

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 them-selves, 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 socio-economic 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 hydro 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

...ensuring 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 carefully 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 whenever 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 plans of common interest for developing their Amazonian territories and in general terms provide for fulfillment of the actions contemplated in the present Treaty.

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

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 agreement in force between the Parties nor on any differences with regard to limits or territorial rights which exist between the Parties nor shall the signing or implementation of this Treaty be interpreted or held to imply acceptance or renunciation, affirmation or modification, direct or indirect, express or implied 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 timely or advisable, in order to establish the basic guidelines for common policies, for assessing and promoting the general development of the process of Amazonian cooperation and for taking decisions needed 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 determined by agreement among the Ministers 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 drawing-up 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.
5. To evaluate the implementation of plans of bilateral or multilateral interest.
6. To draw-up 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 Co-operative 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

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 included 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 Steering 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 Voto-Bernales, *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 Voto-Bernales, *Pro Tempore* Secretary of the Amazon Cooperation Council, presented the Work Plan and informed on the activities carried out by the Secretariat during the *Pro Tempore* 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 MRE-TCA/1, creating a permanent secretariat of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty whose seat will be the City of Brasília,

No. RES/V MRE-TCA/2, establishing a financial mechanism of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty,

No. RES/V MRE-TCA/3, approving amendments and modifications to the Regulations of the *Pro Tempore* Secretariat,

No. RES/V MRE-TCA/4, creating the Special Commission of the Amazon Region on Education (CFEDA),

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

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

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

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

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

No. RES/V MRE-TCA/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 MRE-TCA/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 (INICHI), 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 capability 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 Colombia
Rodrigo Pardo García Peña

By the Government of Ecuador
Galo Lloro Franco

By the Government of Guyana
Clement J. Rohee

By the Government of Peru
Francisco Tudela

By the Government of Suriname
Subhas Ch. Mungra

By the Government of Venezuela
Miguel Ángel Burelli Rivas

By the Government of Brazil
Ivan Cannabrava

RES/V MRE-TCA/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 MRE-TCA/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 educational 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 seal 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.

HLS/V MRE-TCA/3

RESOLUTION

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

WHEREAS:

Through RES/VI 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 MRE-TCA/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 Santafé de Bogotá 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;

RES/V MRE-TCA/4

DOES HEREBY RESOLVE:

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 MRE-TCA/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 their 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 Voto-Beruales, *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 MRE-TCA/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 MRE-TCA/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 MRE-TCA/8

RESOLUTION

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

Considering the importance of the biological mega-diversity 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 differences 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 MRE-TCA/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 MIRE-TCA/11

RESOLUTION

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

Considering that by Resolution REŞ/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 mega-diversity 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 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 non-timber 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 socio-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 Brasília.

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 socio-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 non-governmental organizations in the process of sustainable economic development.

FINANCIAL COOPERATION BY INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

TO RESTATE the importance of non-reimbursable 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 Inter-American 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 Colombia
Dr. Rodrigo Pardo García-Peña

For the Government of Ecuador
Amb. Galo Leoro Franco

For the Government of Peru
Dr. Francisco Tudela

For the Government of Guyana
Dr. Clement Rohee

For the Government of Suriname
Dr. Subhas Ch. Mungra

For the Government of Venezuela
Dr. Miguel Ángel Burelli Rivas

For the Government of Brazil
Amb. Ivan Cannabrava