the region. Regarding the important work of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat in circulating science and technology information, he noted the need to discuss the identification of the mechanisms of protection of this sort of knowledge.

The Colombian Delegate suggested that in future the information provided by the Special Commission contained in the Annotated Agenda distributed to the Parties should be organized, on the basis of the programs identified as part of CECTA. She requested further details on the progress of programs and projects carried out by the Special Commission.

The PTS Coordination Director, Minister Counselor Manuel Picasso explained that meetings are convened pursuant to the Secretariat regulations and via diplomatic channels. He also reported on the current consultation mechanisms for publications, indicating that in the context of the *Ad Hoc* Working Group, created by RESNI/ACC/2 of the VI Amazon Cooperation Council, the Delegates are recommending the identification of possible lines of action for registering patents protection and intellectual property of the knowledge of the Amazon biodiversity.

The Brazilian Delegate added that with respect to the technological and scientific information handled by the Commission, he was concerned for the need to discuss conjointly instruments, intellectual property etc., for protecting this knowledge, such as that of traditional techniques and knowledge of medicinal herbs for example. He also stated that it is very important to measure the potential of the economic and commercial impact of this knowledge.

The *Pro Tempore* Secretary indicated that the issue of intellectual property and the registration of patents was of great importance for the institutional mechanisms of the Treaty, and particularly for the CECTA, and that he was prepared to promote discussion of this subject according to the recommendations of the VI Ordinary Meeting.

The Bolivian Delegate requested the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat to increase the number of issues of publications sent to the Parties via diplomatic channels, given the interest shown by the institutions of her country. This request was acknowledged by the Secretariat.

The Delegate of Suriname suggested that in the case of his country, all communications relative to the activities of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat should be sent not only to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs but also to the related technical institutions, in order to achieve greater participation in the activities. He also expressed his commitment to promote greater participation in his country in the Amazon Cooperation Treaty activities, especially in that relative to natural resources management, increasing chances for training at all levels in the better use and knowledge of the same. Finally, he indicated that Suriname wishes to benefit from the extensive knowledge developed in the Countries Party in phytogenetic resources, their medicinal, industrial and food uses, noting that this work could begin with the preparation of a complete inventory of these resources.

After the presentation of the Coordinator on the CECTA Operating Plan, the Brazilian Delegate indicated that the discussion of points of view will contribute to the identification of policies and strategies in the important field of science and technology. He noted that in the opinion of his government, the principle that the projects should be presented to the Parties for their approval should be maintained, so that the governments signatory to the Amazon Cooperation Treaty may have systematic information about the activities in the region. He also stated with reference to the terminology used in the Operating Plan, that the term "conserve" of the environment should be used in stead of "preserve", and that the phrase "reach common policies" should be considered "to contribute to regional cooperation". He added that in the activities in sustainable technology for the use of the biodiversity, the protection of intellectual property and patents, and the corresponding correlation with the criteria and indicators in the Tarapoto Proposal must be taken into account. He finally indicated that the Amazon is the bestprotected ecosystem in the world and that population pressure is not the main cause for deterioration, as the Operating Plan suggests. Finally, he suggested harmonizing diverse projects, such as that of Soil Management with Ecological and Economic Zoning run by CEMAA.

The Colombian Delegate, after stating that an adequate knowledge of national strategies of the Countries Party would help to identify joint strategies, suggested it was advisable to make an effort to identify lines of action regarding the role of countries as regional coordinators of the programs earlier identified in the Special Commission, and the establishment of uniform nomenclature which differentiates "incipient projects", "projects in demand", "projects in course" and the related activities or subprojects.

The *Pro Tempore* Secretary emphasized the importance of an active participation of all the Parties in the activities and projects held in the Treaty framework, and underlined the important contributions made by the Delegations towards an adequate systematization of programs and projects currently identified.

IV. PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

IV.1. Programs, Projects and Activities in course

Following the presentation of the current state of the programs, projects and activities in course given by the Coordinator of the Special Commission, the Chairman of the IV Ordinary Meeting gave the floor to the FAO CTA, Dr. Roberto Samanez, who spoke about the activities and subprojects in the Project GCP/RLA/118/NET of institutional support which the FAO gives to the Countries Party, via the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, the text of which was distributed to the participants.

After expressing thanks for the information presented, the Colombian Delegation indicated the advisability that the programs and activities include the aspects of production, marketing and consumption. He suggested the need to rearrange the existing programs and contemplate the possibility to create a new one in the scope of the Special Commission, which would bring together the demand for information and information networks, ensure the multinational nature of the projects, and that the programs, projects and activities should be held not only via the respective Ministries of Foreign Affairs but also the technical institutions linked to the work of the Special Commission. Finally, that the advisability of reassessing or strengthening Program 6 "Animal Production" should be considered, in view of its scarce progress.

The Ecuadorian Delegation indicated that in the opinion of his government, the program should be strengthened, because of the economic importance of livestock production.

The Brazilian Delegate, indicated that, in view of the scarce resources available, it was necessary to ensure linkage between the programs, projects and activities, and proposed the following stages in the identification and formulation of projects, in order not to divert resources and duplicate efforts: i) the identification and ordering of activities; ii) technological use and protection of intellectual property; iii) the evaluation of the economic and commercial impact of technology; iv) dissemination and promotion of marketing; and v) regional scope. He also indicated that all projects should make use of existing institutions in the region without creating new bureaucracies which divert resources from the activities contemplated for the project.

The Special Commission Coordinator then made a brief presentation of the "Institutional Training for the Sustainable Development of the Amazon" project, submitted to the Parties for consultation.

The Representative of Brazil indicated that this project was being examined by the competent authorities of his country, requesting further information regarding the negotiations of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat to obtain funding.

The Colombian Delegate made a number of comments on the project, asking about the origin of the project formulation and the criteria employed for defining the budget allocations to the Countries Party. She considered the budget allocated for the project insufficient for achieving its objectives.

In order to clear up the doubts of the Delegations, the Chairman invited Dr. Seixas Lourenço, as President of the Association of Amazon Universities (UNAMAZ), to give a brief address on the origin and scope of the project. The UNAMAZ president indicated that the project was originally formulated in 1991 with the participation of institutions from the Countries Party and that, in view of the time which has passed, it would be advisable to incorporate the comments of the Countries in order to bring the project up to date.

The Bolivian Delegate affirmed that her country in principle is in agreement with the project, which she felt would in part help to solve the problems of institutional training in the region, requesting that the project should have a greater definition of the responsibility of the national institutions which would be involved and of the extension of the number of the Bolivian institutions envisaged.

The Delegate of Suriname repeated the approval his government had made of the project. He also emphasized that his country would benefit from it, since the area of training was an aspect which most needed strengthening in his country.

The Peruvian Delegation expressed agreement with the Institutional Training project and requested the incorporation of a greater number of national institutions, since currently only two of these have been considered. He further requested that the period the courses should last should be differentiated according to the priorities established by each country.

The Delegates accorded: i) that UNAMAZ update the project components in the light of the observations and comments made by the Parties; ii) that the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat should submit for the consideration of the Parties a corrected version of this, reporting progress made in funding negotiations; iii) that the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat continue negotiating funding for the project;

With respect to the "Soil Management Improvement in the Amazon by Small Farmers" project, those Countries which have still not done so, are requested to send their responses promptly. The Peruvian Delegation expressed agreement with the objectives pursued, making a series of suggestions for enriching and improving and updating its content, for these to be achieved.

IV.2. Projects pending from Earlier Meetings

The Bolivian Delegate mentioned the proposed project "The Amazon in Numbers" which was submitted to the III Ordinary Meeting of the CECTA, noting its importance for information about the facts and figures of the Amazon Region. The CECTA Coordinator explained that information has been written and published by the countries themselves and to a great extent the "Project Inventory" which is being carried out in each country met this need. The Brazilian Delegate indicated that it is fundamental that this project make use of information used by the Countries Party.

The Colombian Delegate referred to the proposed project "Surface Water Balance" of the CECTA Program 3 "Water Balance" on the basis of a UNDP consultancy. The *Pro Tempore* Secretariat reported that it will renew negotiations before UNDP for the information collected to be distributed to the Countries Party as soon as possible.

IV.3. Identification of New Projects

When addressing this item on the Agenda, the Peruvian Delegation put four preproject profiles to the countries for their consideration, of which the "Survey of Palms in the Amazon Region with Social and Economic Potential" and "Integrated Production Systems for the Agricultural Development of the Amazon" received the support of the Delegates.

In both cases, the Representatives of the Countries Party commissioned the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat to prepare proposed projects including greater detail in description, objectives and expected results and to submit them for the consideration of the relevant instances of the Treaty so that the various national institutions might contribute further information in order to enrich them. Following this, via diplomatic channels, the Secretariat would coordinate with the Countries Party for the final formulation of both projects.

The preproject "Integrated Production Systems for the Agricultural Development of the Amazon", the Delegates recommended that the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat should bear in mind that a number of proposed activities and objectives overlap other projects in course.

With reference to the preproject "intensive Breeding of Turtles of High Socioeconomic value", also presented by the Peruvian Delegation, the Parties agreed that it was necessary to await the results of the workshop scheduled for the Special Commission on the Environment in the Amazon: "The Sustainable Use of Wildlife in the Amazon Basin Countries", to be held in Leticia, Colombia in July 1995.

Finally, the Delegates agreed on the wisdom of establishing priorities for the projects identified so far and reviewing current programs in the next V Ordinary Meeting.

The Colombian Delegation suggested that the Annotated Agenda circulated by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat prior to the V Ordinary Meeting of the Special Commission should include an extended format containing the new project initiatives which the Countries Party may submit.

V. LINKAGE WITH PROCITROPICOS PROGRAM

At the invitation of the Chair, Dr. Victor Palma, Executive Secretary of PROCITROPICOS, gave an address "Needs and Opportunities for Research, Technology Transfer for the Sustainable Development and Protection of Natural Resources in the Amazon: PROCITROPICOS".

Dr. Rene Villaz, scientific advisor, and Dr. Jose Toledo, Chairman of the PROCITROPICOS Scientific Council, addressed the plenary to complement the address given by Dr. Palma.

Following this, pursuant to the mandate of the VI Council of Amazon Cooperation, the Delegates of the Countries Party made a positive examination of the possible areas of linkage between PROCITROPICOS and the Treaty entities. Nevertheless, bearing in mind that the mandate of the VI Council of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty commissioned the CECTA to examine the activities which could be held conjointly, decided to request the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat to coordinate with the PROCITROPICOS Executive Committee to formulate a proposal of associated activities of mutual interest within the scope of the Special Commissions and the PROCITROPICOS programs: i) Agroecological zoning of sustainability; ii) Improvement of the Water Balance of crops and pasture via sustainable soil management; iii) Valuation of secondary timber species via the sustainable management of the forest; iv) stabilization of migratory agriculture; v) regeneration and sustainable management of the deteriorated savannahs; vi) genetic resources; recovery, conservation, evaluation and genetic classification of 14 Amazon species; vii) exchange of information and georeferences of the knowledge available about the 16 areas in question, and about the 14 priority geniuses of the "Genetic Resources" project.

This proposal will be submitted to the Parties for their consideration, recommending priority activities, coordination mechanisms, areas of responsibility, financial aspects etc.

VI. EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCES, STUDIES AND INFORMATION

With reference to this item, the Delegations of Bolivia, Brazil, Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Suriname and Peru went on to make an interesting exchange of the experiences, studies, information, projects and activities which their respective governments and national technical and scientific institutions and universities etc. hold in their Amazon territories.

The Delegations of Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela offered to complement the information brought before the Parties should they be interested. The Peruvian Delegation distributed an information document on the subject. The Colombian Delegation gave the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat a copy of the publication "Twentyfive Years of National and International Activity in the Amazon", an a diskette with an inventory of projects and institutions working in the Colombian Amazon Region, Natura Foundation ACT, June 5th, 1 994.

VII. CONSIDERATIONS OF STANDARD REGULATIONS FOR THE AMAZON SPECIAL COMMISSION

At the request of the Chair, the Director of Coordination of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, Minister Counselor Manuel Picasso, gave a short presentation of the draft Standard Regulations for the Special Amazon Commissions, commenting on the background of these and the observations made by the delegations in the meetings of the Special Commissions of Environment, Transport, Infrastructure and Communications and Indigenous Affairs in the Amazon.

The Brazilian Delegate stated that the following considerations were of great importance to his government: the express recognition of the need for consultation, via diplomatic channels, in the cases of contract negotiations with international organizations and other entities, the existence of guarantees for the Countries Party, in light of Article XXV of the Treaty, the broadbased control over the activities of the Special Commissions. He also made a number of specific comments on Articles I, III,IV,V,VII,VIII,XII,XIV,XV and XVII, stating that he will send these comments in writing to the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat at a later date.

Other delegates similarly stated that they would send their comments via diplomatic channels.

VIII. OPERATING PLAN OF THE SPECIAL COMMISSION

Returning to the issue of the Operating Plan, the Delegations accorded to adjust it, incorporating the comments, suggestions and activities in this Report.

The Delegations accorded to grant the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat a reasonable period for putting the CECTA Operating Plan before the Countries Party for their consideration.

The *Pro Tempore* Secretariat stated that it would be sending the corrected version of this Plan via diplomatic channels as soon as possible.

IX. AGENDA, VENUE AND TENTATIVE DATE FOR THE V ORDINARY MEETING OF THE SPECIAL COMMISSION

The Countries Party accorded to hold the V Ordinary Meeting of the CECTA in April or May, 1996, and suggested that the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat should proceed to formulate a draft agenda and carry out the consultations with the Countries Party regarding the venue for the forthcoming meeting via diplomatic channels.

The Delegates of the Countries Party accorded for this V Meeting:

1. To promote exchange of information and experiences aimed at strengthening regional cooperation.
2. To request the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, with the participation of the Parties, to present recommendations regarding the identification of possible lines of action for the protection of knowledge and technology concerning Amazon biodiversity in the context of the Convention on Biological Diversity.
3. To request the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, on the basis of the contributions of the Countries Party, to present an update of the current programs, in order to study their pertinence and/or reformulation, a proposed organizational structure for the programs, projects, subprojects and activities, and an evaluation of the feasibility of the term "Regional Coordinator" for the programs.

The Delegates also accorded:

1. That each country, without affecting the copies sent via diplomatic channels, should report to the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat the number of publications required to be distributed to the national technical institutions.
2. To commission the Secretariat to design, as soon as possible, a model for presenting project profiles. This would include earlier experiences, approaches in the sustainable management of the Amazon Region, priority and national scope, pertinence, budget viability, the program to which it corresponds, and where necessary, production, marketing and consumption details.
3. To recommend their governments to send their comments regarding the Directive for the Standardization of Rules and Operational Aspects of Regional Program and Projects Promoted by the ACT, formulated by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat which includes the mechanisms to be followed in project implementation and evaluation to enable the Party governments to maintain proper monitoring.

Finally, all the Delegations expressed their thanks in the most cordial terms to the officials, to the Coordinator of CECTA, the technical and secretarial team of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat for the organization, extensive support and collaboration which has enabled this IV Ordinary Meeting to work successfully, and also for the hospitality shown. They expressed particular thanks for the enlightening speeches of the Meeting's guest speakers, who gave addresses on the current state of the relations of their respective institutions with the Amazon Cooperation Treaty and on the prospects for strengthening cooperation links.

The Chairman and the Rapporteur of the Meeting received special acknowledgment from all the Parties.

X. READING AND APPROVAL OF FINAL REPORT

This Final Report was reviewed and approved by the Heads of Delegations. Ambassador Jorge Voto Bernales, *Pro Tempore* Secretary of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty, closed the IV Ordinary Meeting of CECTA.

In witness whereof, the Heads of Delegations signed this Final Report in the city of Lima, on the | nineteenth day of May, 1995.

For Bolivia
Carmen Miranda

For Colombia
Dr. Olga Lucia Turbay

For Peru
Dr. Amaro Zavaleta

For Venezuela
Second Secretary Francisca Cadenas

For Brazil
Secretary Paulo França

For Ecuador
Minister Alejandro Suarez

For Suriname
Mr. Hesdie Grauwde

FINAL REPORT: IV ORDINARY MEETING OF THE SPECIAL COMMISSION OF THE AMAZON REGION ON HEALTH (CESAM)

In the City of Lima, on June 6 and 7, 1995, the Fourth Ordinary Meeting of the Special Commission of the Amazon Region on Health (CESAM) was held with the participation of the representatives from Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname and Venezuela, being the Member Countries of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty.

The Delegations were presided by the following officials: For Bolivia, Dr. Ma. Eliana Dalenz Echeverria, Coordinator of the Office for Planning, Evaluation, Projects and International Affairs of the National Health Secretariat; for Brazil, Paulo França, First Secretary of the Embassy of Brazil in Peru; for Colombia, Cayo Augusto Tovar, Minister Counselor of the Colombian Embassy in Peru; for Ecuador, Alejandro Suarez, Minister of the Ecuadorian Embassy in Peru; for Guyana, Dr. Tejpratap Tiwari, Director for Communicable Diseases at the Ministry of Health; for Peru, Dr. Pablo Meloni Navarro, Director General of the Financing, Investment and External Cooperation Office of the Ministry of Health; for Suriname, Dr. Lesley Evert Resida from the Public Health Department; for Venezuela, Dr. Elbano Pieruzzi Sanchez, Sectorial Director General of International Public Health. A complete list of the participants is contained in Annex I.

On June 6, 1995, at 10.00 hours, Ambassador Jorge Voto Bernales Gatica, *Pro Tempore* Secretary of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty addressed the plenary and thereafter emphasized the results of the Regional Workshop on Health Promotion in the Populations of the Amazon Region, held in Lima on April 24 and 25 of the current year, welcomed the participating delegations and declared the opening of the Fourth Ordinary Meeting of the Special Commission.

After his intervention, the Representatives of the Member Countries proceeded to initiate their work.

I. ELECTION AND INSTALLATION OF THE DIRECTING BOARD

The Delegations accepted the proposal of the Bolivian Delegation to elect Dr. Pablo Meloni Navarro, Head of the Delegation of Peru, Chairman of the Fourth Ordinary Meeting. At the proposal of the Delegation of Peru, Dr. Eliana Dalenz, Head of the Delegation of Bolivia, was elected Rapporteur, the Directing Board thus being installed.

The Chairman and the Rapporteur of the Meeting thanked the participants for their election.

II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AND WORK ORGANIZATION

Once the Draft Agenda prepared by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat was submitted for the consideration of the Member Countries, the attending Delegations agreed to approve it in the manner stated below, resolving that under point 5 referring to the Exchange of Experience, Studies and Information on Health in the Amazon Region, the topic to be discussed shall be the Regional Network for Technical Cooperation:

1. Election of the Directing Board
2. Approval of the Agenda and Work Organization
3. Activities Report and presentation of the Operational Plan of CESAM, by the Coordinator of the Special Commission.
4. Programs and Projects
 - 4.1 Health Promotion in the Populations of the Amazon Region: Present considerations and funding aspects
 - 4.2 Referential Plan of Epidemic Control Systems for ACT Member Countries
 - 4.3 Pending draft programs and projects of previous Ordinary Meetings of CESAM
5. Exchange of experiences, studies and information on health in the Amazon Region
6. Identification of new projects
7. Aspects of the Draft Model Regulations for the Special Commissions of the Amazon Region
8. Agenda, venue and tentative date of the Fifth Ordinary Meeting of the Special Commission

III. ACTIVITIES REPORT AND PRESENTATION OF THE OPERATIONAL PLAN OF CESAM

Mrs. Ruth Jeronimo Zacarias, Engineer, Coordinator of the Special Commission of the Amazon Region on Health, presented a brief report on the activities carried out within the framework of CESAM since the beginning of the Peruvian administration of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat until January 1995, highlighting the general guidelines contained in the Draft Operational Plan submitted by the Special Commission.

With regard to the activities developed by the Coordinating Office, Mrs. Jeronimo Zacarias detailed the actions which have been carried out in order to complete and update the coordination network and ensure the followup of the various technical and institutional activities, such as the visits to Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela, the publishing program and the organization of the Regional Workshop "Health Promotion in the Populations of the Amazon Region", held in Lima in April 1995, with the purpose of defining the final proposal of the regional project.

With relation to the draft of the Operational Plan for the Special Commission contained in the Annotated Agenda, which was duly distributed by the Secretariat, the Coordinator of CESAM emphasized that said draft represented the continuation of the regional efforts made by the Member Countries since the creation of the Special Commission, containing various actions and activities aimed at fulfilling the objectives previously established by the Member Countries.

The Delegations of Bolivia and Venezuela expressed their congratulations to the Secretariat and the Coordinator of the Commission for the systematic presentation of the information and assured both bodies of their support to the activities carried out so far. Furthermore, the Representative of Venezuela pointed out that the decisions adopted at this meeting were suitable and fully in line with the interests of the Amazon populations stipulated in the program of integrated development for the Region. The Representative of Brazil thanked for the documentation distributed by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat and thereafter pointed out that the scarce funds available should not be dispersed but rather be channeled to those actions which, by mutual consent, encourage health improvement for the inhabitants of the Region. Moreover, he focused on the Technical Cooperation Network, stating that it was convenient that the Delegations inform in their respective countries on its functioning, and that the matters to be dealt with in the workshops were in line with concrete objectives contained in the corresponding projects in order to prevent unnecessary waste of resources. With regard to the Cooperation Network, he stated the convenience to know in advance the operation mechanisms of the relevant institutions in each Member Country. Furthermore, he asked for further information on the preparation of the final Report to be approved with regard to the Regional Workshop "Health Promotion in the Populations of the Amazon Region" since he was of the opinion that it did not contain the national component initially submitted by his country. Additionally, he stated that more detailed comments would be included when dealing with item 4 of the Agenda.

The Representative of Colombia thanked both the Coordination Office and the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat for the work carried out and, with respect to the Final Report of the Third Ordinary Meeting of CESAM, requested additional information on the followup of the project "Health Promotion in the Populations of the Amazon Region".

The Coordinator of the Special Commission informed the attending Delegations that several technical representatives of the Member Countries had provided said information during the Regional Workshop I held in April of the current year, and emphasized the fact that the version made available to the Member Countries through diplomatic channels tried to consolidate the proposals submitted by the different Delegations focusing on common elements such as training and community participation.

The Representative of Venezuela expressed his agreement to the project focusing on training as well as social and community participation.

The Chairman finally addressed the importance of the open dialogue developed by the participating Delegations and pointed out that, based thereon, the Amazon Cooperation Treaty would be able to direct its actions towards improved efficiency and efficacy and thus contribute to the benefit of the populations of the Member Countries.

For the purpose of providing further information to the attending Delegations, the document "Program of Cooperation between the European Community and the Amazon Cooperation Treaty regarding the theme of Amazonian Health", prepared by the Coordinator of the Institutional Support Program of the European Community for the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty, was distributed.

IV. PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

IV.1. Health Promotion in the Indigenous Populations of the Amazon Region: Present considerations and funding aspects

Ruth Jeronimo, Engineer, Coordinator of the Special Commission, referred to both the background and present situation of the formulation of the regional project subject matter of the Agenda topic under discussion and which had been specially dealt with at the Regional Workshop "Health Promotion in the Populations of the Amazon Region", held in Lima on April 24 and 25, with the participation of Representatives from Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela, as well as regional and international experts.

The Delegation of Brazil stated that the proposal submitted substantially modified the project due to conceptual and methodological changes, and his country had not been consulted on the changes produced as a result of the consultancy services contracted by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat. In this sense, the new project in his opinion should be submitted to the approval of all the Member Countries through diplomatic channels. As a preliminary comment, the Delegation of Brazil expressed their disagreement with the modifications proposed in the Brazilian component of the project, because of the elimination of the research aspect, which is considered of vital importance. Moreover, he stated that the new project does not clearly define the populations, objectives, budgets and activities to be carried out, thus existing the risk of weakening efforts. He expressed the need to incorporate mechanisms covering cultural, social and economic differences among the populations, as well as evaluation criteria. Furthermore, he pointed out that the budget of the Brazilian component had been reduced in half and his country had invested large amounts of money in this project and hence would prefer that the initial objectives and resources be maintained. Finally, he pointed out that the Brazilian representative at the Regional Workshop held in Lima in April of this year confirmed the lines of the proposal officially submitted for the Brazilian component.

In this respect, the Delegation of Colombia informed on the development of a pilot project oriented towards the "recovery and strengthening of the indigenous traditional medicine", which is currently being implemented in the protected area of Guayuyaco, within the scope of the health policies of the Colombian Government.

The Delegation of Venezuela stressed that the final proposal based on the Workshop held in April, with the participation of technical commissions from the five countries involved in the regional project, does not substantially modify the concepts and methodology of the original project; besides, Venezuela was duly consulted and actively participated in the previous workshop. Among the benefits of the project, the following aspects must be mentioned: i) the Amazon population is effectively acting both as beneficiary and acting party of the project; ii) the budget was clearly defined using a criterion of justice and equal distribution between the Member Countries. Moreover, the activities to be carried out within the principles of education, training and social participation were clearly established, which principles shall ensure that the health programs in the Amazon Region have the relevant social impact.

To this regard, the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat pointed out that based on the mandate granted at the Third Ordinary Meeting of CESAM, a Peruvian consultant was contracted in order to standardize the various national components forwarded by the Member Countries to the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat. In this sense, it was found that a common element which was considered of special importance among all Member Countries was training. Taking this into consideration, a Regional Workshop was held in Lima in April 1995, with the attendance of the countries involved and Bolivia, in order to prepare a regional draft document, with emphasis being placed on health training aspects. Said document, prepared as a result of the aforementioned Workshop and joint work, was submitted by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat for consultation to the Member Countries through diplomatic channels.

In this sense, the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat stated that the actions and investments carried out by Brazil in advance of the approval of the project "Health Promotion in the Populations of the Amazon Region" within the framework of the Treaty were part of a national decision.

After having expressed their mutual consent to the convenience of executing, within the framework of the Treaty, a regional project focusing on training and community participation aspects, the Delegations of the Member Countries approved the profile of the "Health Promotion in Populations of the Amazon Region" project resulting from the Regional Workshop held in Lima last April, and entrusted the preparation of its final version to the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, recommending the incorporation of specific proposals which the Member Countries committed themselves to submit through diplomatic channels as soon as possible, relating, among others, to the following aspects:

- i.- Establishment of indicators appropriate for measuring and evaluating both impact and efficiency of the project.
- ii.- Major development of the subjects proposed for training.
- iii. Definitions with respect to national, indigenous and rural populations, and/or settlers, all of them being beneficiaries of the project.
- iv.- That the regional coordination of the project be vested in the Coordinating Office of the Special Commission and the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, as well as in the pertinent institutions of the Member Countries.
- v. Incorporation as far as possible of the advances made in each country in this field.
- vi. Budget reordering

The said final version shall be submitted to the approval of the Member Countries by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat in accordance with the established mechanisms and consultancy terms.

IV. 2. Referential Plan of the Epidemic Control Systems for the Act Countries

As a followup of the agreements contained in the Final Report of the Third Ordinary Meeting of CESAM, Mrs. Jeronimo referred to Note No. SPTTCA/CIRC/ 46, dated October 24, 1994, by means of which the Pro Tempore Secretariat had distributed to the Member Countries the document "International Health in the Amazon Countries: Reference to legislation on diseases subject to epidemic control and related topics" for their consultation, requesting them to submit their opinion on the profile of the project "Referential Plan for the homogenization of epidemic control systems for the Member Countries of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty", which is part of said document.

The Delegation of Brazil pointed out the importance of said subject and stated that it was fundamental to obtain information from the Member Countries regarding matters already identified by the Brazilian Delegation at the Third Ordinary Meeting of CESAM, such as national institutions and their respective internal information flow for the preparation of a substantive project on epidemic control.

After stressing the importance of this subject, the Delegate of Venezuela suggested to replace the concept of "epidemic control" by "health control", in order to thus enhance and enlarge the same.

With respect to this proposal and considering the importance of further advance in this field, the Delegations of the Member Countries committed themselves to submit, as soon as possible, to the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat the comments their respective countries would agree to forward on this matter.

IV. 3. Pending Proposals for Programs and Projects of Previous Ordinary Meetings of CESAM

In his quality of Regional Coordinator of Program 4 of the Special Commission entitled "Basic Sanitation", the Delegate of Peru suggested that it was suitable to enlarge this program calling it "Environmental Health" so as to include not only basic sanitation aspects but also those related to environmental risks.

After an exchange of views by the attending Delegations, the Brazilian Representative requested that the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat be entrusted with updating the existing programs based on the suggestions and contributions made by the other Delegates-and presenting them for the purpose of studying their convenience and /or their possible reformulation. Moreover, the Peruvian Delegation committed itself to make available to the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat all advances made with respect to the modification proposed to the program the regional coordination of which is the responsibility of the said delegation.

V. EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCES, STUDIES AND INFORMATION

Upon discussing this topic of the Agenda, the Delegations of the Member Countries carried out a fruitful exchange of information on experiences, investigations and projects implemented in their respective countries and which are of interest to the other Member Countries of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty.

The Delegation of Peru submitted a study on mercury contamination as a result of the gold exploitation activities being carried out in the Department of Madre de Dios. The purpose of this study is to determine the degree of mercury contamination in the Tropic chain. Furthermore, the experience developed in the District of Belen, City of Iquitos, was presented to the Delegations, involving the construction of two-chamber dry latrine modules which could be used as alternative for basic sanitation procedures on locations affected by floods.

Finally, the Delegation of Bolivia presented an experience carried out in the Departments of Amazonas and Santa Cruz, in the area of Bajo Izocego, regarding self-administrative policies in health programs implemented by an indigenous community as a means of recovering their traditional aspects. This experience was carried out with the financial cooperation of the Swiss Red Cross within the framework of the community training programs implemented by the Government. Moreover, the Delegation of Bolivia informed that the document detailing said experience is available for any interested parties.

Thereafter, as agreed at the time of approving the Agenda subject matter of this Meeting, the Delegations of the Member Countries discussed the item of the technical cooperation network within the framework of the Special Commission. To this regard, the Coordinator of the Special Commission reiterated its request for information on the nodal and focal points in each country regarding the programs identified within the framework of CESAM, as a first step for the integration into the technical cooperation network in the field of health in the Amazon Region.

The Delegate of Brazil pinpointed the importance of the subject and expressed that the relevant authorities of the Member Countries should favor an efficient exchange of information on their respective data processing systems. Additionally, he proposed as an alternative to study the possibility of establishing horizontal networks of technical cooperation, as well as examining the possibilities of using the services of SIAMAZ.

Likewise, the Delegate of Colombia informed on the satellite network implemented in his country which includes information on governmental and nongovernmental agencies and offered to make such information available to the Member Countries.

Furthermore, the Delegation of Peru stressed the importance of having an adequate network for identifying common lines for the establishment of regional sanitation policies and offered to the Member Countries the information contained in the data bank which has been implemented and contains information on both assistance items and the set of health programs and projects which are currently being implemented.

VI. IDENTIFICATION OF NEW PROJECTS

The Delegation of Peru submitted for the consideration of the attending Delegations of this Fourth Ordinary Meeting, a project profile oriented towards the prevention of damages caused by mercury contamination which contains the following two components: how contamination is produced and its sanitary and social incidence; and the definition of common policies to be followed for prevention of contamination.

Due to the importance and transcendence of this subject, the Delegations of Bolivia, Colombia, Brazil and Venezuela supported the project profile submitted by Peru and commissioned the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat to prepare the reference terms and description of the project, for its subsequent presentation to the Member Countries through diplomatic channels for their approval.

VII. OPERATIONAL PLAN OF THE SPECIAL COMMISSION

The Delegates of the Member Countries unanimously consented to the Operational Plan of the Special Commission submitted by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat and, based on the opinions, actions and elements expressed within the framework of this Fourth Ordinary Meeting, commissioned the Coordinating Office of CESAM to prepare within a reasonable period of time a reviewed version of the said Operational Plan and submitted for the consideration of the Member Countries through diplomatic channels.

VIII. CONSIDERATIONS ON THE PROJECT "MODEL REGULATIONS FOR THE SPECIAL COMMISSIONS OF THE AMAZON REGION"

At the request of the Chairman, the Representative of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, First Secretary Cecilia Galarreta, made a brief presentation of the Project "Model Regulations for the Special Commissions of the Amazon Region", including comments on its background and the observations made by the attending Delegations to the Meetings of the Special Commissions for Environment, Transportation, Infrastructure and Communications, Indigenous Affairs, and Science and Technology of the Amazon Region.

On this subject, the Delegate of Brazil confirmed the comments and observations made by his Delegation at the previous Meetings of the Special Commissions, which refer to Articles 1, 3, 4, 5, 7 (paragraphs 5, 6, 8 and 11), 8, 12, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19 y 20. Furthermore, he pointed out that the following two aspects were considered to be of vital importance by his country:

- i) that Member Countries have an effective control on the activities carried out by the Special Commissions; and
- ii) that any notes referring to the activities of the Special Commissions be sent exclusively through diplomatic channels.

The Representative of Colombia confirmed as well the observations made by his Delegation at the previous Meetings of the Special Commissions, which coincide in certain aspects with those made by the Delegation of Brazil.

The *Pro Tempore* Secretariat expressed that due consideration had been given to the comments and observations made by the Member Countries, which will be duly taken into account in the reviewed Model Regulations draft.

IX. AGENDA, VENUE AND TENTATIVE DATE FOR THE FIFTH ORDINARY MEETING OF THE SPECIAL COMMISSION

The attending Delegations agreed to tentatively hold the Fifth Ordinary Meeting of CESAM between the months of June and July 1996. A suggestion was made for the II Regional Seminar on "Health and Indigenous Population of the Amazon Region", which shall include a discussion based on the indigenous health policies developed by the Member Countries, to be carried out before the Ordinary Meeting.

X. EXPOSITION OF THE REPRESENTATIVE OF UNAMAZ

Dr. Jose Leite Saraiva, Representative of the Amazon Universities before this Fourth Ordinary Meeting of CESAM, made an interesting exposition on the activities developed by his association, particularly with regard to health and training of human resources.

The Delegates of the Member Countries thanked Dr. Leite Saraiva for his exposition and agreed to emphasize the established relationships and the promissory perspectives of cooperation offered to the Treaty and UNAMAZ, within the principles of teaching, services and research, and that this subject could be analyzed at future meetings of the Special Commission.

XI. READING AND APPROVAL OF FINAL REPORT

Once the Final Report was reviewed, the Heads of the attending Delegations proceeded to approve it and then Ambassador Jorge Voto Bernales, *Pro Tempore* Secretary of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty, officially closed this Fourth Ordinary Meeting of CESAM.

Finally, the attending Delegations unanimously expressed their gratitude to the Peruvian authorities for their hospitality, extending it to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Peru, in its quality of *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, as well as to the officers, technical and administrative staff of the Secretariat. An acknowledgment was also granted to the Coordinator of the Special Commission for her efficiency and expeditiousness in carrying out the works, which greatly contributed to the positive outcome of the Meeting. Moreover, the attending Delegations emphasized the importance of the quarterly Informative Bulletin published by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, as a means of spreading the activities which are carried out within the framework of the Treaty.

A special acknowledgment was granted by all the attending Delegates to the Chairman and the Rapporteur of the Meeting, held by the Heads of the Delegations of Peru and Bolivia, respectively.

In witness whereof, the Heads of the Delegations subscribed this Final Report, in the City of Lima, on June 7, 1995.

For Bolivia
Dr. Eliana Dalenz

For Colombia
Minister Counsellor Cayo Augusto Tovar

For Guyana
Dr. Tejpratap S.P. Tiwari

For Suriname
Dr. Lesley Evert Resida

For Brazil
First Secretary Paulo França

For Ecuador
Minister Alejandro Suarez

For Peru
Dr. Pablo Meloni

For Venezuela
Dr. Elbano Pieruzzi

FINAL REPORT: III ORDINARY MEETING OF THE SPECIAL COMMISSION OF THE AMAZON REGION ON TOURISM (CETURA)

In the City of Lima, on June 19 and 20, 1995, the Third Ordinary Meeting of the Special Commission of the Amazon Region on Tourism (CETURA) was held with the participation of the representatives from Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru and Venezuela, as Member Countries of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty.

The Delegations were presided by the following officials: for Bolivia, Karen Wachtel Bowyer, M.D., Assistant Secretary of Tourist Promotion of the National Tourism Secretariat; for Brazil, Paulo França, First Secretary of the Embassy of Brazil in Peru; for Colombia, Luis Maria Baldion Rincon, Head of the Regional Department of the National Tourism Corporation; for Ecuador, Alejandro Suarez, Minister of the Embassy of Ecuador in Peru; for Guyana, Donald Sinclair, Chairman of the Tourism Advisory Committee; for Peru, Dr. Pablo Lopez de Romaña C., National Director of Tourism of the Ministry of Industry, Tourism, Integration and International Commercial Negotiations; and for Venezuela, Marvin Rodriguez de Becerra, M.D., Officer in Charge of International Affairs of the Tourism Corporation. A complete list of the participants is contained in Appendix I.

On June 19, 1995, at 10.00 hours, Ambassador Jorge Voto Bernales Gatica, *Pro Tempore* Secretary of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty addressed the plenary and thereafter highlighted the results of the Regional Seminar/Workshop "Perspectives and Strategies for the Development of Ecotourism in the Amazon Region", held in Lima on June 15 and 16 of the current year, welcomed the participating Delegations and introduced Juan A. Lira, Engineer, President of the Tourism Promotion Fund of Peru (FOPTUR), who was invited to declare the opening of the Third Ordinary Meeting. Furthermore, the *Pro Tempore* Secretary emphasized the presence of Newton Cordeiro, Head for South America of the Department of Regional Development and Environment of the Organization of the American States, and Ramon Leon Oliveros, Head of the Department of Physical Integration of the Cartagena Agreement Board, who were invited to present before the attending Delegations the programs and activities which their respective organizations were presently carrying out on tourism.

Eng. Lira referred to the special interest displayed by FOPTUR in the topics to be discussed during this Meeting; moreover, he expressed his conviction that tourism in the Amazon Region shall be developed taking into account the corresponding social effects. Then he stressed the importance of promoting interregional frontier tourism and confirmed the good disposition of the Peruvian Government regarding the implementation of joint projects with its Amazon partners. Finally, he expressed his best wishes for success in the tasks to be carried out and declared the opening of the Third Ordinary Meeting of the Special Commission of the Amazon Region on Tourism (CETURA).

After his intervention, the Representatives of the Member Countries proceeded to initiate their work.

I. ELECTION AND INSTALLATION OF THE DIRECTING BOARD

The Delegations accepted the proposal of the Peruvian Delegation to elect Mr. Luis Maria Baldion Rincon, Head of the Delegation of Colombia, Chairman of the Third Ordinary Meeting. At the proposal of the Delegation of Colombia, Mrs. Miriam Cerdan, member of the Peruvian Delegation, was elected Rapporteur, the Directing Board thus being installed.

The Chairman and the Rapporteur of the Meeting thanked the participants for their election.

II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AND WORK ORGANIZATION

Once the Draft Agenda prepared by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat was submitted for the consideration of the Member Countries, the attending Delegations agreed to approve it in the manner stated below:

1. Election and setting up of the Directing Board (Chairmanship and Rapporteur)
2. Activities Report submitted by the Coordinator
3. Project "Development and Promotion of Ecotourism in the Amazon Region", conclusions and recommendations of the technical meeting
4. Operational Plan of CETURA
5. Exchange of experiences, studies and information
6. Suggestions on new regional programs and projects
7. Opinions and suggestions on the Project "Model Regulations for the Special Commissions of the Amazon Region"
8. Tentative date, venue and Agenda of the Fourth Ordinary Meeting of CETURA

III. ACTIVITIES REPORT SUBMITTED BY THE COORDINATOR AND PRESENTATION OF THE OPERATIONAL PLAN OF CETURA

Mr. Carlos Lecca, Administrator, Coordinator of the Special Commission of the Amazon Region on Tourism, presented a brief report on the activities carried out within the framework of CETURA since the beginning of the Peruvian administration of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, stressing that special priority had been placed on the progress made in the definition and formulation of the Regional Project "Development and Promotion of Ecotourism in the Amazon Region".

Mr. Carlos Lecca briefly explained the guidelines considered for preparing the Draft Operational Plan, the general objective of which is to encourage, with the coordination and participation of the Member Countries, the development and promotion of Tourism in the Amazon Region in order to incorporate the Amazon Region into the national economies of the Member Countries, in the form of sustainable development and through policies and actions which are materialized in specific projects having a regional scope. Furthermore, he mentioned that among the specific objectives considered were the creation of the CENTURAs as a coordination, advisory and support mechanism of CETURA; the steps taken for collection of information and spreading among the Member Countries; and encouraging horizontal coordination and strengthening the capacity of the CENTURAs in order to generate multiplying effects.

In this regard, the Delegation of Colombia emphasized two important aspects: i) the need to organize technical meetings as a followup of the Ordinary Meetings, for which purpose he suggested that a meeting schedule be established so that the progress of the agreements reached may be evaluated; and ii) that Member Countries shall commit themselves to designate a national body responsible for coordinating the work of the Special Commission in their respective countries.

The Delegation of Bolivia expressed its agreement to the statements made by the Delegation of Colombia, and emphasized as well two important elements: i) the need to take the concept of Sustainable Tourism as a conceptual framework in the work carried out by the Commission, without limiting it to the scope of Ecotourism, considering that this is a Commission on Tourism; and ii) that the decisions adopted within the framework of CETURA shall be executed by the bodies responsible for Tourism in each country, which shall be clearly identified in order to allow an effective implementation of the agreements. In this sense, it was emphasized that the Working Plan approved within the scope of the Special Commission shall be concordant with the national policies and programs on Tourism of each Member Country.

The Delegate of Brazil agreed to the fact that the activities of CETURA shall be executed by the bodies responsible for Tourism in each Member Country. Additionally, he supported the consolidation and strengthening of the CENTURAs, for which purpose he mentioned the convenience to appoint the members of the respective CENTURA in each Member Country and that each country was responsible for coordinating with its different national sectors.

The Representative of Guyana highlighted the convenience for CETURA to strengthen each and every mechanism, for which purpose he emphasized the need to organize previous technical meetings as follow up and identification mechanisms, and the establishment of common guidelines to be followed by each Member Country.

For his part, the Representative of Ecuador agreed with the Delegation of Colombia with regard to the organization of technical meetings as followup and strengthening mechanisms of the CENTURAs. Furthermore, he stressed the need to define the mechanisms for the execution of the projects which are implemented at the Special Commission, for which purpose he considered the need to identify the executing body of said projects in each Member Country.

The Delegate of Peru expressed the need to consider two main aspects related to the work carried out by CETURA: i) the financial aspect regarding the activities and projects; and ii) the convenience to be adequately informed on the programs and actions that are currently being carried out in the regional tourist sector, within the framework of other organizations such as GRAN, MERCOSUR or COTAL, in order to avoid duplication of work.

The Delegate of Colombia stated, with regard to the exposition made by the Delegation of Peru, that even though all the mechanisms mentioned before were operating in the Tourism sector, none of them was specifically operating in the Amazon Region and, therefore, he considered that its existing access to information was not creating a superimposition of tasks, but on the contrary it facilitated the task of CETURA.

The Representative of Brazil requested that on the final version of the Operational Plan of the Special Commission, the agreements reached in the Ordinary Meetings of the other Special Commissions be included, stating the case of the replacement of the term "indigenous territory" by "indigenous land" or "indigenous areas", as agreed in the Final Minutes of the Fourth Ordinary Meeting of the Special Commission of the Amazon Region on Indigenous Affairs, subscribed in the City of Lima on May 9, 1995.

IV. THE PROJECT "DEVELOPMENT AND PROMOTION OF ECOTOURISM IN THE AMAZON REGION". CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TECHNICAL MEETING

IV A. Project "Development and Promotion of Ecotourism in the Amazon Region"

When dealing with this point, the Coordinator of the Special Commission presented a brief report on the background of the Project "Promotion and Development of Ecotourism in the Amazon Region", explaining that the restated version of the Project was included in the Annotated Agenda of this Third Ordinary Meeting, in which, unlike the former version, the eight ACT Member Countries are potentially involved. Furthermore, he mentioned that the main actions considered in the Project's restated version should be revised taking into consideration the final document resulting from the Workshop "Perspectives and Strategies for the Development of Ecotourism in the Amazon Region", held in Lima on June 15 and 16, 1995, the contents of which was examined by the attending Delegations.

Likewise, the Coordinator of the Special Commission expressed the convenience of incorporating the following elements into the new Draft Project on Sustainable Tourism and Ecotourism: i) that all countries be considered as potential participants in the project; ii) to take into account the technical and institutional capacities of each Member Country, as well as the summon capacity of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty, so as not to depend totally on the procurement of funds for the execution of specific activities; iii) that each country defines the location of the area within the Amazon Region for its participation in the Project; iv) that for hiring purposes special priority be given to technical regional capacity; and v) that the participation of CENTURAs be considered.

The Delegations supported the initiative of the Representative of Brazil, aimed at commissioning the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat the task of presenting a new proposal, based on the lines of the Workshop. In this respect, the attending Delegations agreed that the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat shall submit the draft project prepared by the Advisor, Mr. Oswaldo Bueno Netto, hired for such purposes, not later than July 20, 1995, for the consideration of the Member Countries, and the Member Countries shall submit their pertinent comments not later than September 15, 1995.

IV B. Conclusions and Recommendations of the Technical Meeting

In this respect, the Representatives of the Member Countries examined the preliminary version of the report submitted by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat on the aforementioned Regional Workshop and decided to: i) use as a work basis the considerations, conclusions and recommendations contained therein, according to its revised version which is enclosed herein as Appendix II; ii) incorporate its contents into the Operational Plan of CETURA; and iii) designate the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat as the body responsible for identifying the actions which can be developed on a shortterm basis without the use of external financing resources and those actions which will need procurement of external funds.

V. APPROVAL OF THE OPERATIONAL PLAN OF CETURA

Upon examining the extent and results obtained from the Workshop "Perspectives and Strategies for the Development of Ecotourism in the Amazon Region", the Delegates of the Member Countries resolved to entrust the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, through the Coordination Office of CETURA, with the task of preparing a revised version of the Operational Plan, not later than July 20, 1995, based on the lines, actions and elements expressed within the framework of this Third Ordinary Meeting, which finally shall be submitted for the consideration of the Member Countries through diplomatic channels. The Delegations

of the Member Countries, on their part, committed themselves to forward their comments to the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat on the revised version of the said Plan not later than August 21, 1995. I

VI. SPECIAL EXPOSITIONS

The Coordinator of the Program for Institutional Support from the European Union to the Amazon I Cooperation Treaty, Mr. Vincent Brackelaire, presented an exposition on the assistance rendered by his Organization to the Special Commission of the Amazon Region on Tourism, which document was distributed among the attending Delegations.

Then, Mr. Ramon Leon Oliveros, Head of the Department of Physical Integration of the Cartagena Agreement Board, submitted a report in which he informed the attending Delegations on the components of the programs and activities carried out by his Organization in the Tourism sector.

Subsequently, at the request of the Chairmanship and due to the special interest shown by the attending Delegations, Mr. Newton Cordeiro, Head for South America of the Department of Regional Development and Environment of the Organization of American States, was invited to address the Plenary and thereafter he made an interesting exposition on the programs and activities which the OAS is currently carrying out on the fields of tourism and frontier integration within the Member Countries of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty.

Furthermore, Mr. Cordeiro emphasized the great potential of the Amazon Region as a tourist destination and the possibility to convert the Region in one of the most important destinations worldwide. Additionally, he mentioned the technical cooperation actions which the OAS has been implementing in the region for more than thirty years, the assistance rendered to the Governments in the preparation of national plans and sectorial projects, research studies, design of marketing and promotion strategies, and organization of seminars on topics which are of special interest for the development of tourist activity.

Moreover, the OAS Representative stated that since 1990 his Organization is rendering assistance to the Member Countries of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty in the preparation of programs and projects for the sustainable development of tourism and the use of the natural and cultural resources which are part of the tourist attractive areas in the Amazon Region, as those carried out in Brazil, Suriname, Guyana, and the Andean countries. He referred as well to the Preliminary Program of the XVII InterAmerican Travel Congress, to be held in Quito, Ecuador, on October 23 - 28, 1995, and concluded his exposition by stressing the good disposition that the OAS currently has to continue its collaboration with the Amazon Cooperation Treaty and its *Pro Tempore* Secretariat in those areas in which the OAS has comparative advantages and installed capacity.

The attending Delegations unanimously thanked Mr. Cordeiro for his presence at this Meeting and highlighted his valuable exposition and the important role played by the OAS in the fields of tourism and frontier integration within the Member Countries of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty.

Additionally, the attending Representatives agreed to request from the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat to strengthen the existing coordination links with the OAS for the execution of programs and projects within the Region; to examine the possibility of expanding concrete plans for joint collaboration, through a previous work of identification of the activities and programs which are currently being implemented; and that a list of the future actions that could be implemented in coordination with the OAS be submitted for the consideration of the Member Countries during the next Ordinary Meeting of CETURA.

Furthermore, the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat informed that, following a positive initiative presented by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Colombia, unofficial contacts had been made with the OAS in order to jointly organize in the next months a specific meeting between both organizations, aimed at acquiring a better and more detailed knowledge of the programs, projects and studies that the OAS is presently carrying out as cooperation and technical assistance for the ACT Member Countries. In this regard, the Delegation of Bolivia offered to act as host country of the said Meeting, offering for this purpose the City of Santa Cruz de la Sierra.

With regard to the XVII InterAmerican Travel Congress, the Delegation of Ecuador ratified its satisfaction for being the host country of such an important event and invited all the Delegations to attend said Congress.

VII. EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCES, STUDIES AND INFORMATION

Upon discussing this topic of the Agenda, the Delegations of the Member Countries carried out a fruitful exchange of information on experiences, legislation, training programs and projects implemented in their respective countries and which are of interest to the other Member Countries of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty.

The Delegate of Brazil stated that his Government has identified the following priorities in its Integrated Plan on Tourism: i) Plan of sustainable development with a socialbeneficial effect, oriented towards the generation of employment; and ii) internal program of municipalization on Tourism, directed towards decentralization and training on Tourism; and iii) Ecotourism. Additionally, with regard to the program of municipalization on Tourism, he mentioned that presently there are 1,200 municipalities with a potential or in process of being trained as tourism promotion agents and that among the activities which are presently being carried out by the Ministry of Environment, Hydrologic Resources and Legislation in the Amazon Region, training workshops on Ecotourism will be held in the nine states of the Brazilian Amazon Region. An invitation was extended to the Member Countries in order to participate in said workshops. Finally, he distributed the document "Ecoturismo: Diretrizes para uma Política Nacional!" to the attending Delegations and requested that this document be considered within the scope of the work carried out by CETURA on Ecotourism.

The Delegate of Colombia referred to the National Learning Service (SENA), which has recently prepared a program for specialized guides in the Amazon Region, and offered the technical cooperation of this body to the Member Countries which may require it.

The attending Delegations thanked the offers made by the Delegations of Brazil and Colombia.

The Delegate of Ecuador, considering the importance of an effective exchange of experiences, studies and information on the projects and other activities currently developed in the Member Countries, expressed the need for CETURA to prepare a technical form as an instrument so that each Member Country may include therein permanent information on the activities and experiences which are deemed of common interest; said proposal was unanimously accepted. Finally, the document "Primera Biental Internacional para el Desarrollo Sustentable de la Amazonia" was distributed to the attending Delegations.

The Coordination Office of the Special Commission acknowledged the suggestion made by the Delegation of Ecuador, stressed its importance and declared that it would be included in the Operational Plan of CETURA.

The Delegate of Peru noted that in the case of Peru, the public sector was responsible for establishing the legislation, rules and guidelines for the work of the private sector within the area of tourist activity. In this sense, he highlighted the creation of regulations which rule the granting of Ecotourist reserved areas. Additionally, he mentioned that presently there are three types of ecotourist experiences: i) traditional (flora and fauna), the best exponent of which is the Manu Reserved Area; ii) another which comprises the implementation of field courses of biology with a direct contact with nature; and iii) the organization of special visits for small groups in order to share with the native communities some aspects of their daily life.

Finally, the Delegate of Guyana informed that the year 1996 had been declared as the "Year to Visit Guyana" and that considering the importance which his country gives to "forest culture", a onemonth activity was being organized for this purpose with the participation of staff from the forest sector and students from the University of Guyana. Furthermore, he stated that there is a program which covers one million acres that will be used as forest laboratory.

VIII. SUGGESTIONS ON NEW REGIONAL PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

The Delegation of Brazil distributed the document "Desenvolvimento de turismo sustentável: manual para organizadores locais", and submitted for the consideration of the Member Countries the possibility to establish a regional project based on the experience of Brazil in the decentralization of tourism with the active participation of local and municipal sectors.

IX. OPINIONS AND SUGGESTIONS ON THE PROJECT "MODEL REGULATIONS FOR THE SPECIAL COMMISSIONS OF THE AMAZON REGION"

At the request of the Chairman of the Meeting, the Representative of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat, First Secretary Cecilia Galarreta, made a brief presentation of the Project "Model Regulations for the Special Commissions of the Amazon Region", including comments on its background and the observations made by the attending Delegations to the Meetings of the Special Commissions of the Amazon Region on Environment; Transportation, Infrastructure and Communications; Indigenous Affairs; Science and Technology; and Health.

In this regard, the Delegate of Brazil ratified the comments and observations made by his Delegation at the previous meetings of the Special Commissions, which refer to Articles 1, 3, 4, 5, 7 (paragraphs 2, 5, 6, 8 and 11), 8, 12,14, 15,17,18, 19 and 20, which text he offered to submit to the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat.

Moreover, the Delegate of Colombia made some clarifying questions on the project of the model regulations which was submitted for the consideration of the Delegations, which were answered by the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat.

The Delegates of Ecuador and Venezuela stated that their respective Ministries of Foreign Affairs were assessing the project of the model regulations and they will soon be forwarding their comments to the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat through diplomatic channels.

The *Pro Tempore* Secretariat thanked the Delegations for their comments on the subject discussed in this Meeting, and informed them that it will be awaiting any opinion that they would like to send in this regard through diplomatic channels, so that said opinions may be consolidated in a new document to be submitted for the consideration of the Member Countries of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty.

X. DETERMINATION OF TENTATIVE DATE AND AGENDA OF THE FOURTH ORDINARY MEETING OF THE SPECIAL COMMISSION

The attending Delegations agreed to commission the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat with the task of making the necessary consultations on the date and agenda of the Fourth Ordinary Meeting of the Special Commission; furthermore, a suggestion was made for it to be held either in March or in June 1996.

Likewise, the Delegations agreed to hold a technical meeting for acquiring a better knowledge of the studies, programs and activities which are currently being performed by the OAS in favor of tourism in the Amazon Region. To this effect, the attending Delegations considered with particular satisfaction the offer made by the Representative of Bolivia to hold this technical meeting during the months of October or November 1995, in the City of Santa Cruz de la Sierra, commissioning the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat with the task to carry out the necessary consultations with the Government of Bolivia, as host country of the Meeting, and the other Member Countries of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty.

XI. READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Once the Minutes was reviewed, the Heads of the attending Delegations proceeded to approve it and then this Third Ordinary Meeting of CETURA was officially closed.

Subsequently, the Delegation of Brazil proceeded to thank the Chairman of the Meeting for his efficient work and professional management of the discussions. An acknowledgment was also expressed to the efficient work of the support staff of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat. The Delegate of Peru supported the praises mentioned by the Delegate of Brazil and expressed as well his recognition to Mr. Vicente Brackelaire, Coordinator of the Program for Institutional Support from the European Union to the Amazon Cooperation Treaty, and to the Coordinator of CETURA. Furthermore, the Delegation of Colombia agreed to the former acknowledgments and highlighted the valuable contribution of the OAS Representative, Dr. Newton Cordeiro. The Chairman of the Meeting expressed as well his recognition to the valuable presentation made by the OAS Representative and requested that a specific reference to him be included in the Final Minutes. Finally, the Coordinator of CETURA, Administrator Carlos Lecca, thanked the valuable collaboration of the Tourism Formation Center (CENFOTUR) during the Regional Workshop which was held previously to this Third Ordinary Meeting.

In witness whereof, the Heads of the Delegations subscribed this Minutes, in the City of Lima, on June 20, 1995.

For Bolivia
Karen Wachtel Bowyer, M.D.

For Colombia
Luis M. Baldion

For Guyana
Donald Sinclair

For Venezuela
Marvin Becerra, M.D.

For Brazil
First Secretary Paulo França

For Ecuador
Minister Alejandro Suarez

For Peru
Pablo Lopez de Romaña